



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO  
P. O. BOX 3378  
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

August 23, 2023

Vice Admiral John Wade  
Joint Task Force, Red Hill  
1025 Quincy Avenue, Suite 900  
Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii'i 96860-5101  
[via email only: [john.f.wade2.mil@us.navy.mil](mailto:john.f.wade2.mil@us.navy.mil)]

Dear Vice Admiral Wade:

**SUBJECT: DOH Response to JTF-RH's Request to Temporarily Defer Select Repairs  
Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility**

The Hawaii'i Department of Health (DOH) has reviewed the Joint Task Force – Red Hill's (JTF-RH's) August 4, 2023 email and August 7, 2023 letter requesting "to remove the 3 incremental repair items...as conditions for repacking and instead, make these incremental repairs conditions for October defueling." We understand that the JTF-RH is unable to complete the following incremental repairs with quality validation report submissions prior to repacking: Repair No. INC 031, which includes the fuel oil recovery (FOR) line bypass and the zone 7 bypass; and Repair No. INC 029, which refers to the F-76 cross-connect for the aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) retention line. The FOR line bypass and zone 7 bypass enhancements are specific to defueling of the tank bottoms, while the F-76 cross-connect is intended to be a potential release response measure.

In addition, the JTF-RH provided the following information:

1. The FOR line bypass and zone 7 bypass will be completed prior to repacking with quality validation reports potentially submitted after repacking.
2. Any hot work, if needed, for the F-76 cross-connect will be done prior to repacking, but the connection will not be completed prior to repacking.
3. The F-76 cross-connect is expected to be completed prior to defueling.

On August 21, 2023, the JTF-RH submitted a modified plan for release response in the tank gallery during repacking, as the F-76 line will not be available as originally planned.

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Based on the information submitted, which indicates the repaired and tested portion of the AFFF retention line will have sufficient capacity to store the Navy's calculated maximum realistic potential fuel release during repacking, the DOH does not oppose the requested delay of the aforementioned repairs/enhancements.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Kelly Ann Lee, Red Hill Project Coordinator at the Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch at (808) 586-4226 or [kellyann.lee@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:kellyann.lee@doh.hawaii.gov).

Sincerely,

*Kathleen Ho*

KATHLEEN S. HO  
Deputy Director for Environmental Health

c: Mr. Evan Osborne, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [via email only]  
Mr. Grant Scavello, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [via email only]  
BG Michelle Link, JTF-RH [via email only]  
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