

5090 Ser BPMOE/355 October 11, 2024

Ms. Melanie Loyzim Commissioner Maine Department of Environmental Protection 17 State House Station Augusta, Maine, 04333

SUBJECT: BASE WIDE PFAS REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION WORK PLAN, FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION (NAS) BRUNSWICK, ME

Thank you for your letter dated October 7, 2024, regarding the Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) release at the former NAS Brunswick. We appreciate your attention to this matter and want to assure you that the Navy is committed to protecting human health and the environment in response to the release.

We would like to clarify the important role of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority (MRRA) in the spill response. In accordance with the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act (BRAC) of 1990, the Navy leased the Hangar 4 site to MRRA. The terms and conditions of the lease specifically require that MRRA assumes responsibility for maintaining the leased property and meeting all environmental requirements and responsibilities, which includes responding to and remediating environmental releases, to include hazardous substances.

Please be assured that the Navy is overseeing this process and will enforce the lease terms if necessary to ensure that there is no threat to public health or the environment. We value open communication and welcome Maine DEP's input regarding the response to the release and the broader issue of PFAS contamination at the former NAS Brunswick. Regarding your Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) funding request, please be advised that state oversight services specific to this AFFF discharge at NAS Brunswick are not eligible for DSMOA funding. Nevertheless, Navy-led initiatives, as detailed in the DSMOA Joint Execution Plan, remain eligible for reimbursement under the DSMOA Cooperative Agreement.

Our project team has already scheduled a meeting on October 16, 2024, and we look forward to discussing this matter with you in more detail. If you have any immediate concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

THUANE B. FIELDING Director

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Copy to: Bryan Olson, EPA Dean Tagliaferro, EPA Anni Loughlin, EPA Cayleigh Eckhardt, EPA Mike Daly, EPA Jonathan Tso, EPA HQ/FFRRO David Madore, DEP Susanne Miller, DEP