TO: Dr. Dorothy Robyn, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense (Installations & Environment)
Mathy Stanislaus, Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrator (Office of Solid Waste & Emergency Response)

FROM: The undersigned

SUBJECT: Discussions on military cleanup regulatory requirements

DATE: April 14, 2012

We have read that the U.S. EPA, and the Army and other Defense components, are discussing the military's concerns over the "changing of regulatory" requirements midway in the cleanup process. We are representatives of communities that host active, closing, and former military facilities. We ask that we, as well as state and tribal regulatory agencies, be brought into this important conversation.

We are sympathetic to the desire to have a consistent set of regulatory requirements from U.S. EPA or other regulatory agencies. However, twenty-six years after the establishment of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, we expect some natural evolution in cleanup regulation as new problems are discovered and the scientific knowledge of the impacts of pollutants changes.

It is also reasonable to see cleanup expectations change as reuse strategies adopted over the years are updated to reflect the nation's current economic realities. Cleanup requirements should support transfer, the reuse of former military properties, and even construction on active installations.

Balancing these concerns directly impacts the health, economic vitality, and environmental integrity of our communities. We urge you to discuss them transparently with participation from affected communities, tribes, and states.

We support Congressman Sam Farr's suggestion that a forum be created in which regulators, the military components, and affected communities seek common ground to achieve faster, more efficient, and more protective cleanups.

## Sincerely,

[In some cases affiliations are for identification purposes only. Installations are listed to indicate where signers are engaged in environmental oversight.]

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