

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. BOX 3378 HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

January 25, 2022

In reply, please refer

Rear Admiral Timothy J. Kott Commander, Navy Region Hawaii 850 Ticondaroga Street, Ste. 110 Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii 96860-5101 [via email only]

Dear Admiral Kott:

This letter is delivered to you in furtherance of the Hawaii State Department of Health's (DOH) continuing emergency response to restore safe drinking water to users of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam water distribution system.

DOH understands that the Department of the Navy (Navy) is carrying out a number of investigations into the cause of the drinking water contamination that began on November 28, 2021 and related incidents at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (Facility). On November 29, 2021, Admiral Samuel Paparo ordered a "command investigation" into the May 6, 2021 and November 20, 2021 leaks at the Facility.

On January 11, 2022, Rear Admiral Blake Converse provided testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness indicating that a "holistic investigation of the fuel spills and the water contamination" related to the May 6 and November 20, 2021 fuel leaks at the Facility would be submitted to U.S. Pacific Fleet on or about January 14, 2022. DOH presumes that the report referenced by Admiral Converse is the result of the investigation ordered by Admiral Paparo.

As a follow-up to my conversation with Rear Admiral Converse last week, please provide an update on the timeline to complete and make public findings of the investigation ordered by Admiral Paparo. Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapters 128D and 340E, DOH requests a copy of the report from that investigation, the report referred to by Admiral Converse if it is the result of a separate investigation, and any documents related to such investigations, as soon as possible.

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If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact me at (808) 586-4424.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ho

Kathleen S. Ho Deputy Director of Environmental Health