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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

COPY

June 26, 1996

H. Carter Hunt, Jr.
Commander
Department of the Army
Devens Reserve Forces Training Area
Box 1
Devens, MA 01433-5010

Re: USEPA New England Approval of Closure Report for Bunker 187 (Explosives Storage)
and the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Range - Fort Devens

Dear Mr. Hunt:

We have reviewed the September 1994 Closure Report in order to determine if it met the requirements set forth in Subpart G (40 CFR 264.110-120) and Subpart X (40 CFR 264.600-603) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). This document was reviewed by both the EPA New England Hazardous Waste Program and the Federal Facilities Superfund Section in accordance with Section XX. (Statutory Compliance/RCRA, CERCLA Integration) of the Fort Devens Federal Facility Agreement.

EPA New England has determined that the Closure Report meets all applicable RCRA requirements. We base this finding on the following elements :

1. The CERCLA site investigation performed on the explosives storage facility at Bunker 187 and subsequent No Further Action Under CERCLA Decision Document signed on 3/8/93 by the Army and EPA New England with concurrence from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.
2. The CERCLA remedial investigation performed on the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Range (EOD Range) and the subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) that is scheduled to be signed on June 28, 1996. In addition to the EOD Range, this ROD will include 3 other CERCLA sites (HOTEL Range, ZULU Range and Area of Contamination 41 groundwater) and will encompass 964 acres of the South Post Impact Area.
3. The fact that the South Post Impact Area ROD will require the creation of a long-term groundwater monitoring plan and an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan that will monitor the impacts to the ecosystems from these CERCLA sites. We believe that these plans will fulfill the requirements for a post closure plan and post closure care.

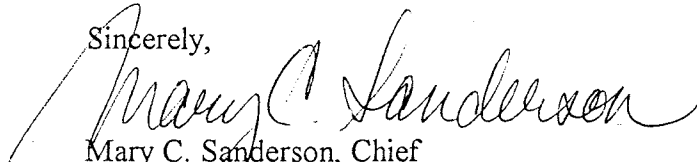


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Since the EOD Range will still be operating under emergency permit status as a public service to the surrounding region, EPA New England encourages the Army and other federal, state, and local agencies who will be utilizing this range to dispose of ordnance in an environmentally responsible fashion so as not to exacerbate existing conditions on the range.

If you have any questions or require further clarification of the above, please feel free to call me at (617) 573-5711 or Jim Byrne, the Remedial Project Manager for Fort Devens at (617) 573-5799.

Sincerely,



Mary C. Sanderson, Chief
Federal Facilities Superfund Section

cc: Mark Applebee, USACOE NED
James P. Byrne, EPA FFSFS
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