

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

Division of Remediation, Oak Ridge Office 761 Emory Valley Road Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

November 27, 2023

Mr. Roger Petrie
DOE FFA Project Manager
Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
Post Office Box 2001
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Addendum for the Implementation Process to the Remedial Design Report/Remedial Action Work Plan for Soils, Sediments, and Dynamic Characterization Strategy for Bethel Valley, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/OR/01-2378&D5/A5)

Dear Mr. Petrie

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Remediation Oak Ridge Office (DoR-ORO), has reviewed the above referenced submittal pursuant to the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for the Oak Ridge Reservation. The document was received on August 28, 2023, and the following comments are relevant to that review:

General Comments

- **1.** All references to the Bethel Valley Record of Decision (BV ROD) should be changed to the Interim BV ROD or BV Interim ROD.
- 2. Section 3 and Figure 6 require additional discussion among the FFA parties to ensure proposals are consistent with previous FFA agreements for Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) waste characterization and FFA primary document review protocol.
- 3. This addendum should include a revision to the process and criteria (Appendix E) included in the Remedial Design Report/Remedial Action Work Plan (RDR/RAWP) for evaluating soil screening levels (SSLs) for protection of Bethel Valley groundwater such that it is consistent with what is outlined in the BV Interim ROD. The need for this revision has been discussed with and agreed to by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Specific Comments

- **1. Section 3.1.1:** Please delete "typically no longer than 2 weeks"? EU4A is an example of where this would not apply.
- **2. Section 3.1.2, first sentence:** Please change "changes agreed to" to "discussions". The record should be transparent regarding these FFA discussions.
- **3. Section 3.1.2, first paragraph:** As has been previously discussed, this section should note that any comments and response to comments will be included as an attachment to the Data Quality Objectives (DQO) Scoping Package.
- **4. Section 3.1.2, second paragraph:** This paragraph does not seem consistent with the FFA. Modifying previously approved primary documents generally occurs through a formal FFA process, not through concurrence forms or signature forms. More discussion is needed.

5. Figure 6:

- a. The Waste Handling Plan Sampling and Analysis Plan (WHP SAP) is noted as 'FFA Primary Document review protocol'. This should be changed to 'FFA Primary Document review and approval protocol'.
- b. In general, more discussion is needed among the FFA parties to ensure that a clear process for future remediation is documented and approved.
- **6. Section 3.2, first paragraph, second sentence:** Please add, 'If the FFA parties determine an action is necessary at this time,' to the start of this sentence.
- **7. Section 3.2, second paragraph:** This paragraph states that sampling results will be compared against the criteria presented in Appendix E of the BVSS RDR/RAWP. As mentioned in the general comments, the criteria for the protection of groundwater presented in Appendix E are not appropriate. Please revise this section accordingly and include a statement about how the BVSS RDR/RAWP will be revised.
- **8. Section 3.2, second paragraph:** This paragraph discusses presenting the evaluation and plan for delineation of exceedances of BV Interim ROD criteria to the Project Team in a presentation and/or email. This step is not captured on Figure 6.
- **9. Section 3.2, third paragraph:** Will the Tech Brief be attached to the Phased Construction Completion Report (PCCR)?
- **10. Section 3.2, general comment:** The tech brief discussion is confusing. The first and second paragraphs say tech brief reports will no longer be used. The third paragraph then talks about the uses of the tech briefs. Yet, tech briefs are not mentioned in the flow chart. The text and flow chart should be more consistent.

Also, this section is discussing characterization. If this characterization data is being used to characterize waste for Bear Creek Valley (BCV) CERCLA disposal, then formal FFA approval of that characterization is needed somewhere.

- **11. Section 3.3:** WHP SAP should be renamed to 'Addendum' and moved further down the flow chart after where the data is collected and the determination is made as to where waste will be disposed.
- **12. Section 3.4:** This section as written suggests that the Tech Memo is attached to the BVSS RDR/RAWP and only Tech Memos for No Further Action (NFA) are attached to the PCCR. Will all Tech Memos be attached to the PCCR?
- **13. Section 3.4, first paragraph, second sentence:** Please include a brief summary of these sections rather than referring the reader to them.
- **14. Section 3.4.1:** Early starts must consider and document needs for site specific BMPs. BMPs are not discussed. Additionally, early start letters and processes should be reflected in Figure 6.
- **15. Section 3.5:** The last sentence references Section 3.5.4. This section does not exist.
- **16. Section 3.5.2:** How does DOE get formal FFA approval of WHP for onsite disposal? As previously mentioned, changes are needed in Figure 6 to clearly show that {c} is FFA Primary document review and approval protocol and that the figure and text are consistent with each other as well as consistent with the FFA.
- **17. Section 3.5.3:** This section states that a waste profile Data Quality Assessment (DQA) will occur regardless of where the waste is going. The flow chart shows that a DQA will only occur if the waste is going to an on-site landfill. Clarification is needed.
- **18. Section 3.6:** The second to last sentence states that final confirmation sampling results 'may' be provided to Project Team. 'May' should be changed to 'will' as it is included in the flow chart.
- **19. Table A.1, Path forward, Appendices:** Please include a bullet for Regulator Comments and DOE Response to Comments.
- **20. Table B.1, EU Status and Path forward, Appendices:** Please include a bullet for Regulator Comments and DOE Response to Comments.

Review of this document meets the review cycle protocol of 90 days. Questions or comments concerning the contents of this letter should be directed to Jessica Core at (865) 220-6592.

Sincerely

Randy C Young Poung Date: 2023.11.22 14:07:26

Digitally signed by Randy C Young -05'00'

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