Message

From: Newton, Seth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=EA2ECC1D228A4C4682730A829E1D0718-NEWTON, SET]
Sent: 1/26/2022 6:24:33 PM
To: Sloop, John [Sloop.John@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: AltEn Remediation Plan Updates

I DO NOT recommend contacting any journalists. Any correspondence with journalists needs to get cleared through the media people at EPA and it's a pain. They are ultra-sensitive about anything you say and not always in expected ways.

We don't directly work with anyone at NDEE but I think our EPA contacts in Region 7 do. We have a meeting with the UNL collaborators coming up on Monday so we can discuss the shell thing then. You got an invite to that, right?

That letter sounds very much like the NDEE – I saw an interview with the head guy and he was like "it's not our job to tell companies what they can and can't do. We're here to work with them to be environmentally friendly. They have to *want* to follow the rules." I can't think of a more ridiculous attitude for a regulatory body to have. So I'd imagine the letter they sent was much more of a suggestion with no regulatory teeth than anything of significance.

From: Sloop, John <Sloop.John@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 1:18 PM
To: Newton, Seth <Newton.Seth@epa.gov>
Subject: AltEn Remediation Plan Updates

Hey, Seth,

I found an article that was published yesterday that gives an update on the proposed remediation plan for the wet cake pile at the AltEn site. Here is the link:

https://www.ketv.com/article/nebraska-long-term-plan-alten-mead-hazardous-waste-pile/38887865

From what I can gather, apparently the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy sent a letter to the group planning to spray the Posi-Shell on the wet cake piles, and basically said "Hey, this isn't actually long-term remedial action." I know that they were originally going to start the application of the Posi-Shell yesterday; however, I don't know if the letter explicitly stated "Do not start this" or if it was just them saying "Hey, *please* don't start this". Do you know of anyone at the NDEE or one of the other collaborators that we could reach out to? I honestly don't know who all of the collaborators that we have in Nebraska are, so I wasn't sure if one of them was directly associated with the NDEE or might be someone who would know.

I guess worst case scenario, I could just send an email to the reporter (Julie Cornell, jcornell@hearst.com) who is listed as the author of both the original article we saw last week and this newest one I linked above. I don't know if it's "kosher" to say "Hey I'm a postdoc at the EPA and curious if there are any updates on this" or if I could just simply say "Hey I'm a concerned citizen, any updates?" And if reaching out to her is just a stupid idea all together, please let me know, haha.

Sloop

John T. Sloop, Ph.D.

ORISE Postdoctoral Researcher
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Research and Development
Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure
Chemical Characterization and Exposure Division
Advanced Analytical Chemistry Methods Branch
Office (919) 541-7679, Mobile Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sloop.John@epa.gov