Message

From: Nevshehirlian, Stepan [Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/17/2020 2:43:38 PM
To: Landis, Jeffrey [Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov]; Taylor, Daniel [taylor.daniel@epa.gov]; Root, Charlie [Root.Charlie@epa.gov]; O'Loughlin, Connor [oloughlin.connor@epa.gov]; Miles, Amanda [miles.amanda@epa.gov]; Seneca, Roy [Seneca.Roy@epa.gov]
CC: Howell, Amie [Howell.Amie@epa.gov]; Thomas, Christopher [Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov]; White, Terri-A [White.Terri-A@epa.gov]; Brown, Kinshasa [Brown.Kinshasa@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: The News Journal Media Group (Sussex Co) - Blades clean-up follow-up questions

Hi Jeff,

Charlie and Daniel are out today. I'm in the office and available to help with the response today. I'll look over the additional questions/your notes, coordinate with Chris Thomas (not sure if Conner is available), and get back to you this morning.

Stepan

Stepan Nevshehirlian, Remedial Project Manager
Site Remediation Branch
DE, VA, WV Remedial Section
Direct: 215.814.3402

USEPA - Mid-Atlantic Region
1650 Arch Street (3SD23)
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

From: Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 8:35 AM
To: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Brown, Kinshasa <Brown.Kinshasa@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: The News Journal Media Group (Sussex Co) - Blades clean-up follow-up questions
Importance: High

Team,

Please be advised that after I reached out to the reporter late yesterday afternoon, she wrote back later (5 p.m. yesterday), said the deadline of having the information today was fine, but she posed a few additional questions, in addition to changing the verbiage of her initial follow-ups. Please see the questions and my quick evaluations/suggestions on how we handle:

Reporter's additional/revised questions:

1. **I had asked during the meeting in Blades if the private wells that were tested for PFAS were also tested for metals. I'd like to double-check whether they were or not? I'm not seeing any indication in the documentation that they were. If that's the case, could you tell me why not?**

- Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

2. **I also wanted to ask someone at EPA why Blades is being proposed for Superfund listing, but not other PFAS contaminated sites in the state? Is it because of the metals contamination? Because of economic reasons?**

- Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

3. **How many comments from the public did EPA receive on this proposed listing?**

- Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

4. **I was hoping to speak with someone to specifically go over some of the sample results in Weston's final summary report dated June 2019 to better understand the concentrations and results, if there's any chance we could set up a phone call for that tomorrow. I'm not a scientist by any means, and am trying to make heads-or-tails of how bad this contamination is, and what the potential threat to public health is, particularly for people on unregulated private wells (I do understand that the town's water is being treated, regulated and falling within Safe Drinking Water parameters).**

- Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

5. **Maybe shedding some light on how the EPA's HRS ranking works, and how Blades really ranks on a scale of some clean up needed to a Love Canal situation? Anything you all can do to help me keep this accurate and in perspective would be great.**

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Please let me know if this is feasible to answer with a deadline of today. I am certainly willing to discuss with anyone in person about how to respond to this reporter. Thanks!

r/ Jeff Landis
Region 3 Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations/Executive Events Coordinator
215-814-2921; mobile 215-901-7424

From: Landis, Jeffrey
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 4:50 PM
To: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: The News Journal Media Group (Sussex Co) - Blades clean-up follow-up questions
Importance: High

Team,

Please see the revised version incorporating everyone's input as of 4:45 pm, 16 Jan 2020, that I hope to get to the front office tomorrow:
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MEDIA INQUIRY: The News Journal Media Group (Sussex Co) - Blades clean-up follow-up questions

Reporter's Questions:

I have a couple simple follow-up questions about the proposal to list Blades' groundwater as a Superfund site. Amanda or Daniel, would either of you have a couple minutes to chat briefly today or tomorrow?

I'd like to double-check on the status of metals contamination and get some clarity for our readers on why this site is being proposed vs. other PFAS sites in Delaware, and to make sure I have the possible timeline of this process accurate.

