

*“Balancing the Needs of the People With
the Care of the Environment.”*

-LeVonne Stone, Director and CEO - Phone: 831-582-0803 –www.foejn.org
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October 03. 2014

**Mr. William K. Collins
Dept. of the Army
Fort Ord BRAC
4463 Giggling Road
Fort Ord, Seaside, CA. 93955**

RE: Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study, Sites 2 & 12 (Draft)

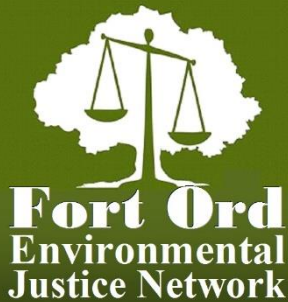
Dear Mr. Collins:

Please see the attached hard copy report submitted by the Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network for inclusion in the administrative records concerning the vapor intrusion in the Mall on Fort Ord (Dunes).

In the 1993 Risk Assessment Report, the contamination detection level was set at three to better protect the public. The Army is now trying to say it will be more cost effective to raise the health risk detection level to five instead of level three. We feel that the level should remain at three because the inspectors have yet to prove to the community that level three is not a risk. Knowing this, raising it to a level of 5 would be more of a health risk. We understand that raising the level will save money and make for a faster process, but by doing so would incur a higher health risk to workers and those who shop at the Mall (including children).

Also the document talks about depressurization in the buildings, which would cause a build-up of toxic fumes from the vapor intrusion. The community has no way of knowing how they will be protected from the gases in the commercial buildings and also the housing areas on Fort Ord. The Target store in the shopping center does not have proper air circulation. This is a complaint from workers and shoppers.

Also, the community has observed that heavy machinery and equipment from various Fort Ord projects are left in place overnight, unattended and in open areas. Also, the age of the equipment used for testing the vapor intrusion is not known.



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This is important in the accuracy of the test results. Up to date technology or lack thereof is a concern to Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network and the adjacent long time community residents.

We are also concerned that the very large brick behind Best Buy, though on site 12, was not tested. This building has been deserted for many, many years with nothing preventing gas build-up that could add to the contamination of the groundwater. This is a hazard to students as well as other local residents that may explore the base. This feasibility study also does not provide a report on Site 2 even though it is mentioned in the title.

If you wish to discuss the contents of this report further, please contact LeVonne Stone, FOEJN Executive Director, at 831-582-0803.

Thank You,

LeVonne Stone, Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network, Executive Director

Cc: Viola Cooper, USEPA, Region IX

CC: Ed Walker, DTSC