

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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State of North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor Bill Holman, Secretary

Washington Regional Office



DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SECTION

January 4, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To:

Jessica Miles, Chief

Public Water Supply Section
Division of Environmental Health

From:

M.P. Bell, Regional Engineer MPB

Wilmington Regional Office

Subject:

VOC Contamination

USMC Camp Lejeune, Onslow County

The November 9, 1999 memorandum from Grover Nicholson, Division of Waste Management, to Robin Smith regarding VOC contamination at USMC Camp Lejeune finally reached me in mid December. I have researched our files and have tested Fred Hill on his ability to recall past investigations. Here is what we came up with.

Our first contact from Camp Lejeune came in a telephone conversation on December 12, 1984. We were advised that benzene and TCE were detected in several wells serving the Hadnot Point water treatment plant. We were also advised that the contaminated wells had been removed from service. In late January 1985 we investigated a complaint of a petroleum odor in the water system. This investigation led to further sampling by both our office and the Camp Lejeune staff in February 1985. By mid February we were satisfied that the contamination of the water supply had been eliminated and that the VOC's were no longer detected in the water system.

I cannot find any record of any reports of VOC detection in 1982 to 1984. It is my speculation that this information went to the Wilmington office of NRCD (or maybe even the NRCD central office in Raleigh). The public water supply program was in the Department of Human Resources at that time. Also, it should be noted that there were no MCL's for VOC's in drinking water in 1982. Monitoring was not required until the last quarter of 1987.

Please advise Mr. Nicholson that there is no Public Water Supply Branch of DWR. We are the Public Water Supply Section of DEH.

cc:

Linda C. Sewall

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