Message

From: Yap-deffler, Yazmine [Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/13/2021 1:53:08 PM
To: O'Loughlin, Connor [oloughlin.connor@epa.gov]; Sternberg, David [Sternberg.David@epa.gov]
CC: White, Terri-A [White.Terri-A@epa.gov]; Landis, Jeffrey [Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov]; Gaffney, Kristeen [gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Blades follow up

Working on the response with Connor later today. Should have something to you by COB.

Yaz

Yazmine J. Yap-Deffler, Chief
Site Assessment Section (3SD12)
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US EPA Region III
Office: (215) 814-3369
Cell: (267) 761-2089
yap-deffler.yazmine@epa.gov

From: O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 4:45 PM
To: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>; Yap-deffler, Yazmine <Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov>
Cc: White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Gaffney, Kristeen <gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades follow up

David,

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Connor O'Loughlin P.G.
Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
Site Assessment Manager, (3HS12)
1650 Arch Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
phone 215-814-3304
Cell 412-779-0444

From: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 4:32 PM
To: O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Yap-deffler, Yazmine <Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov>
Cc: White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Gaffney, Kristeen <gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades follow up

Hi Connor,

While this is helpful, I am having some difficulty understanding the second sentence of the third paragraph.

Can you help clarify? Thanks,

David

From: O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 2:29 PM
To: Yap-deffler, Yazmine <Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov>; Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Cc: White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Gaffney, Kristeen <gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades follow up

Yazmine,

Nonresponsive based on revised scope

Thank you.

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From: Yap-deffler, Yazmine <Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2021 4:38 PM
To: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Cc: White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Gaffney, Kristeen <gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Blades follow up

Have to follow up with you Mon. Connor is out today. In general, DNREC did all the sampling under our Cooperative Agreement grant.

Sent from my iPhone

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On Apr 9, 2021, at 3:44 PM, Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov> wrote:

Yaz,

One more thing. Please advise.

Thanks,

David

From: Chase, Randall <rchase@ap.org>
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2021 3:33 PM
To: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades follow up

Hi David,

Nonresponsive based on revised scope

Thanks
Randall

Nonresponsive based on revised scope

From: Chase, Randall <rchase@ap.org>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades follow up

Hi David,
Thank you for the additional information, but there's a lot of detail still lacking, and I get the sense that the public is not being kept up to date about what's going on at the various sites.

You note, for example, the sampling of public wells and installation of monitoring wells in Blades last month, but there's no record of such activities or sampling results on the EPA site or DNREC's environmental navigator site. You also refer to the timeline for residential well sampling starting this summer, but have residents been notified? You note that there has been continued sampling of the public supply wells since 2018, but I can find no documentation of those sampling activities or results. Similarly, I assume there has been ongoing testing of private wells where the property owners have been provided with water filtration systems, but I can find no record of those sampling results either. Can you please provide last month's sampling results for the public wells, pre- and post-treatment, and comparative results from earlier samplings?

Nonresponsive based on revised scope

Thanks,
Randall

From: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 7:51 PM
To: Chase, Randall <rchase@ap.org>
Subject: Blades follow up

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Randall,

Please see the answers to your follow up questions below **(in bold)**

- EPA selected a contractor on Dec. 18, 2020 to assist EPA on the Remedial Investigation. Who is the contractor?

  Our contractor is AECOM..

- EPA is working with our contractor to develop Site-Specific plans (Health and Safety Plans, Field Sampling Plans, general work planning) in preparation for Remedial Investigation Activities. What is the timeline?

  The Site Specific Documents will be prepared prior to field investigations commencing. Currently our contractor is preparing condensed Site Specific Documents for the Residential Water Sampling. This phase of the field investigation is expected to commence the summer of 2021. Site Specific Planning Documents for the other remedial activities (installing monitoring wells/sampling monitoring wells, soil characterization, surface water/sediment sampling) are also being developed. EPA estimates that the Site-Specific Planning Documents for other remedial investigation activities will be finalized during the Fall of 2021 and anticipates fieldwork to commence thereafter.

- EPA installed background monitoring wells in March of 2021 to assist in the evaluation of groundwater and provide a reference to compare Site-Specific contamination to naturally occuring concentrations. How many wells were installed, how deep, and where are they in relation to the site?

  There were a total of six background monitoring wells installed. There were a total of three background monitoring wells installed on the Blades Elementary School Property (one shallow well [approximately 25 feet deep], one intermediate well [approximately 65 feet deep], and one deep well [approximately 100 feet deep]). An additional three wells were installed on private property off of Route 13 and Business Park Drive (the approximate depths are the same as at the Blades Elementary School). These background wells are upgradient from the known potential source areas at the Site.

- EPA anticipates sampling residential wells for PFOA/PFAS compounds and other contaminants of potential concern starting in the summer of 2021. This activity also occurred in 2018 and residents with PFOA/PFOS exceedances are currently being provided treatment units by DNREC. How many wells will be sampled? Are they the same wells that were previously sampled, or are they new wells identified for sampling? If they are new wells, what was the criteria for selecting them? How many wells were previously sampled, and how many residents are currently being provided treatment units as a result?

  As indicated in the Final Site Assessment Report that is on EPA's website, during previous investigations, 54 total residential water locations were previously sampled and currently DNREC provides treatment units to eight residents. (See Site Assessment Report link below). As part of the Remedial Investigation, EPA will sample water in locations that were previously sampled, and sample additional residential areas. EPA expects approximately 100 total residents will be sampled. This includes areas that were previously sampled, areas that were reached out to in the past that EPA never received access to, and locations that may not have been targeted previously. EPA determined the location of this sampling by areas within the Town of Blades, or downgradient of potential source areas, between the Nanticoke River and Morgan Branch. This sampling will include a full suite of contaminants, more than just PFOA/PFOS.

  The Site Assessment Report mentioned in the response can be found on the EPA Website https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/SiteProfiles/index.cfm?fuseaction=second.scs&id=0304203&doc=Y&colid=39286&region=03&type=SC. The Document ID is 2291558

- EPA further plans to sample the public water supply in the Town of Blades. This is an activity that has been ongoing since 2018 by DNREC to ensure the treatment unit installed on the public water supply continues to be effective. The town of Blades treats their water supply and meets state and federal standards. When was the last time the public supply wells were tested? What were the results?

  DNREC sampled for PFOA/PFOS compounds mid-March of 2021. The post treatment sample results were significantly below the Health Advisory Level (HAL) for PFOA/PFOS compounds.

Nonresponsive based on revised scope

David Sternberg
Press Officer
U.S. EPA

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