



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
Division of Remediation, Oak Ridge Office
761 Emory Valley Road
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

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COUNTY MAYOR'S OFFICE

September 10, 2024

Mr. Roger Petrie
Federal Facility Agreement Manager
Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
Post Office Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

Dear Mr. Petrie

RE: DOE's Submittal of Proposed Changes to the Federal Facility Agreement Appendix J Milestones

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), Division of Remediation-Oak Ridge Office (DoR-OR), has reviewed the above referenced submittal pursuant to the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR). The document was received on August 1, 2024.

Over the past couple of years, the ORR FFA has included a limited list of Appendix J milestones primarily because delays of contract negotiations between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and their remediation contractor resulted in submittals of less than a full set of milestones by the deadline of March 15 set in the FFA section XVIII.B.

However, the FFA parties have worked diligently during this time to ensure project team discussions have supported consistent remediation progress across the ORR. Most recently, the Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management has proposed augmentation of the FFA Appendix J through the subject correspondence and has populated Appendix J with numerous supportable milestones. TDEC agrees that the proposed milestones represent significant remediation progress across the ORR and supports the DOE proposal to include those milestones within the FFA. However, the proposal fails to address a key TDEC interest of completing soil remediation at the Y-12 Alpha-2 site prior to reuse of the property.

During the past year the FFA parties have discussed the need for necessary soil remediation work at the Alpha-2 site consistent with the existing Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Phase II Interim Record of Decision (IROD) and prior to site reuse activities beginning. TDEC has repeatedly requested the DOE to plan and execute soil remediation as buildings are

demolished, soils become accessible as described in the IROD, and before future site users begin developing the property. Near-term characterization and remediation of these soils will protect nearby surface and ground water resources and support site reuse for implementation of the specific DOE mission at the Y-12 site.

DOE has agreed to *evaluate* inclusion of the requested milestones for characterization and remediation of Alpha-2 soils into their planned sequencing of remediation at Y-12. The FFA parties are continuing this discussion at both the project team and management team levels. Though TDEC cannot at this time approve this subject submittal without appropriate Alpha-2 soil milestones, it is expected that necessary milestones will be developed and proposed soon allowing for complete approval of Appendix J.

Again, although TDEC does not approve the Appendix J submittal at this time, it does recognize the significant tri-party collaboration within the proposal to improve the accuracy of Appendix J by establishing numerous milestones for remediation projects across the ORR. TDEC also expects the FFA parties will agree on the necessary Alpha-2 soil milestones to allow approval of Appendix J and establish the basis for appropriate planning for upcoming DOE budget requests.

Questions or comments concerning the contents of this letter should be directed to Randy Young at (865) 310-1157.

Sincerely

Randy Young

Digitally signed by Randy
Young
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Randy C. Young
FFA Manager
Division of Remediation – Oak Ridge Office

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