



REGION 9 ADMINISTRATOR

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

December 30, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Ernest Y.W. Lau, P.E.
Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu
630 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96843

Subject: Response to BWS December 3, 2024 Comments on the 2023 Red Hill Administrative Consent Order Amendment No. 1 Letter

Dear Ernest Lau:

Thank you for your December 3, 2024, Letter regarding Amendment 1 to the 2023 Administrative Consent Order (2023 ACO). We appreciate your input and the work you do to advocate for and protect the drinking water resources for the people of Hawai'i.

The CRI was created in response to comments on the 2023 ACO to facilitate communication with a consistent and focused group of individuals to talk through any challenges and provide input on 2023 ACO decisions in a productive setting. The CRI meetings have made valuable contributions regarding defueling, closure, and drinking water work being conducted pursuant to the 2023 ACO. Amendment 1 provides a broader approach to community engagement, which will allow for continued engagement with the CRI as well as additional engagement with diverse audiences through additional engagement requirements.

The amendment to the Consent Order did not require EPA to seek public comment. EPA responded directly to CRI members in the attached December 12, 2024 letter regarding this issue.

You expressed concern about PFAS not being sufficiently included as a discussion topic during the CRI meeting. EPA and DOH are providing comprehensive oversight of the Navy's investigation of Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) primarily under the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA). The Navy holds Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings for work under the FFA. The community is encouraged to engage with the Navy on FFA/PFAS work during the quarterly RAB meetings. As a result of this collective work, the Navy has installed 34 monitoring wells and is currently testing for PFAS at 22 of them.

We encourage the CRI elected members to submit all topics which they regard as significant to the facilitator for consideration consistent with process outlines in the ground rules. Any topic that is requested but not included in the agenda will be acknowledged as either an omitted or deferred topic. The topic of PFAS was not requested for the December 2024 meeting.

We look forward to our continued engagement with the Navy, Defense Logistics Agency, Department of Health, Board of Water Supply, and the wider community through a variety of community engagement forums, including the CRI, open houses, webinars, neighborhood board meetings, and the Fuel Tank Advisory Committee meetings.

Sincerely,

**Aceves,
Martha**

Digitally signed by
Aceves, Martha
Date: 2024.12.31
10:31:57 -08'00'

Martha Guzman

Enclosure: Dec 12th EPA Letter Denying CRI Request on Amendment 1 to the 2023 ACO.

cc: Carlos Del Toro, Secretary of the Navy
Lieutenant General Mark T. Simerly, Director Defense Logistics Agency
Rear Admiral Barnett, Navy Region Hawaii
Brian Schatz, United States Senate
Mazie Hirono, United States Senate
Ed Case, U.S. House of Representatives
Jill Tokuda, U.S. House of Representative
Na'alehu Anthony, BWS Board Chair
Dr. Kenneth Fink, Hawai'i Department of Health