Message

From: Parker, Robert [Parker.Robert@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/18/2014 11:19:18 PM
To: Garcin, Jeni (DEQ) [JGarcin-Flatow@mt.gov]
CC: demartin@mt.gov; Mylott, Richard [Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]; Wardell, Christopher [Wardell.Christopher@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: CFAC Meeting Press Release
Attachments: 2014 11 18 Draft CFAC meeting press release - EPA Comments.docx

Hi Jeni – I've attached the draft press release with a few suggested edits for your consideration. Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions in particular.

I suggested striking that EPA would be presenting information regarding the current well sampling (which will occur this week). I know that we will be asked whether or not we will have the data in time. We are trying to have the data in hand prior to the meeting, but I don't want to set the expectation that we will be presenting the sampling data in the event we don't have it back yet.

Additionally, I have copied and pasted EPA's key messages at this point since I imagine we'll be receiving calls regarding the meeting once the release goes out. Right now, as it's been all summer and fall, EPA's key message is that EPA supports DEQ's efforts and we are waiting for the outcome of the ongoing DEQ/Glencore negotiations. I understand from media reports that DEQ is not currently discussing the details of those negotiations publically.

We do have a conference call set up for two weeks to discuss this site, so I know we'll discuss and update the messages at that time. However, if DEQ's message were to change prior to that call, could you please let us know so we can adjust our messages appropriately?

See Key Messages Below

Thanks,
Rob

Rob Parker
Site Assessment Manager
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Key Messages Regarding Next Steps

- EPA believes there is a need for further sampling at the site due to the known soil and groundwater contamination at the site and the previous detections of contaminants in domestic wells, the Flathead River and Cedar Creek.
- EPA supports DEQ's efforts to have Glencore and CFAC, the current property owners, conduct a remedial investigation under State oversight and authority to determine the nature and extent of contamination.
- EPA believes this site is eligible for the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL).

- If DEQ and Glencore are not able to reach agreement to conduct a remedial investigation under State oversight and authority, EPA will prepare to move forward using federal authority to ensure a Remedial Investigation will occur.
- EPA plans to work with our State counterparts, local officials, and other stakeholders to ensure remediation and, potentially, cleanup are done in an efficient manner.
- EPA will work closely with the community to discuss potential human health and environmental concerns posed by the site and can support local needs, including the potential redevelopment of this facility.

Key Messages Regarding Further Investigation at the Site

- Cyanide was detected in two of the five residential wells sampled as part of the September 2013 sampling event. Concentrations of cyanide in both wells were below Safe Drinking Water Act allowable limits (the Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL) but above the conservative EPA Risk Based Screening Level.
- In April 2014, EPA resampled wells and sampled additional wells in the neighborhood adjacent to and downgradient of the CFAC property in order to determine of other wells were impacted.
    - April 2014 results indicated no detections of cyanide in the domestic wells.
- In November 2014, EPA will/has resampled domestic wells in the neighborhood adjacent to and downgradient of the CFAC property.
    - EPA hopes to share results from this sampling event with well owners in December.
- Local hydrogeology is likely to be complex and should be investigated to ensure adequate characterization and appropriate remedial decisions are made.
- Access to safe drinking water for nearby well owners is a priority for EPA.

From: Garcin, Jeni (DEQ) [mailto:JGarcin-Flatow@mt.gov]
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 12:19 PM
To: Parker, Robert
Cc: demartin@mt.gov
Subject: CFAC Meeting Press Release

Hi Rob,

Attached is our draft of the press release for the CFAC meeting. Please pass it on to whomever you need to and get us your comments back. Jenny Chambers wanted to send it out sooner rather than later, so I was thinking next week so that we don't do it the week of Thanksgiving. Please let us know what you think. Please make your changes and edits and get it back to us.

Thank you!

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