



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA
P.O. BOX 6898
ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA 99506-6898

July 25, 2002

Programs and Project Management Division
Special Project Management Branch

Ms. Bonnie McLean
4100 Spenard Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99517

RE: Report Delivery

Dear Ms. McLean:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is increasingly coming under public scrutiny regarding our projects on St. Lawrence Island. Part of our concern arises from complaints, founded or not, raised by the native communities and the Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT). A specific item that we are "catching flak" on is the timeliness of reports from Montgomery Watson Harza (MWH). This is an issue that the USACE has been having with several contractors, not just MWH. It is a USACE goal that all projects run in a predictable fashion (i.e., on schedule) as we strive to meet the expectations of the general public and be good stewards of U.S. citizens tax dollars.

I don't have a long history as Project Manager on our Northeast Cape and Gambell Projects (St. Lawrence Island). Nor do I wish to look into the history of previous report delivery timeliness. I do want to respond knowledgeably regarding why certain reports are persistently late. At this point it appears that the Phase III RI and Risk Assessment Report for Northeast Cape falls into this category. Where is MWH regarding progress on this report? When can we realistically expect delivery? I have mentioned to ACAT that, other than the timeliness of some reporting, the USACE has generally been pleased with MWH's performance. I want to enhance the public's opinion of the USACE and, not altruistically, of MWH. To that end, we should put some thoughtful effort into how we can work together to meet project schedules. Perhaps we need to concentrate on more realistic versus optimistic report delivery dates? I invite your dialog on this particular issue, or any issues for that matter!

Please do not hesitate to give me a call, Bonnie, at (907) 753-2689 or e-mail me at carey.c.cossaboom@poa02.usace.army.mil.

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1200C PERM

I can tell you about my latest native-art purchases on St. Lawrence Island! I will also get you a copy of the latest RAB Meeting minutes once they are finalized.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Cc', written in a cursive style.

Carey Cossaboom
FUDS Project Manager

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