



Department of Energy
 Richland Operations Office
 P.O. Box 550
 Richland, Washington 99352

0090065

10-AMRC-0162

Aug 30 2010

Mr. D. A. Faulk, Program Manager
 Office of Environmental Cleanup
 Hanford Project Office
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115
 Richland, Washington 99352

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EDMC

Dear Mr. Faulk:

100-K WEST VADOSE ZONE IN SITU BIO-INFILTRATION TREATABILITY TEST PLAN,
 DOE/RL-2010-73, DRAFT A

This letter transmits the 100-K West Vadose Zone In Situ Bio-Infiltration Treatability Test Plan (TTP) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for your review and comment, in accordance with Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-015-116, "DOE will submit to EPA a Treatability Test Plan for hexavalent chromium bioremediation of vadose zone contamination at 100-K," due August 30, 2010. In agreeing to the milestone, the U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (RL) and EPA agreed that implementation of bioremediation treatability tests will evaluate effectiveness of the technology and provide relevant data regarding in-situ treatment of hexavalent chromium. We further agreed that performing the treatability test would allow us to collect the necessary data to support development of the final Record of Decisions (RODs) in lieu of amending the interim RODs.

Remediation efforts are ongoing at the 183.1-KW Head House and the immediate vicinity. The contractor's current efforts focus on removing locally stained soils to approximately 15-foot depth below original (plant) grade. The 183.1-KW Headhouse Area was chosen as the site for this treatability test due to observed surface soil staining, documented water treatment system operational history, the presence of a Cr-VI groundwater contamination plume in the K West Area, and recently measured levels of Cr-VI in groundwater samples taken from monitoring well 199-K-35 near the north wall of the Headhouse. However, in-process soil samples taken at the Headhouse excavation have not revealed the expected level of Cr-VI contaminated soils within the shallow vadose zone. If follow-up testing determines that insufficient hexavalent chromium is present in the vadose zone below the treatability test area, the execution of the remainder of the TTP should be reevaluated for an alternate location in accordance with our discussions around this possibility.

HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE

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U.S. EPA

filed in 100-K-0162

Mr. D. A. Faulk
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The current project schedule reflects a 30-day EPA review of the TTP, commencing August 31, 2010. We would like to meet with you and your staff to discuss the path forward for approval of this TTP, its implementation, and potential locations for that implementation. DOE will also be conducting a briefing for presentation to the Hanford Advisory Board River and Plateau Committee, the State of Oregon, and the Tribes tentatively scheduled for September 15, 2010.

If you have questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Tom Teynor, Federal Project Director, on (509) 376-6363.

Sincerely,


Joe R. Franco, Assistant Manager
for the River Corridor

AMRC:SNB

Attachment

cc w/attach:
G. Bohnee, NPT
L. Buck, Wanapum
S. Harris, CTUIR
R. Jim, YN
S.L. Leckband, HAB
C. Guzzetti, EPA
N. Menard, Ecology
K. Niles, ODOE
D. Rowland, YN