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**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

MARINE CORPS BASE  
PSC BOX 20004  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA 28542-0004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

6287  
BEMD

FEB 2000

Ms. Gena Townsend  
Remedial Project Manager  
US EPA Region IV, Atlanta Federal Center  
Waste Management Division  
Federal Facilities Branch  
100 Alabama Street SW  
Atlanta Georgia 30303

Dear Ms. Townsend:

This letter is in response to the questions raised during your site visit to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Installation Restoration Site 89 and Edwards Creek on 20 January 2000. During our visit we noticed what appeared to be lime dispersed throughout a holding lagoon. It also appeared as if the lime was leaching out of the lagoon through the containment wall and into Edwards Creek.

The lagoon in question is the Marine Corps Air Station New River's Water Treatment Plant backwash holding pond. The pond receives backwash material from the cleaning cycle of the treatment plant. The pond provides for the containment of lime residues and water. After a period of detention, the lime residuals separate from the water and settle to the bottom of the pond. The pond is equipped with two pumps that remove residual containment water to the sanitary sewer. On 19 January 2000 pump number two was on a list to be repaired and pump number one failed, resulting in approximately 850 gallons of residual lime and water mixture overflowing the containment walls of the pond. Some of this mixture ultimately ended up in adjacent Edwards Creek. All repairs were made to the system, the pump was reactivated and a report was filed with the Department of Water Quality (Ms. Pat Durrett) by Camp Lejeune, Environmental Management Department personnel.

We are confident this answers all the questions that were raised. If you have any further questions or need additional information, please contact Rick Raines, Installation Restoration Division, Environmental Management Department, at (910) 451-5068.

Sincerely,

SCOTT FOREMAN  
Brigadier General, USMC  
Environmental Management Department  
By \_\_\_\_\_  
the Commanding General

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