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LETTER AND THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT FOCUSED FEASIBILITY STUDY SITES 1, 2, 3, AND 4 NCBC
DAVISVILLE RI
08/14/2015
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



RHODE ISLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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TDD 401-222-4462

14 August 2015

Mr. Jeffrey Dale, RPM
U.S. Department of the Navy
BRAC PMO, Northeast
4911 South Broad Street
Building 679, PNBC
Philadelphia, PA 19112

RE: NCBC Sites 1, 2, 3 & 4
Draft Focused Feasibility Study
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Davisville, Rhode Island
Submitted 30 July 2015, Dated 29 July 2015

Dear Mr. Dale:

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Waste Management (RIDEM) has reviewed the above referenced document and has the following comment to offer:

1. Page 1-11, Section 1.2.5.2, Fate and Transport, Paragraph 3, Sentence 1 – Please change “The average naphthalene concentration in the groundwater sample and duplicate collected from MW02-10S was 2.7 micrograms per liter (ug/l)...” to “The naphthalene concentration in groundwater collected from well MW02-10S ranged from 2.6 to 2.8 micrograms per liter (ug/l)...” RIDEM does not accept averaging of results.
2. Page 1-12, Section 1.2.6, Summary of Risks, Paragraph 1, Sentence 2 – Please change “one-in-one hundred thousand” to “one-in-one million”. 1×10^{-6} is one-in-one million.
3. Page 1-12, Section 1.2.6, Summary of Risks, Paragraph 4, Sentence 1 – This sentence notes that there is an unacceptable risk if groundwater is used for residential purposes. In addition to the groundwater being used for residential purposes it should also be noted there would be a concern with vapor intrusion, which could also be a concern under recreational, industrial and commercial land uses.

4. Page 1-13, Section 1.2.6, Summary of Risks, Paragraph 2, Sentence 1 – Please change “During the 2014 sampling event, naphthalene was detected in one well (MW02-10S) at a concentration (2.7 ug/l) greater than its USEPA tap water RSL (0.17 ug/l).” to “During the 2014 sampling event two samples (one of which was a duplicate) were collected from well MW02-10S and ranged from 2.6 to 2.8 ug/l which is greater than the USEPA tap water RSL of 0.17 ug/l.” RIDEM does not accept averaging of results, see comment #1.
5. Table 2-1, Federal and State Chemical Specific ARARs, Page 3 of 3 – For the RIDEM Remediation Regulations, 2011 (DEM_DSR-01-93, Section 8.02(A)(i) and Table 1 citation please also include Table 2 (Leachability Criteria) as there is a GB leachability groundwater standard for PCBs.
6. Table 2-4, Summary of RIDEM DEC Exceedances and Rule 8.10 Analysis – For Site 01 subsurface manganese under residential the “No” for meeting Rule 8.10 should be changed to “Yes” as only one sample (1-B12A-S2-2-3) of 29 exceeded the RDEC of 390 at 535 mg/kg. In addition, the Action needed column should be changed from “Yes” to “No”. For residential purposes RIDEM combines surface and sub-surface soils above the water table as noted in section 8.02(A)(i)(2) of the RIDEM Remediation Regulations, 2011.
7. Table 2-2, Federal and State Location Specific ARARs – Please include DEM-DSR-01-93, Section 8.08(B)(i) &(ii) Points of Compliance for Groundwater – This establishes how and where points of compliance will be determined for both GA and GB groundwater. While OU-7 is wholly located in a GB designated area, a portion of the groundwater flows from a GB groundwater area to a GA groundwater area.
8. Table 2-2, Federal and State Location Specific ARARs – In the OU9 ROD DEM_DSR_01-93, Section 8.09 (Institutional Controls) is located in the Action Specific ARARs, not the Location Specific ARARs as done for this Operable Unit. Please explain the rationale for this change.
9. Page 2-8, Section 2.6.1, General Response Actions, Ex-Situ Treatment – It should be noted that if this alternative is selected the substantive requirements of a RCRA Corrective Action permit may be required.
10. Page 2-9, Section 2.7.1, Volume of Contaminated Soil , Paragraph 1, Sentence 1- Please change “.... COC concentrations are greater than PRGs is shown on Figures 2-1 thru 2-4, which identifies...” to
11. Page 3-2, Section 3.1, Preliminary Screening of Soil Technologies and Process Options – Please explain why In-Situ and Ex-Situ treatment (treatment alternatives) of Soils is not carried forth in this section of the study as well as Section 3.2, Detailed Screening of Soil Treatment Technologies and Process Options.

