MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(ENVIRONMENT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)
STAFF DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Support of Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)

The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) is providing guidance for obtaining ATSDR services in accordance with section 9604(i)(6) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). We developed this guidance in collaboration with your staff to support a comprehensive, streamlined approach to: 1) obtaining ATSDR services to perform public health assessments, and 2) tracking ATSDR recommendations and DoD responses, including response actions taken on DERP sites. CERCLA identifies the criteria and circumstances for when a public health assessment must be conducted by ATSDR. These responsibilities and procedures are effective immediately and will be included in the next update of DoD Manual 4715.20, Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) Management:

- Add new subparagraph 4.a.(5) to Enclosure 3: “Pursuant to section 9604(i)(6) of CERCLA, ATSDR is required to complete a public health assessment within one year of EPA proposing a facility for the National Priorities List (NPL). The DoD Components will track DoD funded public health assessments performed by ATSDR to determine the presence and nature of health hazards at DERP sites proposed for the NPL. The DoD Components will report to the tracking system the responses and actions taken based on ATSDR’s recommendations in its final public health assessment reports for these DERP sites.”

- Add to the end of Enclosure 2, subparagraph 4.b.: “The Army will maintain a system to track DoD funded ATSDR public health assessments, including ATSDR recommendations and DoD’s responses, including response actions taken on DERP sites.”

- Modify DoD Component responsibilities at Enclosure 2, paragraph 3.e.: “Respond to ODUSD(I&E) and ODUSD(I&E) designated lead agent data calls and other requests for information.”
My point of contact on this matter is Robert Furlong, available at 703-571-9073 or Robert.Furlong@osd.mil.

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