



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Colonel James M. Suhr
Commander 104th Fighter Wing
Barnes Air National Guard Base
175 Falcon Drive
Westfield, MA 01085-1385

February 8, 2017

Re: **Westfield 1-0020093**
Barnes Air National Guard Base
Review of Draft Final Work Plan
FY 16 - Phase 1 Regional Site
Inspections of Perfluorinated
Compounds

Dear Colonel Suhr:

Thank you for your submittal entitled, "Draft Final Work Plan FY 16 Phase 1 Regional Site Inspections of Perfluorinated Compounds (Work Plan) for the Barnes Air National Guard Base – Massachusetts Air National Guard (Barnes ANG)", dated January 31, 2017. The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP, the Department) has reviewed the Work Plan prepared on your behalf by Amec Foster Wheeler. Barnes ANG has also submitted a report entitled, "Perfluorinated Compounds Preliminary Assessment Site Visit Report" prepared by BB&E, Inc. and received by the Department on January 5, 2017. The Work Plan is for the on-base assessment only of Perfluorinated Alkylated Substances (PFAS) in soil and groundwater within the current Base boundary. Barnes ANG has requested the Department review the Draft Work Plan and provide comments by February 27, 2017.

MassDEP reviewed the Site Investigation Work Plan for the on-base/current Base boundary assessment and have the following comments which should be addressed in the Final Site Investigation Work Plan:

1. The general scope of the proposed facility assessment and the proposed methods, standards, practices, and equipment meets or exceed the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (the MCP- 310 CMR 40.0000) Response Action Performance Standard (RAPS), specifically, 310 CMR 40.0191.
2. In lieu of comprehensive investigations at Fire Training Area (FTA-1) and the Fire Department Equipment Testing Area additional soil borings/monitoring wells should be added to the scope of work at on-base locations in the immediate vicinity of these potential areas of concern (PAOCs). Three soil borings and a minimal of one additional temporary monitoring well should be installed in the immediate vicinity of the Fire Department Equipment Testing Area. At a minimum, one additional soil boring should be included and soil samples should be collected during the installation of the proposed monitoring well located within the current base boundary adjacent to FTA-1.

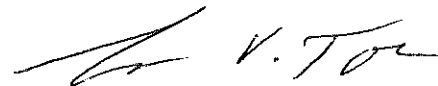
3. Section 8.3.1 of the Work Plan indicates proposed soil borings will be advanced to a maximum depth of 15 feet below grade (ftbg). Given the depth of groundwater at the base is approximately 20 to 45 ftbg, soil boring should be advanced to the vadose zone groundwater interface to evaluate the presence of PFAS compounds in soil.
4. Section 3.3.3 of the Work Plan states that the City of Westfield indicated there are no private drinking water wells within the limits of the municipal water distribution system. The Department is currently evaluating the presence and location of sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the PFAS impacted municipal wells. Based on the review of the MassDEP Searchwell Database, MassDEP has potentially identified a number of domestic wells that are located within a mile radius of municipal wells No.7 and No.8. This data base only lists domestic well installations reported to the data base by wells drillers and is not a comprehensive list of domestic wells which may exist. The Department is currently working with the City of Westfield to further evaluate the presents or absence of domestic wells which have the potential to be impacted by PFAS. The Department has also initiated an evaluation of sensitive receptors located within a mile of municipal wells No. 1 and No. 2.

As noted, MassDEP is in the process of identifying private drinking water wells within a one mile radius of the City Public Drinking Water Wells and will continue to implement its plan to evaluate whether PFAS above 0.07 ug/L are present in any residential and non-community private water supply wells and, if necessary, eliminate and/or abate any hazards associated with the consumption of drinking water impacted by PFAS above the Health Advisory of 0.07 ug/L in private wells.

The assessment of two PAOCs (Fire Training Area (FTA-1) and the Fire Department Equipment Test Area) were not included in this Work Plan based on their location off of the current Base boundaries. MassDEP understands that Barnes ANG will include these and any other off-Base areas in future assessment work if a link is established between base contamination and off-site migration of PFAS.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Cynthia Pawloski at 413-755-2247. Please reference Release Tracking Number 1-20093 in any future correspondence to the Department regarding the site.

Sincerely,



Eva V. Tor
Deputy Regional Director
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

ecc: Westfield Chief Municipal Officer
Westfield Board of Health
Westfield Public Water Supply-David Billips
MassDEP- Brian Harrington and Deirdre Doherty
Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee – Patty Gambarini