



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

March 8, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Dear Mr. Petrie:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has completed review of the *Proposed Plan for an Interim Record of Decision for Groundwater in the Main Plant Area at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE/OR/01-2921&D2/R1) which was received on February 27, 2023. All of EPA's previous comments have been addressed in this revised document and it is approved.

The DOE is reminded that EPA guidance for both the Proposed Plan and Record of Decision should include text that clearly presents the overall strategy for site/operable unit remediation when part of a larger-scale cleanup. While most of the information is scattered throughout the Proposed Plan, EPA will want it more clearly presented in the Interim Record of Decision. Please address the reporting requirements from Section 6.3.4 Scope and Role of Operable Unit or Response Action (EPA 540-R-98-031, July 1999) and include the following text:

1. This is an interim remedy for six of the 14/16(?) known contaminated groundwater plumes in the Main Plant Area.
2. The interim remedy is intended to reduce the mass of contaminants in the most concentrated parts of the plumes (hot spots) that may serve as a source for additional dissolved phase contamination.
3. The interim remedy is consistent with any eventual final remedy, which, per the NCP, will restore groundwater to its beneficial use - in this case drinking water per state classifications - unless a waiver is invoked consistent with 40 CFR 300.430(f)(1)(ii)(C).
4. Under a separate effort, additional data is being collected and investigations are planned for the other groundwater plumes across the MPA to support future remedy decisions.

The public should clearly understand the DOE plan in moving forward with these six initial groundwater hot spots followed by the additional investigation and possible remedial work (as required) on the remaining plumes.

Received 03/08/2023

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter or require additional information, then please contact me at (404) 562-8550, or electronically at froede.carl@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Froede, Carl

Digitally signed by
Froede, Carl
Date: 2023.03.08
08:00:46 -05'00'

Carl R. Froede Jr.
Senior Remedial Project Manager
Restoration & DOE Coordination Section
Restoration & Site Evaluation Branch
Superfund & Emergency Management Division

cc: J. Hardin, DOE
M. Mathes, DOE
E. Phillips, DOE
S. Scheffler, DOE
K. Thompson, DOE
ETTPDMC@orcc.doe.gov
R. Young, TDEC
H. Lutz, TDEC
ORSSAB