STORY OF THE STORY

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO LACKLAND TEXAS

2 March 2020

AFCEC/CIB 2261 Hughes Avenue, Ste 155 JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853

Mr. Mike Neller
Director, Remediation and Redevelopment Division
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
525 West Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30473
Lansing, MI 48909-7973

RE: Interim Actions to remove Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), Former Wurtsmith United States Air Force Base, Iosco County, Michigan; Site ID No. 35000058

Dear Mr Neller:

The Air Force acknowledges the receipt of your request for interim actions to be taken at Wurtsmith AFB.

The Air Force has been aggressively addressing PFOA and PFOS concerns at the former Wurtsmith AFB, Michigan, since the state identified elevated levels of the compounds in fish in Clarks Marsh. Following the CERCLA process, the Air Force has identified sources of PFOA/PFOS and identified that these contribute to three groundwater plumes and has taken several CERCLA removal actions to address that contamination. In 2015, a treatment system became operational to intercept groundwater coming from a former Air Force firefighter training area and to remove PFOS/PFOA before the groundwater enters Clarks Marsh. The Air Force has since installed two more PFOS/PFOA treatment systems, the Central Treatment Plant and Mission Street Treatment Plant, which began operating in August 2018 and January 2020, respectively. In addition, in 2016 the Air Force addressed the only Wurtsmith-area residential well exceedance of the EPA lifetime health advisories for PFOA and PFOS by hooking that residence up to a municipal water supply.

The Air Force will enter the third phase of the CERCLA process this year starting on a remedial investigation to confirm the nature and extent of PFOS/PFOA contamination in all affected media at the former installation. The remedial investigation will provide the necessary information to make decisions on whether further remedial actions, including possible interim remedial actions, will be necessary to limit PFAS migration and address unacceptable risks. We look forward to discussing technical options during the course of the remedial investigation and after it is completed.

Please contact me at (210) 395-9428 if you have any questions, or require additional information.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN G. TERMAATH, GS-15, DAF

Chief, BRAC Program Management Division

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Installations Directorate

cc:

Ms Beth Place, EGLE

Ms. Theresa Seidel, EGLE

Mr. Josh Mosher, EGLE

Mr. David Kline, EGLE

Mr. John Bradley, EGLE

Mr. Charlie Bauer, EGLE

Mr. Dan Yordanich, EGLE

Mr. Matt Baltusis, EGLE