

SUBJECT: Reporting Environmental Issues and Enforcement Actions

PURPOSE: To provide information regarding HQ AMC policy on reporting environmental issues

DISCUSSION:

- On 6 April 2001, the AMC CG signed memorandum emphasizing the importance of communicating significant environmental issues to HQ AMC. In particular, commanders must promptly report environmental issues that have potential for generating public, media, regulatory, or congressional interest.
- The memorandum also included the AMC Communication, Reporting, and Coordination Guidelines. These guidelines make it clear that the environmental offices are responsible for reporting environmental enforcement actions (ENFS) and the legal offices are responsible for coordinating environmental agreements.
- The AMC guidelines require prompt reporting of all ENFs (24 hours for ENFs involving a fine and 48 hours for all other ENFs). Additional guidance on reporting procedures is available in the AMC Memorandum dated 18 September 2000, Subject: Reporting Enforcement Actions.
- The AMC guidance also outlines procedures for coordination environmental agreements. The key concepts are that installations should work closely with higher headquarters through the entire negotiation process and Army Environmental Law Division is required to approval all environmental agreements (ENF and non-ENF agreements).

CONCLUSION:

- AMC installations are generally doing a good job of reporting significant environmental issues. We need to continue these efforts to ensure that the Army leadership is aware of environmental issues and avoid "surprises" at all levels of command.

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