

HIGHLIGHTS

National Risk Management Research Laboratory Ground Water and Ecosystems Restoration Division Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Center Status Report for the week of April 14, 2014

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical Assistance Region IX: On March 19, 2014, Mr. Steven Acree (GWERD) and Dr. Robert Ford (LRPCD) provided technical review comments to RPMs Jere Johnson and David Seter on the "Supplemental Characterization Work Plan, Anaconda Evaporation Ponds, Yerington Mine Site, Yerington, Nevada." In general, the document proposes significant additional investigations to aid in evaluations of remedy options for the evaporation ponds under both OU-1 and OU-4. However, discussions of specific data gaps to be filled, investigation procedures, and rationale behind the chosen data collection locations are vague, rendering it unclear as to whether the proposed work is likely to be successful in filling remaining data gaps. It is recommended that the document be revised to provide a stronger and more direct connection between data gaps, data collection, and how these data are expected to fill the existing gaps.

(14-R09-004) (S. Acree (GWERD) 580-436-8609) (R. Ford (LRPCD) 513-569-7501)

Technical Assistance Region II: On March 21, 2014, Mr. Steven Acree (GWERD) provided technical review comments to RPM Clifford Ng on the "Groundwater Extraction and Treatment System Water Level Monitoring Network, DuPont Pompton Lakes Works, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey." In this document, installation of three piezometers located adjacent to extraction wells where large drawdowns in water levels are routinely measured is proposed. The addition of these piezometers should strengthen the water level monitoring network, allow the practice of including hydraulic head data from active pumping wells in potentiometric surface interpretations to be curtailed, and lead to an improved understanding of the performance of the groundwater extraction system. It is recommended that the installation of these piezometers be approved.

(14RC02-001) (S. Acree (GWERD) 580-436-8609)

Technical Assistance Region IX: On April 14, 2014, Mr. Steven Acree (GWERD) and Dr. Robert Ford (LRPCD) provided technical review comments to RPM David Seter on the "Analytical Parameter Reduction for Site-Wide Groundwater Monitor Wells, Yerington Mine Site, Yerington, Nevada." The document proposes to reduce the suite of analytes that are routinely monitored per the Site-Wide Groundwater Monitoring Plan based on the frequency of detection. Under this proposal, ten parameters would be removed from the analytical suite for existing wells in which these parameters have been infrequently detected. For new wells, monitoring of the full suite of parameters would be performed for four consecutive quarterly sampling rounds at which time the data would be analyzed to determine whether monitoring of these parameters should be continued. Given the limited detections of these parameters and the extensive record of previous analyses, it is recommended that the proposed modification to the routine analytical parameter suite detailed in Table 5 be adopted for the remainder of characterization to be performed under the remedial investigation. The monitoring program should be reevaluated at each major milestone in the process, such as during the feasibility study, remedial design, and remedy implementation, to insure that the necessary data are obtained to meet the evolving data quality objectives.

(14-R09-004) (S. Acree (GWERD) 580-436-8609) (R. Ford (LRPCD) 513-569-7501)

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