

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subj: FINDING OF SUITABILITY TO TRANSFER (FOST) OF 110 ACRES OF LAND AT NAVAL AMMUNITION SUPPORT DETACHMENT (NASD), VIEQUES ISLAND, PUERTO RICO

- Ref: (a) Final Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) for 88-Acre Site, Vieques Airport Expansion, Vieques Island, Puerto Rico, 15 Mar 1999 with amendment
(b) Memorandum for the Chief of Naval Operations, DON Environmental Procedures Applicable to Non-BRAC Real Estate Action, dated 22 Dec 1993

PURPOSE

This memorandum is provided to document the finding that the subject property (approximately 110 acres) is environmentally suitable for transfer to the Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

PAST AND CURRENT USE

The United States has owned and the Navy has occupied the subject property since 1942. Prior to Federal ownership, the subject property was used for agriculture purposes, specifically sugar cane and pineapple farming. The Navy has utilized the subject property as a buffer zone to NASD activities. Additional information on past and current uses is included in reference (a).

PROPOSED FUTURE USE

The Puerto Rico Ports Authority intends to utilize the subject property to expand the runway at the current municipal airport. The expansion will allow larger commercial aircraft to land at the airport.

SUMMARY OF EBS FINDINGS

In accordance with reference (b), reference (a) was prepared in March 1999. The purpose of the EBS was to identify past hazardous substance or petroleum product storage, release, treatment or disposal on the subject property and to document other significant findings regarding environmental conditions.

The EBS identified no adverse environmental conditions. Based on the EBS, no hazardous substances or petroleum products and their derivatives are known to have been disposed or released on the subject property. Pursuant to the requirements of CERCLA Section 120(h)(4), the Navy has sought and received from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico concurrence that the subject property is uncontaminated.

REQUIRED FUTURE ACCESS AND USE RESTRICTIONS

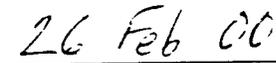
No restrictions on future use of the subject property must be imposed because of environmental contamination conditions. As noted below, pursuant to CERCLA Section 120(h)(4)(D)(ii), the deed effecting the transfer must include a clause granting the United States future access to the subject property.

FINDING

Based on the above information, I conclude that all requirements to reach a finding of suitability to transfer the subject property to the Puerto Rico Ports Authority for the purposes of airport expansion have been met. The deed effecting the transfer must include deed covenants and clauses required under CERCLA 120(h)(D).



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Date