**CENPS-OD-TS** **22 May 2000**
**Dredged Material Management Office**

**MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD**

**SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF DREDGED MATERIAL TESTED UNDER DMMP EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE PORT OF TACOMA SITCUM WATERWAY FOR DISPOSAL AT THE COMMENCEMENT BAY OPEN-WATER DISPOSAL SITE**

1. The Port of Tacoma proposes to dredge approximately 288,000 cubic yards from the Sitcum Waterway at Tacoma Washington. The following summary reflects the DMMP agencies (Corps of Engineers, Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency) consensus decision on the acceptability of the sampling plan and all relevant test data to make a determination of suitability for the disposal of the material at the Commencement Bay open-water disposal site.

2. Sediments in the entrance channel were ranked "low" based on the remediation of the Sitcum Waterway in 1994 and the on-going monitoring of sediment conditions as part of that remediation. This ranking is also supported by dredged material testing completed in 1998, which showed no exceedances of DMMP screening levels.

3. A sampling and analysis plan was completed for this project and approved by the DMMP agencies on 29 February 2000. Sampling for this project was performed on 8-9 March 2000.

| | |
|---|---|
| SAP Approval Date | 29 February 2000 |
| Sampling dates | 8-9 March 2000 |
| Data Report submittal date | 9 May 2000 |
| Recency determination dates | 8 March 2005 – 8 March 2007 |

4. Six DMMUs were characterized, with 6 samples taken for each DMMU. All samples were surface samples, taken with a vanVeen grab sampler.

5. There were no exceedances of Dredging Year 2000 DMMP screening levels. There were no detection limits above screening level. One sub-sample (SS-23, from composite C-4) was also taken for analysis of porewater for tributyltin. There was no detection of TBT, with a method reporting limit of 0.06 µg/L.

6. In summary, the DMMP-approved sampling and analysis plan was followed, and quality assurance, quality control guidelines specified by the DMMP agencies were followed. The data

gathered were deemed sufficient and acceptable for regulatory decision-making under the DMMP program. Based on the results of the chemical testing, the consensus determination of the DMMP agencies is that all 288,000 cubic yards of sediment proposed to be dredged from the Sitcum Waterway is suitable for disposal at the Commencement Bay open-water disposal site.

7. The chemical analytical data were also compared to the State Sediment Management Standards, including the analysis of chromium. No chemicals exceeded SMS criteria. Based on this information, the DMMP agencies determined that the sediments from the Sitcum Waterway are chemically suitable for use in beneficial use projects. Sediment conventional data is included in Table 1.

8. This memorandum documents the suitability of proposed dredged sediments for disposal at the Commencement Bay open water disposal site, and the chemical suitability of the material for proposed beneficial uses. It does not constitute final agency approval of the project. A final decision will be made after full consideration of agency input, and after an alternatives analysis is done under section 404 (b) 1 of the Clean Water Act.

***Concur:***

7/20/00
***Date***

***Stephanie Stirling***
***Seattle District Corps of Engineers***

1 August 2000
***Date***

***Justine Barton***
***Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10***

1 Aug 00
***Date***

***Rick Vining***
***Washington Department of Ecology***

25 JUL 00
***Date***

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**Table 1. Sediment Conventional Parameters**

| DMMU | C-1 | C-2 | C-3 | C-4 | C-5 | C-6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Solids (%) | 58.8 | 61.9 | 57.9 | 64.5 | 67.3 | 61.5 |
| Total Organic Carbon (%) | 1.09 | 1.23 | 1.2 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.3 |
| Bulk Ammonia (mg/kg) | 14.8 | 21.2 | 22.5 | 12.6 | 19.1 | 20.9 |
| Total Sulfides (mg/kg) | 24.4 | 126 | 9.2 | 313 | 0.5 | 96.8 |
| Grain-size | | | | | | |
| gravel | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| sand | 18 | 18 | 19 | 35 | 48 | 33 |
| silt | 60 | 65 | 63 | 48 | 38 | 47 |
| clay | 22 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 14 | 19 |