EPA Region 3 Proposed Response:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

r/ Jeff Landis
Region 3 Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations/Executive Events Coordinator
215-814-2921; mobile 215-901-7424

From: Landis, Jeffrey
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: MEDIA INQUIRY: The News Journal Media Group (Sussex Co) - Blades clean-up follow-up questions
Importance: High

Team,

Re-labeling the media request for tracking purposes. Also, I am about to head home, but I have not gotten a response from the reporter if a deadline of sometime tomorrow will work for her. I'll be in tomorrow morning.

r/ Jeff Landis
Region 3 Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations/Executive Events Coordinator
215-814-2921; mobile 215-901-7424

From: Landis, Jeffrey
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check
Importance: High

Daniel,

Thanks. I think the response is very thorough. I have made some edits and wanted to make sure the information is still accurate before we vet it back through your program, your division director and then through our front office. Please see below (changes in red, questions in red italics):

r/ Jeff Landis
Region 3 Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations/Executive Events Coordinator
215-814-2921; mobile 215-901-7424

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Reporter's Questions:

I have a couple simple follow-up questions about the proposal to list Blades' groundwater as a Superfund site. Amanda or Daniel, would either of you have a couple minutes to chat briefly today or tomorrow?

I'd like to double-check on the status of metals contamination and get some clarity for our readers on why this site is being proposed vs. other PFAS sites in Delaware, and to make sure I have the possible timeline of this process accurate.

EPA Region 3 Proposed Response:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 3:39 PM
To: Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

Hey Roy and Jeff,
I wanted to add you both to the chain we have for the request.
Please let me know if I should shorten our response, if we plan to respond via email or respond by a phone call.

Thanks.

From: Taylor, Daniel
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

I added Connors information, Charlies and mine into one email. Let me know what you think. I am not in tomorrow so wanted to make sure I got this to the group.

EPA Region 3 Proposed Response:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Taylor, Daniel
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

I also put together the below. I think between Connors, Charlies and mine we can have a decent summary.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 1:46 PM
To: O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

Connor – Thanks for taking the first crack at a response it's very thorough. I would suggest a more succinct answer and took a shot below using Connor's info. Please take a look and see if it is accurate.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Charlie Root
Chief, DE, VA, WV Remedial Section
US EPA Region 3
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
Site Remediation Branch
1650 Arch Street (3SD23)
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-3193
Cell – (215) 284-4678

From: O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 12:56 PM

To: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>
Cc: Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>; Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; Thomas, Christopher <Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

Dan and Amanda,

Let me know if this may help to answer the reporter's question.

To respond to this reporter's question:
"I'd like to double-check on the status of metals contamination and get some clarity for our readers on why this site is being proposed vs. other PFAS sites in Delaware, and to make sure I have the possible timeline of this process accurate."

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Thank you

Connor O'Loughlin P.G.
Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
Superfund & Emergency Management Division (SEMD)
Site Assessment Manager, (3SD12)
1650 Arch Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
phone 215-814-3304
Cell 412-779-0444

From: Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 12:21 PM
To: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>; O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>
Cc: Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>; Nevshehirlian, Stepan

<Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

Hi Dan,
Thanks for raising this. It would be great if Connor, you and Amanda craft a draft response and then Amie and I can make sure the chain is comfortable before you get back to the reporter.

Charlie Root
Chief, DE, VA, WV Remedial Section
US EPA Region 3
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
Site Remediation Branch
1650 Arch Street (3SD23)
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-3193
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From: Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 10:11 AM
To: O'Loughlin, Connor <oloughlin.connor@epa.gov>; Root, Charlie <Root.Charlie@epa.gov>; Howell, Amie <Howell.Amie@epa.gov>
Cc: Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>; Nevshehirlian, Stepan <Nevshehirlian.Stepan@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

Connor, I thought part of this question may be relevant for you since it is talking about getting a Site listed.
Charlie and Amie, with the sensitivity about PFAS, I thought you should be aware of the question if there was a particular way management wants to address PFAS.

From: Lauria, Madeline <MLauria@delawareonline.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Miles, Amanda <miles.amanda@epa.gov>; Taylor, Daniel <taylor.daniel@epa.gov>
Cc: Sternberg, David <Sternberg.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Blades Superfund proposal follow-up/fact-check

Hello EPA team,

I have a couple simple follow-up questions about the proposal to list Blades' groundwater as a Superfund site. Amanda or Daniel, would either of you have a couple minutes to chat briefly today or tomorrow?

I'd like to double-check on the status of metals contamination and get some clarity for our readers on why this site is being proposed vs. other PFAS sites in Delaware, and to make sure I have the possible timeline of this process accurate.

I look forward to hearing from someone.

Thanks,

Maddy Lauria
Environment/Sussex County Reporter

The News Journal Media Group
A GANNETT COMPANY

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New Castle, DE 19720
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mlauria@delawareonline.com