



## The Senate

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
SENATOR LUIS P. CRISOSTIMO  
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February 19, 2008

Assistant Administrator, ATSDR (CHB)  
1600 Clifton Road, NE (E28)  
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027

SUBJECT: Petition for Public Health Assessment

Dear *Sir or Madam*:

This is to officially request the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry to conduct a Public Health Assessment on the island of Farallon de Mendinilla (FDM) in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), USA.

For over three decades, the United States Military has used the island as a live-fire bombing range. The people of the CNMI are extremely concerned that the artillery littering the island has become a significant public health hazard. Toxic substances released by the bombs have contaminated the soil and surrounding waters causing damage to wildlife, fish and coral on and around FDM. The bioaccumulation of these toxins in consumable pelagic fish may be a real and imminent health hazard to our people. On behalf of the people of the Northern Marianas Islands, I am respectfully requesting that ATSDR perform a Public Health Assessment at the earliest possible time.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the numbers listed above. I thank you in advance for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. P. Crisostimo", written over a horizontal line.

*Senator Luis P. Crisostimo*

*cc: Senate Members  
House Members*