

May 2009

## ENCLOSURE 2

### Guidelines for Evaluation of Dredged Material Proposed for Disposal In Federal Project Disposal Areas by Others

#### FOR ALL DISPOSAL PROJECTS

1. The entire costs of testing, evaluation, and reporting under these guidelines will be born by the applicant and should be conducted by qualified firms.
2. The applicant will provide information regarding the volume of dredged material, dredging and disposal methods, scale drawings indicating the dredging location(s), disposal area(s), and sample locations.
3. Dredged material samples should be selected to be representative of major shoal materials. Dredged material evaluation must be repeated every 3 years or more frequently if warranted by spills, accidents or other events affecting the sediment quality status. If the project is maintenance, surface grabs are sufficient.
4. Coordination and review of sampling and analysis plans by the Wilmington District is recommended before those plans are implemented.

These guidelines are divided into two sections based on requests to use: 1) Eagle Island, the Corps owned dredged material disposal facility, and 2) requests to use other dredged material disposal areas the Corps manages, but is not the underlying property owner. In the case where the Corps is not the property owner, applicants are required to obtain a consent agreement and approval of specific disposal events from the underlying land-owner.

#### EAGLE ISLAND

1. Sediments dredged from the Anchorage Basin and nearby Federal channels in Wilmington Harbor have historically been disposed on Eagle Island, the diked, dredged material disposal area in Wilmington Harbor owned by the Corps of Engineers. Chemical and physical analyses indicated that these sediments are suitable for disposal on Eagle Island, and are probably suitable for ocean disposal.
2. Dredged Material from private basins, private piers, and mooring facilities adjacent to the federal project channel has also historically been disposed on Eagle Island. Such dredged material could contain contaminants of environmental concern due to the potential of direct spills from moored vessels and adjacent upland runoff. Therefore, before additional privately dredged

material is placed on Eagle Island, a report of sample test results, in accordance with the scope of work in Enclosure 3, must be submitted to the Wilmington District Corps of Engineers for review.

3. If the project involves new work, grabs for the composite sample must consist of full dredging depth cores. If the Corps determines contamination is evident, disposal would be precluded unless:
  - a) the applicant and the Corps agree on additional testing, and the Corps determines, based on the additional testing, that disposal would be acceptable, or
  - b) disposal would be advantageous to the Corps and the environment, considering all appropriate factors.

### **OTHER DIKED DISPOSAL AREAS**

These guidelines describe actions which must be taken for approval of a Consent or License Agreement to place dredge material within other dredged material disposal areas the Corps manages, but is not the underlying property owner.

1. Grain size samples will be required to characterize the material to be dredged and placed in the Corps CDF. The number of samples and locations will vary from project to project. Representative samples will be taken at each major shoaling location. Composite samples of major shoals are acceptable.
2. If the project is maintenance, surface grabs are sufficient. If the project involves new work, grabs for the composite sample must consist of full dredging depth cores.
3. The grain size analysis consists of a minimum of 6 U.S. Standard Sieve Numbers (4, 10, 40, 60, 100 and 200) with a gradation curve plotted for each sample.
4. If representative dredged material passes more than 10 percent of the sample through a #200 sieve, assurance that the material is not contaminated must be provided. This is done in two steps. First is a review of factors in enclosure 3 which indicate a potential for contamination. If this review indicates a potential for contamination exists or if adequate information is not available to determine the potential for contamination, the results of a dredged material sampling and analysis plan in accordance with the scope of work in enclosure 4, must be submitted to the Wilmington District Corps of Engineers for review. The evaluation of potential for contamination, enclosure 3, should be used to determine the list of chemical parameters to be tested. Enclosure 4 includes a list of basic parameters to be determined if the evaluation of potential for contamination is inconclusive.

A report of findings should be submitted to the Corps Navigation Land Use Coordinator. If the Corps determines contamination is evident, disposal would be precluded unless:

- 1) the applicant and the Corps agree on additional testing and the Corps determines, based on the additional testing, that disposal would be acceptable, OR
- 2) the disposal would not result in unacceptable environmental effects, considering all appropriate factors. It is recommended that the applicant begin coordination and other actions indicated above so that adequate time to complete them is provided before the dredging is scheduled to begin.