



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

May 18, 2016

Ms. Tracey Duncan
Federal Facility Agreement Manager
United States Department of Energy
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Site Office
5501 Hobbs Road
Kevil, KY 42053

RE: EPA Approval: Addendum to the Soils Operable Unit Remedial Investigation 2 Report at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky (DOE/LX07-2306&D2), Primary Document, transmittal dated March 28, 2016 (PPPO-02-3181534-16A)

Dear Ms. Duncan,

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 has reviewed the Department of Energy's (DOE) responses to Agency comments and the revised *Addendum to the Soils Operable Unit Remedial Investigation 2 Report at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky* (DOE/LX07-2306&D2). No new concerns were identified as a result of this review and the document is approved as submitted.

As discussed among the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) parties during review of this document, and reflected in the approved Fiscal Year 2015 Site Management Plan, DOE plans to utilize the data and risk assessment evaluations and conclusions in this Remedial Investigation Report in support of Feasibility Study (FS) evaluations of remedial alternatives for soils cleanup no sooner than 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2025. Although the March 2016 report is useful today for identifying contaminant and exposures circumstances potentially warranting early/interim actions to mitigate unacceptable risks or hazards to people and environmental resources, the report data and risk assessment conclusions may have usability limitations during FS evaluations ten years from today. Data usability (and the risk estimates and conclusions) should be carefully evaluated by the technical team in 2025 due to the age of the data (circa 2014 and pre-2014 historical data) and the potential for nature and extent conclusions to be impacted by soil disturbances or contaminant releases due to Deactivation and Decommissioning activities that are on-going, and forecast for the next ten years, at the PGPD. In addition, the technical team should evaluate the impacts of changes in risk assessment methodologies and guidance prior to initiating the Fiscal Year 2025 FS evaluation of remedial alternatives for the Soils Operable Unit based on the approved Soils OU RI 2 Report.

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If you have any questions about this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 562-8547 or via electronic mail at corkran.julie@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Julie L. Corkran, Ph.D.
Federal Facility Agreement Manager
Superfund Division

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