

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE Contaminated Sites Program

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September 4, 2020

Mr. Greg McIntyre SEARHC Facilities Consultant 222 Tongass Drive Sitka, Alaska 99835

Re: Final SEARHC New Hospital Phase II Environmental Site Assessment

Former Sitka Naval Operating Base, Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has reviewed the *Final SEARHC New Hospital Phase II Environmental Site Assessment*, prepared by Restoration Science & Engineering, LLC and dated July 2020. This report is approved in accordance with the Site Cleanup Rules of 18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75.325-.390.

According to the report, the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) conducted characterization activities at the former Sitka Naval Operating Base (NOB) Areas E, F, and G to evaluate concentrations of remaining contaminants of concern for the purposes of planning future development work. Soil analytical results demonstrate that elevated concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons and select metals are present at the site. Whereas as these contaminants are located below the ground surface and with the current land use, these concentrations do not pose a current health risk. Groundwater analytical results demonstrate that elevated concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons are present on the site, as well. As the on-site groundwater was previously determined to not be a current or reasonably potential future source of drinking water, these concentrations do not pose a current health risk. DEC has determined that this site does not need to be reopened, but can remain in the Cleanup Complete with Institutional Controls status.

However, as the contaminant concentrations exceed the DEC most stringent cleanup levels, if, in the future, the soil is excavated and needs to be moved off-site or the groundwater needs to be dewatered, DEC will need to be contacted and the soil and groundwater managed appropriately. Furthermore, depending on the location of the new building, given the concentrations of petroleum

hydrocarbons in the soil and groundwater, additional characterization and/or mitigation of the vapor intrusion pathway may be necessary.

If you have any questions, please contact me at annemarie.palmieri@alaska.gov or 766-3184.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Palmieri

Environmental Program Specialist

cc:

Kelly Baltz, US Army Corps of Engineers Evonne Reese, DEC-Institutional Controls Unit