

DETERMINATION OF THE CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER

Under the authority delegated to me by the Secretary of Defense, I have determined that the following information is exempt from disclosure under Exemption 3 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3)) because it meets the requirements for exemption under 10 U.S.C. § 130e:

Specific locations, physical vulnerabilities, and risk vulnerability assessments of the Department of the Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSF) tanks, pipelines, hydrants, and valves from the RHBFSF to and throughout Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Date: _____

Lisa W. Hershman
Chief Management Officer

**STATEMENT OF THE BASIS FOR THE DETERMINATION BY
THE CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER**

In accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 130e, I reviewed the information provided to me by the Department of the Navy (DON) concerning the safety and security of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSF), including specific locations and physical vulnerabilities of fuel tanks, pipelines, valves, hydrants, and documents containing risk and vulnerability assessments. Based on that review, I determined that information qualifies as Department of Defense (DoD) critical infrastructure security information (DCRIT). As defined by 10 U.S.C. § 130e(f), DCRIT includes:

“...sensitive but unclassified information that, if disclosed, would reveal vulnerabilities in Department of Defense critical infrastructure that, if exploited, would likely result in the significant disruption, destruction, or damage of or to Department of Defense operations, property, or facilities, including information regarding the securing and safeguarding of explosives, hazardous chemicals, or pipelines, related to critical infrastructure or protected systems owned or operated by or on behalf of the Department of Defense, including vulnerability assessments prepared by or on behalf of the Department of Defense, explosives safety information (including storage and handling), and other site-specific information on or relating to installation security.”

The RHBFSF serves as the primary fuel storage facility for U.S. military ships and aircraft operating from Hawaii and throughout the Pacific Area of Operations, and it is of vital strategic significance. The RHBFSF holds a significant percentage of petroleum war reserves required to defend national security interests in the Indo-Pacific region. As USINDOPACOM's strategic reserve, it supports all U.S. military forces throughout the theater, including those stationed in and transiting through Hawaii. It also supports the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard, and is available to support civil authorities, should circumstances dictate. The hardened, underground, cyber-protected, gravity-fed fuel system is unique, and there is no comparable U.S. owned facility anywhere from India to the continental United States.

The first category of information identified as DCRIT includes physical vulnerabilities of fuel tanks, pipelines, valves, and facility operations. Examples include diagrams of tanks, pipelines, hydrant locations, and valve operations. If exploited, this information could provide a potential attacker with information that would allow them to determine how and where to most effectively execute an attack. The second category of documents identified as DCRIT are those that have the potential for misuse and harm, and would impact facility safety. Of particular concern are documents containing risk vulnerabilities and damage assessments. A person armed with rudimentary knowledge of this risk and damage information could easily determine areas vulnerable for attack.

I considered the public interest in the disclosure of this specific RHBFSF pipeline location and risk information and weighed it against the risk of harm that might result if this information were to be disclosed. Because the public interest in the disclosure is substantially

outweighed by the risk of harm that might result from the disclosure of this information, I have determined that the protection of this information is critical to the security of the DoD infrastructure and should be exempt from disclosure. This is especially true because more general information about the operations of the RHBFSF has already been released publically.