EARLY TRANSFER OF NAVY BASE TO PORT OF OAKLAND

SACRAMENTO -- The California Environmental Protection Agency’s Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced the early transfer of the U.S. Navy’s Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Oakland (FISCO), to the Port of Oakland. The transfer, approved by Governor Gray Davis, follows negotiations between the DTSC, the Port of Oakland, and the U.S. Navy.

“This is an innovative agreement. It is an example of what can be done when all parties seek new ways to revitalize economic interests while ensuring protection of public health and the environment,” said Ed Lowry, DTSC Director.

FISCO was transferred to the Port on June 3, 1999. The Port intends to use the property to expand and improve its intermodal cargo management operations. Under the transfer agreement, DTSC will provide environmental regulatory oversight and long term monitoring, the Port of Oakland will conduct hazardous waste cleanup activities and the U.S. Navy will pay costs; estimated to exceed $4-million. Contaminants of concern at the site include solvents, heavy metals, and petroleum wastes.

The early transfer agreement also ensures that:

- parcels are suitable for transfer for the intended use by the Port;
- deed and agreements covering the transfer between the Navy and the Port which contain assurances that public health and the environment will be protected and commitments that cleanup actions will not be disrupted, and that the Navy will submit adequate budget requests to pay for the cleanup;
- public notification of the early transfer, and
- the commitment for early transfer will not delay cleanup at FISCO.
The Port is negotiating long-term agreements with major shipping lines to make Oakland a major international commerce destination well into the next century.

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DTSC is one of six boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC’s mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting reduction.