Final Report Reference

SUBJECT: Audit of Potable and Nonpotable Water in Iraq (Project Number D2006-D000LQ-0254)

FINDING #1: Contractor Water Operations

We visited three KBR water production sites and one Oasis site. Oasis produced bottled drinking water. KBR produced water in bulk (not bottled for individual use). Both of the contractors produced and maintained potable water for human consumption and generally met the standards as prescribed in the Army's field water standards. However, on three separate occasions KBR did not meet the established requirements for quality monitoring and maintenance of nonpotable water. Although the water KBR produced was originally potable, when it is distributed using trucks not certified for potable distribution, the water must be designate nonpotable. All nonpotable water was distributed and stored in bulk. From November 2004 to February 2006, KBR did not perform water quality testing at point-of-use storage containers on Camp Victory. From October 13, 2004, to May 23, 2005, KBR did not monitor water quality at point-of-use storage containers on Camp Ar Ramadi. From March 14, 2004, to February 3, 2006, KBR inappropriately distributed chlorinated wastewater from its purification facility at Camp Q-West into personal hygiene facilities without informing Preventive Medicine personnel. As a result, water quality within those point-of-use storage containers may have degraded to the point of causing waterborne illnesses among U.S. forces.

RECOMMENDATION 1a:

We recommend that the Commander, Multinational Force–Iraq:

a. Establish a water board made up of each of the major organizations responsible for purification and oversight of water (Defense Contract Management Agency, Army Sustainment Command Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, Multinational Corps - Iraq Preventive Medicine, Veterinary Services, and Field Sanitation Teams' representatives) to serve as a forum for identifying and resolving problems as they arise and ensure proper oversight is accomplished.

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DCMA COMMENTS: Concur. DCMA Iraq/Afghanistan has taken steps to ensure the goal of recommendation #1a is accomplished. The Commander at DCMA I/A implemented 5 new procedures that integrate Quality Assurance in various aspects of the water production and water distribution process completed by KBR. Specifically, the Theater QAR is actively participating in the monthly Iraqi Theater of Operation's Water Quality Board meetings.

Finding #3: Oversight of Quality Water

Oversight of the military units did not occur as required. Specifically, Preventive Medicine officials did not perform oversight visits to all water supply operations. Oversight officials from the MNF-I Office of Resources and Sustainment, MNC-I Preventive Medicine, Defense Contract Management Agency-Iraq, LOGCAP, and KBR lacked a comprehensive inventory of water storage containers, without which they were unaware of the number and location of storage sites to visit. Additionally, the