Message

From: Benevento, Douglas [benevento.douglas@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/29/2018 12:10:35 PM
To: Mutter, Andrew [mutter.andrew@epa.gov]; Vranka, Joe [vranka.joe@epa.gov]; Smidinger, Betsy [Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov]; Thomas, Deb [thomas.debrah@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: media inquiry
Attachments: Davis_et_al-2018-Environmental_Geochemistry_and_Health.pdf; Published Metals Paper_Env Tox and Pharm KHailer et al (002).pdf

So I don't know anything about these studies and doing an interview without being informed would not be responsible. I'm out of town until tomorrow, Andrew can you talk to Susan and find out about deadlines, I don't know if it's possible to something Friday.

On the substance, have we seen these studies? What do we think of them? What information do we have?

From: Susan Dunlap [mailto:Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 4:17 PM
To: Benevento, Douglas <benevento.douglas@epa.gov>
Cc: Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Wardell, Christopher <Wardell.Christopher@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>; Coleman, Charles <COleman.Charles@epa.gov>; Greene, Nikia <Greene.Nikia@epa.gov>
Subject: media inquiry

Hi Doug,

Two recent studies, one by a Montana Tech professor, another by an independent epidemiologist in South Carolina, have come out with some new findings about BSB and ADLC health. I've included both papers so you all can have time to review them.

The Davis/McDermott paper criticizes the remediation in both BSB and ADLC as not having gone far enough given the health outcomes their research found. Their research also appears to indicate that there could be a direct correlation between heavy metals in BSB and ADLC and the overall health of residents.

The findings on arsenic (see Hailer study) also appears to indicate that arsenic is still a problem in BSB. I believe I've been told before that since the Railroad TCRA was done many years ago, arsenic is not found in BSB and the primary focus is lead. I'd like to get a response to this in light of these studies.

I also believe I've been told before that there is no action level for cadmium soil remediation. If that is true, would EPA reconsider that given the research here, which appears to indicate that cadmium could be a factor in elevated cardiovascular deaths?

Another question I have is what is EPA's response overall, and will this have an effect on remediation in BSB and ADLC and, in particular, will EPA reconsider arsenic and lead action levels in Butte and Anaconda?

Also, since these studies also point to metals reportedly coming from Montana Resources, what is EPA's response to that? Will EPA follow up in some way to ensure the health of residents?

I'd like to have a phone interview with you and anyone else at EPA you think should be involved in the call this week. My absolute deadline is Friday, though an earlier day would be appreciated if it's possible. Would it be possible to set up an interview sometime this week?

Thank you,

Susan

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