MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Limiting Use of Aqueous Film Forming Foam

1. References:

2. As the Army Authority Having Jurisdiction, I am issuing this memorandum to clarify the use of Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF). In the event this memorandum conflicts with or is inconsistent with other guidance or regulations, this memorandum prevails.

3. Effective immediately, and until this guidance is rescinded, Army Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) organizations will cease discharging AFFF except when required in emergency situations. This prohibition includes ceasing annual and after-maintenance vehicle tests where AFFF is discharged, training fires using AFFF, vehicle operational checks using AFFF, refractometer checks, and any other non-emergency circumstance involving the discharge of AFFF.

4. National Fire Protection Association Standard 403 requires use of Military Specification (MIL-SPEC) AFFF in all vehicles that support aviation firefighting. All new Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) vehicles received after this notice will only be serviced with MIL-SPEC approved C6 AFFF.

5. Additionally, older stocks of MIL-SPEC AFFF (referred to as C8 AFFF) may contain perfluorooctane sulfonate and perfluorooctanoic acid. Vehicles that contain or contained C8 AFFF may continue to be serviced with existing AFFF stocks until further instructions are published. Use of other than MIL-SPEC AFFF in ARFF vehicles is prohibited.

6. My staff is developing plans to replace C8 AFFF, as well as proper procedures for the flushing of vehicles that used this product.
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7. In the event there is an incident involving the use of AFFF, immediately contact the Installation Spill Response Team. Their support is critical to limiting potential environmental concerns.

8. The F&ES point of contact for this action is Mr. John Staub, (703) 695-6936 or john.w.staub.civ@mail.mil. Environmental point of contact is Mr. Brian Moyer, (571) 256-9715 or brian.r.moyer1.civ@mail.mil.

DIANE M. RANDON
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff
for Installation Management

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