



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA
P.O. BOX 6898
ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA 99506-0898

October 18, 2006

Programs and Project Management Division
Civil Works Management Branch

«Title» «FirstName» «LastName»
«Company»
«Address1»
«City», «State» «PostalCode»

Dear «Title» «LastName»:

Enclosed are responses to comments submitted on the document:
Feasibility Study, Northeast Cape FUDS dated June 2006. For those with e-mail, an electronic copy has been sent to you instead of an attached hard copy. A detailed response is provided to answer the questions or indicate text changes that will be made in the final document.

It is understandable that there are some general misgivings and dissatisfaction with the Department of Defense (DoD) and State of Alaska (i.e., ADEC) environmental policies as expressed in some of the commentary we received on the Feasibility Study. Whereas those policies generally mandate that cleanup actions at Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) result in leaving a landscape that is protective of human health and the environment, it is not uncommon for public dissent to focus on the adequacy of investigation, and how much cleanup is enough. Hand-in-hand with that focus are opinions that cost should not be an obstacle in the cleanup effort. Please keep in mind, that FUDS goals and objectives require the Corps to implement cost-effective response actions. It is our duty and fiscal responsibility to the American people.

We know that many people believe the former Northeast Cape facility has caused St. Lawrence Island residents to suffer adverse health. There has been considerable debate on this issue. We are genuinely concerned about the environmental health of St. Lawrence Island. Though a communications facility over sixty miles away from the nearest community, and with little contamination except for hydrocarbon fuels and oils, seems an improbable source of harm for residents of Savoonga or Gambell, we seek a level of cleanup that can put the debate to rest.

The Corps of Engineers must follow existing FUDS policy. Whereas that policy may not accommodate all of the concerns at Northeast Cape, such as landfill removal, we have conducted our investigations within the flexibilities of the program. We have sought, and demonstrated, a partnership approach. We hope that any discouragement over the cleanup process does not lead to apathy. As we have stated in the past, we value your input, and it has made a difference. The opinions expressed in the comments received on the Feasibility Study will influence the final cleanup decision.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with further concerns or questions. I can be reached at (907) 753-2689 or via email at carey.c.cossaboom@poa02.usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,



Carey Cossaboom
Project Manager

Enclosures

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comment responses.doc

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sources\FS Comments data source

Title	FirstName	LastName	Company	Address1	City	State	PostalCode
Mr.	Jeff	Brownlee	ADEC	555 Cordova St., 2 nd Floor	Anchorage	AK	99501
Ms.	Viola	Waghiyi	Alaska Community Action on Toxics	505 W. Northern Lights Blvd. #205	Anchorage	AK	99503
Ms.	Pam	Miller	Alaska Community Action on Toxics	505 W. Northern Lights Blvd. #205	Anchorage	AK	99503
Mr.	George	Noongwook		P.O. Box 81	Savoonga	AK	99769
Mr.	Jerry	Reichlin	Fortier and Mikko	101 W. Bensen Blvd., Suite 304	Anchorage	AK	99503
Mr.	Aaron	Iworriagan	SIVUQAQ, Inc.	P.O. Box 101	Gambell	AK	99742
Dr.	Ronald	Scrudato	R&M Technologies, Inc.	54 Sunset Bluff	Oswego	NY	13126
Mr.	Morgan	Apatiki		P.O. Box 138	Gambell	AK	99742
Mr.	Steve	Johnson	BEESC	111 w. 16 th Avenue, Suite 301	Anchorage	AK	99501-0013
		St. Lawrence Island FUDS Information Repository	UAF Northwest Campus	Pouch 400	Nome	AK	99762
	St. Lawrence Island FUDS	Anchorage Information Repository	Alaska Resource Library and Information Services (ARLIS)	Suite 111, Library Building 3211 Providence Drive	Anchorage	AK	99508
		Gambell Information Repository	Sivuqaq Corporation Building	P.O. Box 101	Gambell	AK	99742
		Savoonga Information Repository	City Hall	P.O. Box 40	Savoonga	AK	99769

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