

20 July 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF DREDGED MATERIAL TESTED UNDER DMMP EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE PORT OF TACOMA SITCUM WATERWAY (98-2-00611) FOR DISPOSAL AT THE COMMENCEMENT BAY OPEN-WATER DISPOSAL SITE

1. The Port of Tacoma proposes to dredge approximately 144,000 cubic yards from the Sitcum Waterway at Tacoma Washington. The following summary reflects the DMMP agencies (Corps of Engineers, Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency) consensus decision on the acceptability of the sampling plan and all relevant test data to make a determination of suitability for the disposal of the material at the Commencement Bay open-water disposal site.

2. Sediments in the entrance channel were ranked "low" based on the remediation of the Sitcum Waterway in 1994 and the on-going monitoring of sediment conditions as part of that remediation.

3. A sampling and analysis plan was completed for this project and approved by the DMMP agencies on 26 May 1998. Sampling for this project was performed on 9-12 June 1998.

SAP Approval Date	26 May 1998
Sampling dates	9-12 June 1998
Data Report submittal date	16 July 1998
Recency determination dates	9 June 2003 - 9 June 2005

4. Three DMMUs were characterized, with 6 samples taken for each DMMU. All samples were surface samples.

5. There were no exceedances of Dredging Year 1998 DMMP screening levels. There were no detection limits above screening level. Samples were also taken for analysis of porewater for tributyltin. All three composites had no detection of TBT with a method reporting limit of 0.02 $\mu\text{g/L}$.

6. In summary, the DMMP-approved sampling and analysis plan was followed, and quality assurance, quality control guidelines specified by the DMMP agencies were followed. The data gathered were deemed sufficient and acceptable for Regulatory decision-making under the DMMP program. Based on the results of the chemical testing, the consensus determination of the

DMMP program. Based on the results of the chemical testing, the consensus determination of the DMMP agencies is that all 144,000 cubic yards of sediment proposed to be dredged from the Sitcum Waterway Tacoma Washington is suitable for disposal at the Commencement Bay open-water disposal site.

7. The chemical analytical data were also compared to the State Sediment Management Standards, including the analysis of chromium. No chemicals exceeded SMS criteria. Based on this information, the DMMP agencies determined that the sediments from the Sitcum Waterway are chemically suitable for use in beneficial uses projects. Sediment conventional data is included in Table 1.

8. This memorandum documents the suitability of proposed dredged sediments for disposal at the Commencement Bay open water disposal site, and the chemical suitability of the material for proposed beneficial uses. It does not constitute final agency approval of the project. A final decision will be made after full consideration of agency input, and after an alternatives analysis is done under section 404 (b) 1 of the Clean Water Act.

Concur:

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Table 1. Sediment Conventional Parameters

DMMU	C-1	C-2	C-3
Total Solids (%)	53	57	61
Total Organic Carbon (%)	1.21	1.28	1.40
Bulk Ammonia (mg/kg)	26	29	21
Total Sulfides (mg/kg)	266	258	233
Grain-size			
gravel	0	0	0
sand	3	4	22
silt	65	69	57
clay	32	27	21