

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com



April 26, 2018

KIRK CALDWELL, MAYOR

BRYAN P. ANDAYA, Chair
KAPUA SPROAT, Vice Chair
DAVID C. HULIHEE
KAY C. MATSUI
RAY C. SOON

ROSS S. SASAMURA, Ex-Officio
JADE T. BUTAY, Ex-Officio

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer 

Dr. Virginia Pressler, M.D.
Director
State of Hawaii
Department of Health
P.O. Box 3378
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801-3378

Dear Dr. Pressler:

Subject: United States Navy (Navy) Calendar Year 2017 Fourth Quarter (2017 Q4) Groundwater Monitoring Well Test Results available on the Department of Health (DOH) Web Site dated January 19, 2018

The subject 2017 Q4 test results show the level of total petroleum hydrocarbon as diesel (TPH-d) in Red Hill Monitoring Well No. 2 (RHMW02) increased to 1,600 parts per billion (ppb) compared to the previous quarter. Increases in TPH-d levels were also recorded in RHMW03 (210 ppb), Red Hill Shaft (65 ppb) and the Oily Waste Disposal Facility Monitoring Well No. 1 (OWDFMW01) (110 ppb). As you know, Red Hill Shaft is the Navy's drinking water supply well.

The TPH-d levels recorded in RHMW02, RHMW03 and OWDFMW01 are greater than the 100 ppb taste and odor threshold derived by a Board of Water Supply (BWS) commissioned toxicological and risk assessment study done in 2016 that recommended using this amount as a clean-up level for TPH-d. The 2017 Q4 TPH-d level in Red Hill Shaft is also more than one-half this taste and odor threshold. Our letter dated December 13, 2016 transmitted a copy of our study report to you.

Does the DOH and Navy know the reason for the TPH-d concentration increases in RHMW02, RHMW03, Red Hill Shaft, and OWDFMW01? Other Navy monitoring wells tested showed no changes in 2017 Q4 compared to the previous quarter. Are the differences related to Navy well pumping in the area?

Dr. Virginia Pressler, M.D.
April 26, 2018
Page 2

We request your comments on the reasons for the TPH-d concentration increases. We also request that the DOH inform us concerning what response actions you are requiring the Navy to take in response to the detection of TPH-d in the sample collected from Red Hill Shaft.

If you have any questions, please call me at 748-5061.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

cc: Mr. Steve Linder, P.E.
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Mr. Omer Shalev
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Ms. Roxanne Kwan
State of Hawaii
Department of Health
Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch
2827 Waimano Home Road
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

Mr. Mark Manfredi
Red Hill Regional Program Director/Project Coordinator
NAVFAC Hawaii
850 Ticonderoga Street, Suite 110
JBPHH, Hawaii 96860