

Reference

Subject: Re: [CPEO-MEF] Defense memo on Perchlorate

Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 16:22:54 -0400

From: joelf@cape.com

To: cpeo-military <cpeo-military@igc.topica.com>

Dear Folks:

In response to Lenny's request for policy guidance regarding perchlorate (see below), I will outline the actions being taken at the Massachusetts Military Reservation on Cape Cod, specifically at Camp Edwards, the Army/Army Guard base previously used for extensive artillery, mortar, rocket and pyrotechnics activity.

The method detection limit for remedial investigation is approximately 0.40 ppb.

Several Bourne town production wells have been affected by perchlorate and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) has set a safe drinking water level at 1.0 ppb. EPA Region 1, after analyzing the special susceptibility of children (particularly thyroid problems), set a limit of 1.5 ppb in drinking water. In practice, EPA Region 1 accepts the MDEP standard of 1.0 ppb because that is also the National EPA draft reference dose.

These judgements have been made in consultation with many sectors of the affected communities. Clearly, the highest priority here is to be maximally protective of human health

Plans are now underway for expedited cleanup of the plume (perchlorate and RDX) emanating from Demolition Area 1. The working goal is removal of all detectable contaminants.

Finally, under EPA Administrative orders, all military activities, including use of markers on simulation devices, which involve perchlorate have been halted--(it is my opinion that civilian uses, such as in fire works should also be stopped).

Joel Feigenbaum, Ph.D.

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