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H4AR 12.5.1
8/10/09

Ravi Sanga/R10/USEPA/US
08/10/2009 04:59 PM

To Susan McGroddy <SusanM@windwardenv.com>

cc "Dave Schuchardt (Dave.Schuchardt@Seattle.Gov)" <Dave.Schuchardt@Seattle.Gov>, dan berlin <dberlin@anchorenv.com>, "Debra Williston (debra.williston@kingcounty.gov)" <debra.williston@kingcounty.gov>, "Debra Williston (b) (6) >, Gary Pascoe (b) (6) , Doug Hotchkiss <hotchkiss.d@portseattle.org>, "Jeff Stern (jeff.stern@kingcounty.gov)" <jeff.stern@kingcounty.gov>, Lisa Gagnon <lgagnon@anchorenv.com>, Nancy Judd <NancyJ@windwardenv.com>, "Pete Rude (pete.rude@seattle.gov)" <pete.rude@seattle.gov>, Scott Becker <sbecker@integral-corp.com>, Susan McGroddy <SusanM@windwardenv.com>, "twang@anchorenv.com" <twang@anchorenv.com>, Joe Goulet/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Maja Tritt/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Gensemer <rgensemer@parametrix.com>

bcc

Subject Re: Benthic data report

Susie -- Attached are comments on the Draft Data Report for Benthic Invertebrate Tissue Collection and Co-located Sediment Samples. EPA concurs with including the Sediment Profile Imaging (SPI) in the benthic data report vs the clam data report.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks

Ravi

EW_Benthic_Data_Report comments.doc

Ravi Sanga, MS
Environmental Scientist - Remedial Project Manager
US EPA Region 10
Office of Environmental Cleanup
phone: (206) 553-4092
fax: (206) 553-0124

Susan McGroddy Here is the draft benthic data report for your revi... 05/22/2009 04:51:31 PM

Susan McGroddy <SusanM@windwardenv.com >
05/22/2009 04:51 PM

To Ravi Sanga/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc dan berlin <dberlin@anchorenv.com>, "Dave Schuchardt (Dave.Schuchardt@Seattle.Gov)" <Dave.Schuchardt@Seattle.Gov>, "Debra Williston (b) (6) >, "Debra Williston (debra.williston@kingcounty.gov)" <debra.williston@kingcounty.gov>, Doug Hotchkiss <hotchkiss.d@portseattle.org>, Gary Pascoe (b) (6) >, "Jeff Stern (jeff.stern@kingcounty.gov)" <jeff.stern@kingcounty.gov>, Lisa Gagnon <lgagnon@anchorenv.com>, Nancy Judd

USEPA SF
1342016

<NancyJ@windwardenv.com>, "Pete Rude (pete.rude@seattle.gov)" <pete.rude@seattle.gov>, Scott Becker <sbecker@integral-corp.com>, Susan McGroddy <SusanM@windwardenv.com>, "twang@anchorenv.com" <twang@anchorenv.com>.

Subject Benthic data report

Here is the draft benthic data report for your review. The appendices are too large to e-mail. I will send cds with appendices next week. I will also investigate options for posting them. Hope you have a great holiday weekend!

Thanks.

Susie Draft BI_data_report.doc Map 2-1 3376 benthic data locations.pdf

US EPA Comments. Draft Data Report Benthic Invertebrate Tissue Collection and Co-located Sediment Samples, May 22, 2009

Specific Comments

1. Section 1, page 1 (editorial): The sentence before the numbered list refers to two purposes, but three are provided. Please clarify.

2. Section 4.2 and Appendix C. The data validation report for metals in tissue indicates that the recovery for silver was very low (7.8%) in the matrix spike sample. The recovery of antimony from the matrix spike for sediment was similarly very low (2.1%). Please carry specific information about these low recoveries forward into Section 4.2. During data use, consider the possibility that the analyte concentrations and reporting limits for silver in tissue and antimony in sediment have a strong negative bias and evaluate any effect this could have on conclusions drawn from the data.

3. Section 4.2. The reference material Sequim-1 was analyzed with the sediment samples for this study. Please provide a comparison of concentrations obtained for the Sequim-1 analysis and the reference concentrations. If any field QC samples were collected, results must also be described and evaluated in Section 4.2 or an additional section.

4. Data validation reports for PCBs and for TBTs in sediment: Aroclor 1260 and TBT were not recovered from their respective matrix spike duplicates. Please indicate that the native concentrations of both of these analytes were higher than the spiked concentrations. This may partly explain the lack of recovery.

5. Attachment E-1 Field Notes. Field notes mention the occasional observation of sulfide or petroleum odors in a few samples. Please map out the petroleum odor observations so it would be helpful when comparing to PAH values.

6. Sediment Profile Imaging Text and Appendix. EPA has reviewed the text and appendix and concurs that the information is more appropriate in the benthic report instead of the clam tissue report.