



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

14 MAY 2020

Dr. Mary C. Barber
Chair, Environmental Advisory Board
RTI International
2839 Chesterfield Pl., NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Dr. Barber:

Thank you for providing the Environmental Advisory Board's (EAB's) findings and recommendations regarding areas for possible greater research and development related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the environment. Your letter conveys the EAB's analysis of current knowledge gaps in analytical methods and remediation technologies related to PFAS in the environment. The EAB also identified possible approaches in research and development (R&D) that may help close those gaps. I thank the EAB members for these findings and recommendations from your independent research and collaboration with scientific leads at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Environmental Laboratory (EL) and others. USACE will consider your findings and recommendations and their application to USACE missions and resources. Several of your recommendations reflect possible actions for other federal agencies and/or organizations.

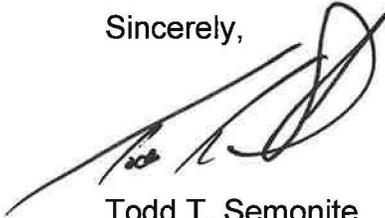
For USACE, the EAB's recommendations fit into the larger context of PFAS R&D within the Department of Defense (DOD). Since 2011, the DOD's Strategic Environmental R&D Program (SERDP) / Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) have sponsored efforts to develop improved understanding of PFAS occurrence, fate and transport, remedial treatment options, and ecotoxicity; including at sites impacted by aqueous film-forming foam. SERDP/ESTCP, in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Energy continue to invest in research, development, testing, and deployment. The Headquarters (HQ) USACE Environmental Division (ENV DIV) will share the EAB's recommendations with the SERDP/ESTCP team, ERDC-EL, and Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise staff who regularly engage with SERDP/ESTCP teams.

Another context that the EAB's PFAS R&D recommendations fit into is the larger PFAS approach being developed by the DOD. The EAB's PFAS efforts in 2019 share timing with the Secretary of Defense's establishment of a task force to provide strategic direction to ensure a coordinated, aggressive and holistic approach on DOD-wide efforts to proactively address PFAS. The ENV DIV will provide your findings and

recommendations to the DOD task force for their consideration. USACE will fully consider your findings and discuss their application to USACE missions and responsibilities.

We greatly appreciate the EAB's timely insights and recommendations. I am certain that the knowledge gaps that the EAB identified and related recommendations will help guide the environmental community within USACE and at large.

Sincerely,



Todd T. Semonite
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Commanding

*Thanks for
Your Recommendations -
Vital to Incorporate
into all we do!!*