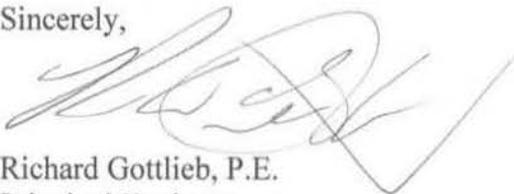
12. Page 3-5, Section 3.2.3, Containment, Effectiveness - Since it is intended to develop this site perhaps a sentence or two should be added that would indicate that a soil management plan would be part of this alternative which would allow for the development of this site and insure that soils are handled and addressed properly to minimize risks when exposing contaminated soils below the cover.
13. Sections 3.2.4 (Removal) and 3.2.5 (Disposal) – These two options should be combined because if one is removing the soil, clearly it must be disposed of somewhere, i.e. if there is removal then there is disposal, conversely if there is no disposal then there is no removal.
14. Page 4-8, Section 4.2.2.1, Alternative S-2:LUCs, Description, Paragraph 1, Last Sentence – “These restrictions include use of the property only for the development or operation of a port facility.” Please change to “These environmental restrictions will only allow for the use of the property for industrial/commercial uses. Because of how the Land Reuse Authority is obtaining the land the Navy will place a separate deed restriction on the property (not an ELUR) only allowing for the development or operation of a port facility.” RIDEM Remediation Regulations, 2011 does not have standards or a definition for port related facilities, thus it would not be enforceable under an ELUR. In this specific case RIDEM will only make a determination if the proposed use is industrial/commercial or not. The Maritime Administration and possibly the Navy are the entities that need to determine if the proposed activity is port related or not. As noted above, the Navy can place a separate deed restriction on the property limiting it to port related activities.
15. Page 4-10, Section 4.2.2.2, Detailed Analysis, Implementability, Paragraph 1, Sentence 2 – Please change “Performance of regular site inspections for LUC enforcement and five-year reviews could readily be accomplished.” to “Performance of annual site inspections for LUC enforcement and five-year reviews could readily be accomplished.” The RIDEM ELUR requires annual certifications.
16. Page 4-12, Section 4.2.3.1, Description, Component 2: LUCs, Paragraph 1, last sentence – See Comment 14 regarding restriction on use of the property for port related activities.
17. Page 5-3, Early Action for Groundwater, Paragraph 3 – This paragraph discusses particulars of a monitoring program. While RIDEM concurs with a groundwater monitoring program as part of the early action for groundwater it is not prepared at this time to concur with the particulars of said program, i.e. how many wells to be monitored, specific constituents to be monitored and at what frequency the wells will be sampled. It should be noted in this paragraph that the specific parameters of the monitoring program will be worked out at a later date.
18. Page 5-5, Section 5.5, Short-Term Effectiveness, Paragraph 2, Last Sentence – “The Early Action could be implemented within 1 year of finalization of the OU7-

CED Area Proposed Plan in which the Early Action would be presented for public comment." Please state if the Early Action implementation will be finalized within one year of the proposed plan or ROD.

19. Page 5-5, Section 5.6, Implementability, Paragraph 2, Sentence 2 – This sentence states that continuation of the early action controls is dependent on the future landowner filing an ELUR. Please note that the Navy can place an ELUR on the property prior to transfer as the ELUR runs with the land. In this manner continuation of the early action controls remain in place irrespective to who the future landowner is.
20. General Comment – Preliminarily, ARARs seem acceptable, however, once an alternative is selected RIDEM will provide a more thorough review.
21. Appendix G, Page 1-3, Section 1.2.3, Geology and Hydrogeology, Paragraph 4 – This paragraph states that groundwater flow is generally to the east though a small component flows to the northeast in the Drum Removal Area. Based on Figure 1-3 (Groundwater Flow Direction and Groundwater Classification) groundwater flow in the Drum Removal Area and Site 4 appears to be to the southeast, easterly at Sites 1, 2 and 3 and turns almost northeast immediately to the east off Sites 1 and 2.

RIDEM would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document and looks forward to working with the Navy and USEPA. If you have any questions or require additional information please call me at (401) 222-2797 ext. 7138 or email me at richard.gottlieb@dem.ri.gov.

Sincerely,



Richard Gottlieb, P.E.
Principal Engineer

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