
2001 CPEO Military List Archive

From: Lenny Siegel <lsiegel@cpeo.org>
Date: 31 Jul 2001 17:15:26 -0000
Reply: [cpeo-military](#)
Subject: [CPEO-MEF] Irvine Desalter/TCE remediation project

from Don Zweifel <zweifel@earthlink.net>

To all interested parties:

Re a summation & resolution of only some of the problems surrounding the former Marine Air Base @ El Toro, Ca.

During the last six years the Dept. of the Navy (DON) and the Orange County Water District (OCWD) in conjunction w/ the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) have been spitting & snarling @ each other over who should pick up the lion's share of the tab regarding the severe contamination of our Irvine Groundwater Sub-basin/principle aquifer and sub-surface soils @ MCAS, El Toro.

Since DON has been identified as the Potentially Responsible Party or PRP regarding the trichloroethylene (TCE) plume they have finally agreed to clean up the aforementioned & currently nonpotable aquifer but not any of the groundwater infused w/ high concentrations of mineral salts, AKA Total Dissolved Solids (TDS). That is the primary reason for the foot-dragging by DON, i.e., they effectively refused to concur re the contention that they contributed to the high TDS condition.

The previously mentioned water districts have reluctantly agreed that DON is not culpable for the excessive TDS findings. However since the TCE problem surfaced in the late 80's it has grossly complicated clean-up efforts. This serious TCE contamination extends beyond the base perimeter at least six miles to the west which by the way, is under some of the most costly real estate in Southern California, the Woodbridge upscale housing tract & the relatively new commercial complex known as the Irvine Spectrum.

Don Zweifel
 MCAS, El Toro charter RAB member
 & pro bono consultant to El Toro
 Local Redevelopment Authority,
 ETLRA

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### Follow-Ups

- [Re: \[CPEO-MEF\] Irvine Desalter/TCE remediation project](#) doobage (07/31/01)
- [Re: \[CPEO-MEF\] Irvine Desalter/TCE remediation project](#) Lenny Siegel (07/31/01)

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