


Appendix E



Classification of Sediments by Metal Content (mg/kg dry weight)

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Ref.: EP 100/C10/16

Reg'd in R/I 23 NOV

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

TECHNICAL CIRCULAR NO. (TC) NO 1-1-92

Classification of Dredged Sediments for Marine Disposal

In fulfilment of my responsibility as the designated officer under paragraph 2(1) in Schedule I of the Dumping at Sea Act 1974 (Overseas Territories) Order 1975, I wish to notify you that dredged sediments will be classified as indicated below for the purpose of issuing licences under the Act. This circular should be read in conjunction with the Works Branch Technical Circular No. 22/92 - Marine Disposal of Dredged Mud which outlines the procedures to be followed in all works, whether public or private, which involve the marine disposal of dredged sediments.

2. Sediments will be classified according to their level of contamination by toxic metals. The classes are defined as follows :

Class A Uncontaminated material, for which no special dredging, transport or disposal methods are required beyond those which would normally be applied for the purpose of ensuring compliance with EPD's Water Quality Objectives, or for protection of sensitive receptors near the dredging or disposal areas.

Class B Moderately contaminated material, which requires special care during dredging and transport, and which must be disposed of in a manner which minimizes the loss of pollutants either into solution or by resuspension.

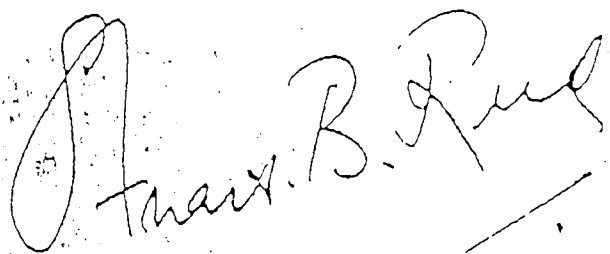
Class C Seriously contaminated material, which must be dredged and transported with great care, which cannot be dumped in the gazetted marine disposal grounds and which must be effectively isolated from the environment upon final disposal.

3. The classification criteria for contamination levels are laid down in Table A. It should be noted that it is necessary for the concentration of only one metallic element to be exceeded for sediments to be identified as falling within a particular class.

Table A - Classification of Sediments by Metal Content (mg/kg dry weight)

	Cd	Cr	Cu	Hg	Ni	Pb	Zn
Class A	0.0-0.9	0-49	0-54	0.0-0.7	0-34	0-64	0-140
Class B	1.0-1.4	50-79	55-64	0.8-0.9	35-39	65-74	150-190
Class C	1.5 or more	80 or more	65 or more	1.0 or more	40 or more	75 or more	200 or more

Note: Tests results should be rounded off to two significant figures before comparing with the table, e.g. Cd to the nearest 0.1mg/kg, Cr to the nearest 1 mg/kg, and Zn to the nearest 10 mg/kg, etc.



(Stuart B. Reed)
Director of Environmental Protection