



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
Four Penn Center  
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852

David Reth  
Director, Management Operations  
NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

Dear Mr. Reth:

On March 5, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received the Final 3rd Five-Year Review Report for the NASA Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) for concurrence. The report was prepared to fulfill the requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 121(c). Consistent with CERCLA Section 121(c), Executive Order 12580 and the National Contingency Plan, EPA is responsible for reviewing remedial actions where hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remain on the site and are above levels that allow for "unlimited use and unrestricted exposure." EPA is also responsible for preparing a report to Congress on these reviews.

EPA has reviewed this Five-Year Review Report in accordance with EPA's June 2001 guidance document, *Comprehensive Five-Year Review Guidance* (OSWER No. 9355.7-03B-P, EPA 540-R-01-007) and concurs with NASA's determination of short-term protectiveness for the Operable Units (OUs) subject to this review. The report addresses the following two operable units:

- OU2 – Former Fire Training Area (FFTA)
- OU3 – Waste Oil Dump (WOD)

The OUs are further described below:

### **OU2- FFTA**

The remedy for OU2-FFTA currently protects human health and the environment in the short-term for the COCs identified in the ROD. All exposure pathways have been addressed, remedies are in place and functioning as designed, and there are institutional controls in place to prevent human exposure to contamination remaining at these OUs. However, in order for the remedy to be protective in the long-term, NASA needs to complete the following action based on emerging contaminants found at OU2:

**Issue:** PFAS were detected in soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment at concentrations exceeding the available comparison values (EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs), values derived from the EPA RSL calculator, and most current and applicable ecological screening values (ESVs).

There are currently no human health exposures to PFAS-contaminated groundwater.

**Recommendation:** Conduct a multi-phase RI and work with EPA and VDEQ to determine the most appropriate path forward to address the presence of PFAS at the FFTA.

**Due Date:** By December 2025, finalize a PFAS Remedial Investigation work plan for the PFAS Main Base North area which includes both the FFTA and WOD.

### **OU-3 - WOD**

EPA also concurs that NASA's determination for the remedy at OU 3 WOD currently protects human health and the environment in the short-term for the COCs identified in the ROD. All exposure pathways have been addressed, remedies are in place and functioning as designed, and there are institutional controls in place to prevent human exposure to contamination remaining at these OUs. However, in order for the remedy to be protective in the long-term, NASA needs to complete the following action based on emerging contaminants found in the groundwater at OU2:

**Issue:** PFAS were detected in groundwater at concentrations exceeding the available comparison values (EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs)). There are currently no human health exposures to PFAS-contaminated groundwater.

**Recommendation:** Conduct a multi-phase RI and work with EPA and VDEQ to determine the most appropriate path forward for the presence of PFAS at the WOD.

**Due Date:** By December 2025, finalize a PFAS Remedial Investigation work plan for PFAS Main Base North area which includes both the FFTA and WOD.

Furthermore, EPA has evaluated the sitewide Government Performance and Results Act measures and has determined their status as follows:

#### **Environmental Indicators**

- Human Health: Will be revised from "Insufficient Data" to "Under Control"
- Groundwater Migration: Will remain as "Insufficient Data" due to the unknown nature and extent of PFAS in groundwater.

#### **Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use**

The facility is not "Site-Wide Ready for Anticipated Use" but is projected to achieve this goal by September 30, 2040.

The requirement for this five-year review at NASA Wallops Flight Facility was triggered by the last five-year review date of March 7, 2019. The next five-year review will be due March 7, 2029, five years from the planned completion date of this Five-Year Review. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Lorie Baker at (215) 814-3355.

Sincerely,

Paul Leonard, Director  
Superfund and Emergency Management Division

cc: Kristi Francisco (NASA WFF)  
Kyle Newman (VDEQ)