To: Murray, Bill[Murray.Bill@epa.gov]
Cc: Mutter, Andrew[mutter.andrew@epa.gov]
From: Mylott, Richard
Sent: Tue 11/1/2016 7:18:23 PM
Subject: FW: FOR FEEDBACK: Flathead Beacon request: FW: Libby/Columbia Falls RPM

Bill- based on below, we're also fine if you prefer to briefly talk with Clare in lieu of an email coordinated thru me…

Rich x 6654

From: Mylott, Richard
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 1:10 PM
To: Murray, Bill <Murray.Bill@epa.gov>; Faulk, Libby <Faulk.Libby@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>; Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Cirian, Mike <Cirian.Mike@epa.gov>; Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Parker, Robert <Parker.Robert@epa.gov>; Harrison, Jennifer <Harrison.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR FEEDBACK: Flathead Beacon request: FW: Libby/Columbia Falls RPM

Here's her response on specifics: 2 questions below. Please advise…

1.—Often, people here talk about the Superfund sites in Northwest MT as being some of the region's biggest cleanups, and I want to figure out of there's truth to that or if it's just people talking. Ultimately, I'm hoping to see how "bad" the Libby and Columbia Falls sites are when compared to the others in the state and region. I know the Hazard Ranking System isn't usually used for this purpose, but if there's a way to rank the sites using that metric, that could be helpful.

2.—What qualities make a good remedial project manager? What are some specific challenges of the job?

……

I think the key for #1 is to emphasize that all sites are different in terms of size, human and environmental exposures, specific contaminants, (and remind reporter that the RI/FS at CFAC is pending?) but explain that 1) Libby, in terms of addressing a human health concern, has been an agency priority and reference the work of Mike and the Libby team work as critical in securing the cleanup results we have seen there; and 2) explain that many of sites in Montana (and other places in the West) pose larger-scale challenges that are not just limited to contamination at individual facilities/properties but cover large mining districts and areas. We've achieved significant results at these types of sites, e.g. Silver Bow, Milltown/Clark fork…as well as at smaller-scale sites listed here. https://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund-sites-region-8

On #2- looks like she prefers someone from Denver to weigh in, so Bill, if you have 3-4 sentences here, and some allusion to Mike personally, that might work?

Rich x 6654

From: Murray, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Faulk, Libby <Faulk.Libby@epa.gov>; Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>; Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Cirian, Mike <Cirian.Mike@epa.gov>; Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Parker, Robert <Parker.Robert@epa.gov>; Harrison, Jennifer <Harrison.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR FEEDBACK: Flathead Beacon request: FW: Libby/Columbia Falls RPM

Keep me posted.

From: Faulk, Libby
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 12:35 PM
To: Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>; Murray, Bill <Murray.Bill@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>; Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Cirian, Mike <Cirian.Mike@epa.gov>; Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Parker, Robert <Parker.Robert@epa.gov>; Harrison, Jennifer <Harrison.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR FEEDBACK: Flathead Beacon request: FW: Libby/Columbia Falls RPM

Am looping in Jennifer Harrison, the CIC for the Libby site.

Libby Faulk, Program Manager

Public Affairs and Community Involvement

US EPA, Region 8

1595 Wynkoop Street

Denver, CO 80202

faulk.libby@epa.gov

303-312-6083

From: Mylott, Richard
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 12:32 PM
To: Murray, Bill <Murray.Bill@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>; Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Cirian, Mike <Cirian.Mike@epa.gov>; Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Parker, Robert <Parker.Robert@epa.gov>; Faulk, Libby <Faulk.Libby@epa.gov>
Subject: FOR FEEDBACK: Flathead Beacon request: FW: Libby/Columbia Falls RPM

Bill, Joe, Robert M.- heads up on below, I'll prompt reporter for more specifics on "local sites" and "RPM roles," but would like your input once I get those specifics. We probably should also state role and function of CICs in our response as well.

As for fact checks (for your feedback):

-I count roughly 20+ RPMs across region?

-Re: Montana RPMs: while Mike is based in Montana, several others work on Montana sites from here in Denver?

-No sites deleted, but formal deletion is not a particularly meaningful measure of cleanup progress/status as sites often remain on the list to ensure long-term remedies remain in place and are protective. EPA has in fact leveraged significant cleanup results/construction

completions/redevelopment outcomes at the sites listed here. For example…
https://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund-sites-region-8

We should probably repeat some of the messages Rob shared in this article (likely motivating some of the angles here) from last year in responses:
http://flatheadbeacon.com/2015/03/31/superfund-success-story-or-stigma/

Rich 303-312-6654

From: Clare Menzel [mailto:clare@flatheadbeacon.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 12:00 PM
To: Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>
Subject: Libby/Columbia Falls RPM

Hi Rich,

My name is Clare, and I'm a reporter with the Flathead Beacon in Kalispell, Montana. I'm writing a profile of Mike Cirian, remedial project manager at the Libby and Columbia Falls Superfund sites in Region 8, and I'm hoping to get in touch with someone at the regional office—Shaun, if possible—to gain some perspective from outside the valley about our local sites and about the role that the RPM plays in the process.

I also have two quick fact checks I wasn't able to confirm from your website—how many RPMs are there in the state, and in the region? And have there been any delisted Superfund sites in Montana?

I'm available by phone at (406) 407-9545. Thanks!

Thanks.

Best,

Clare

Clare Menzel, Staff Writer | clare@flatheadbeacon.com

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