To: Herrera, Angeles[Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov]; Ball, Harold[Ball.Harold@epa.gov]
Cc: PerezSullivan, Margot[PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov]; Seter, David[Seter.David@epa.gov]
From: Manzanilla, Enrique
Sent: Wed 3/9/2016 10:50:03 PM
Subject: FW: response to media query on Anaconda mine

Enrique Manzanilla

Director, Superfund Division

US EPA Region 9 - Pacific Southwest

(415) 972 3843

From: PerezSullivan, Margot
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:08 PM
To: Manzanilla, Enrique <Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov>; Zito, Kelly <ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>
Subject: FW: response to media query on Anaconda mine

NDEP sent answers to Inside EPA . here they are.

Margot Perez-Sullivan
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
D: 415.947.4149

C: 415.412.1115

E: perezsullivan.margot@epa.gov

From: Jo Ann Kittrell [mailto:jkittrell@dcnr.nv.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 1:24 PM
To: PerezSullivan, Margot <PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov>; Mari N. St. Martin <mstmartin@gov.nv.gov>
Subject: response to media query on Anaconda mine

FYI,

JK

From: Jo Ann Kittrell
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 1:23 PM
To: 'suzanney@iwpnews.com'
Subject: FW: media query on Anaconda mine

Hi Suzanne,

Answers to your questions are in red below.

Best regards,

JoAnn

JoAnn Kittrell

Public Information Manager

Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

901 S. Stewart Street

Carson City, NV 89701-5248

Office: 775-684-2712

Cell: 702-334-8507

jkittrell@dcnr.nv.gov

From: Suzanne Yohannan [mailto:suzanney@iwpnews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 12:17 PM
To: Jo Ann Kittrell
Subject: RE: media query on Anaconda mine

Ms. Kittrell,

As you can see per the email below you were cc'ed on, I'm a reporter for Inside EPA and have a couple questions related to the potential listing of the Anaconda Copper Mine site on the NPL. Mari St. Martin suggested I get in touch with you on some of my questions. Could you set me up on a phone call with someone who might be able to answer these? Alternatively, they could answer them by email.

Specifically, could you tell me what, if any, precedent would be set if the site is listed on the NPL?
The NPL listing would not create a precedent.
From the letters I've seen between the Governor and EPA Regional Administrator, it looks like EPA wants to list the site in order to access federal funding to pay for long-term management of residual drain down fluids from the former Arimetco operations at the site. Could you tell me in layman's terms what this is? What are residual drain down fluids -- from what? Is this acid mine drainage?
The Anaconda site is a former copper mine that was operated historically by Anaconda Copper Co, which was later acquired by Atlantic Richfield Co (ARC). Arimetco conducted heap leach operations after Anaconda/ARC ceased operation in 1978, but Arimetco went bankrupt and abandoned the site in 2000. Heap leach pads are constructed by placing ore on a liner and circulating sulfuric acid through the ore to leach out the copper. The Arimetco heaps were never closed or capped so they continue to generate acidic fluid as rainwater percolates through the heaps, though this fluid is currently being actively managed and evaporated in lined ponds as an interim control. The heaps need to be capped and reclaimed to provide a more permanent remedy.
The governor's Jan. 29 letter says NDEP is pursuing an alternative path to listing, that it is looking to obtain cost-sharing from ARC and SPS. If these are potentially responsible parties at the site, why wouldn't they already be paying for the cleanup?
Since the Arimetco operation occurred after ARC sold the site, EPA has not determined that ARC is responsible for the Arimetco portion of the site, so the Arimetco heaps constitutes an orphan share. SPS bought the former Arimetco property in 2011, but has liability protections under CERCLA as a bonfide prospective purchaser.
Did EPA start pushing for NPL listing in the aftermath of the Gold King Mine spill? Do you think that is influencing EPA on this?
You would have to ask the EPA the answer to that question.
I'm working under a deadline of tomorrow late afternoon.

Thanks.

Suzanne Yohannan
Inside EPA
703-562-8759
suzanney@iwpnews.com

From: Mari N. St. Martin [mailto:mstmartin@gov.nv.gov]
To: Suzanne Yohannan [mailto:suzanne.yohannan@iwpnews.com]
Cc: Jo Ann Kittrell [mailto:jkittrell@dcnr.nv.gov]
Sent: Wed, 09 Mar 2016 12:22:06 -0500
Subject: RE: media query on Anaconda mine

Hi Suzanne, I just forwarded you the two letters. I would recommend that you reach out to the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection regarding any precedent this may set. The PIO who can help you get in contact with NDEP is JoAnn Kittrell. She is CC'd on this email. At this time, the Governor has asked for additional time from the EPA to work with local, state and federal partners and stakeholders to make an educated determination. In order to better understand the argument against listing the site, I would recommend that you reach out to Yerington Mayor Dini or other local officials who have spoken out

against the listing. Thank you.

Mari

-----Original Message-----
From: Suzanne Yohannan [mailto:suzanne.yohannan@iwpnews.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 2:01 PM
To: Mari N. St. Martin
Subject: media query on Anaconda mine

Ms. St. Martin,

I'm a reporter for Inside EPA, covering waste policy. I left you a voicemail a few minutes ago, but figured emailing my questions might be easier. I wanted to get up to speed on the proposed listing of the Anaconda Copper Mine site to the National Priorities List. I understand the governor is reviewing that currently.

Could I get copies of the Jan. 29 letter Gov. Sandoval sent to EPA on this, as well as EPA Region 9 Administrator Blumenfeld's letter to the governor in response?

Generally, could you tell me what the argument is for and against listing the site?

Would listing the site on the NPL create a precedent? If so, in what way?

I'm working under a deadline of Thursday (3/10).

Thanks very much.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Yohannan
Inside EPA
703-562-8759
suzanney@iwpnews.com