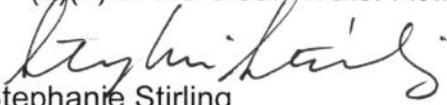


CENWS-OD-TS-DMMO
MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

3 February 2003

SUBJECT: RECENCY DETERMINATION FOR PORTIONS OF DREDGED MATERIAL TESTED UNDER DMMP EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE US COAST GUARD PIER 36 DREDGING PROJECT (2002- 2-00859, DAIS # CGP36-1-B-F-172) WITH PROPOSED DISPOSAL AT THE ELLIOTT BAY OPEN WATER DISPOSAL SITE.

1. The US Coast Guard proposes to dredge 23,200 cubic yards of material from its Alpha Berth at Pier 36, Seattle Washington. The proposed dredged material underwent DMMP testing in March 2001. The results of this sediment characterization are documented in a suitability determination dated 1 August 2002. Of the material characterized, 10,400 cubic yards was found not suitable for open-water disposal (DMMUs 1, 2 and 3) and 12,800 cubic yards of material (DMMUs 4, 5 and 6) was found suitable for in-water disposal at the Elliott Bay open-water disposal site.
2. The proposed dredging site was ranked high for initial testing purposes. The recency period for high ranked projects is 2 years, making the recency expiration date for this project 15 March 2003. The US Coast Guard has requested that the recency date for the suitable material be extended to 14 February 2005.
3. This memorandum documents the consensus determination of the agencies that comprise the regional Dredged Material Management program regarding the recency extension for this project. These agencies are the Corps of Engineers, Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency).
4. The agencies reviewed the data collected during the initial sampling. All surface DMMUs were found unsuitable for open-water disposal. Given that the suitable subsurface DMMUs are isolated from any potential contamination sources, and are undisturbed, changes in the suitability of the subsurface sediment are unlikely. Therefore, the agencies agree that the 3 suitable subsurface DMMUs have a recency extension to 14 February 2005.
5. This recency extension does not constitute final agency approval of the project. A dredging plan for the project must be completed as part of the final project approval process. 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.


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