Message

From: Barger, Cindy [Barger.Cindy@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/18/2020 3:28:12 PM
To: Tomiak, Robert [tomiak.robert@epa.gov]
CC: Abrams, Nancy [Abrams.Nancy@epa.gov]; Rountree, Marthea [Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Thanks

Cindy S. Barger
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Office of Federal Activities
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC
Tel: 202-564-3169
Cell: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Cc: Abrams, Nancy <Abrams.Nancy@epa.gov>; Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

BTW….I did mention at Brittany's senior staff mtg just now that you all had identified edit opportunities and are working with OW, OGC, and R10…..but that it wasn't likely that R10 would send out an updated version to her prior to their afternoon political team check-in.

Brittany was very complimentary of the effort on PB…..as well as your team's efforts helping FAA with their filing. Please pass that along.

Thanks, Rob

From: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Abrams, Nancy <Abrams.Nancy@epa.gov>; Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Pebble letter update to leadership

FYI – Rob , for discussion with OW. I'm going to call OGC (there were some edits Heidi sent to the region without looping in OFA that appear to not understand the objective). After I talk with them then I'll send something to the full leadership team but we can talk w/ Brian/Russ about this after lunch.

Thanks!
Cindy

From: Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:05 AM
To: McGrath, Patricia <mcgrath.patricia@epa.gov>; Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>

Cc: Vaughan, Molly <Vaughan.Molly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

All

I let the Regional Administrator know that we are aware of the concerns about tone and after we receive input from senior leadership (Wed, correct Patty/Molly?), we will revise the draft FEIS letter, including the tone per the ongoing discussions with OFA in coordination with OW and OGC.

The original plan was for OFA to work through all the HQ comments and provide Region 10 with track changes, and it would be helpful to keep that plan as we receive any proposed edits tomorrow following the senior leadership review. Given this- Cindy- is it possible for your team to get the red-lined strike out tonal edits coordinated with OGC and OW by Wednesday? I think that puts us back on track for the project process/schedule.

Given that OFA is the most aware of the tone that leadership may be looking for, it is more effective if the proposed edits come through OFA vs. the R10 team trying to reconcile the different input.

Rebecca

From: McGrath, Patricia <mcgrath.patricia@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 7:29 AM
To: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Cc: Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Vaughan, Molly <Vaughan.Molly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Hi Cindy-
Did you also see the comments from OGC? Unless I hear otherwise, at this point we are waiting for outcome and direction from leadership call and then can make changes along with the coordinated edits from you yesterday.
Thanks
Patty

From: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>; Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>; Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Marshall, Tom <marshall.tom@epa.gov>; Nalven, Heidi <Nalven.Heidi@epa.gov>; McGrath, Patricia <mcgrath.patricia@epa.gov>; Hoppe, Allison <hoppe.allison@epa.gov>
Cc: Frazer, Brian <Frazer.Brian@epa.gov>; Szelag, Matthew <Szelag.Matthew@epa.gov>; Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Wehling, Carrie <Wehling.Carrie@epa.gov>; Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov>; Vaughan, Molly <Vaughan.Molly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Thanks Palmer.

I was able to resolve and close out the comments you had except for 5 that you had questions one. I provided an alternative language on the Bulk TSF that I think reads clearer and responses to the other 4 on the intent that may help you or others come up with alternate language if mine still isn't working.

Molly/Matt – the other comments that are just me with no response from Palmer. I think you all need to check to see if they are OK.

Once again, the intent of these edits isn't to change the purpose of the comment or "sugar coat" but to keep the comments factual, neutral tone, and constructive.

Thanks!
Cindy

Cindy S. Barger
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Office of Federal Activities
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC
Tel: 202-564-3169
Cell: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 4:41 PM
To: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>; Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>; Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Marshall, Tom <marshall.tom@epa.gov>; Nalven, Heidi <Nalven.Heidi@epa.gov>; McGrath, Patricia <mcgrath.patricia@epa.gov>; Hoppe, Allison <hoppe.allison@epa.gov>
Cc: Frazer, Brian <Frazer.Brian@epa.gov>; Szelag, Matthew <Szelag.Matthew@epa.gov>; Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Wehling, Carrie <Wehling.Carrie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Folks

Russ and I coordinated on the suggested edits, our comments and edits are in the attached. In some places we agree, in other places we suggest alternative wording or approaches.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

-Palmer

From: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>; Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>; Marshall, Tom <marshall.tom@epa.gov>; Nalven, Heidi <Nalven.Heidi@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Looping in OGC

Cindy S. Barger
Director, NEPA Compliance Division

Office of Federal Activities
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Washington, DC
Tel: 202-564-3169
Cell Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 2:01 PM
To: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

All,

I accepted those that were obvious. I wanted to consult with OW for the remaining recommendations.

Palmer,

Could you please take a look at the remaining comments. We can talk if you'd like.

Thanks,

MR

From: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:51 PM
To: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>
Cc: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Will do. What will be easiest for review is to circulate a clean copy with only Marthea's recommended changes to the doc that was sent to Chris. That will be easiest for review.

Thanks,

Russell L. Kaiser
Chief, Freshwater and Marine Regulatory Branch
Oceans, Wetlands and Communities Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
1301 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Room 7114B West Bldg.
Washington, DC 20004
P: 202.566.0963
C: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:47 PM
To: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>
Cc: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Marthea is cleaning this up so feel free to hold off if you want.

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Washington, DC
Tel: 202-564-3169
Cell: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>
Cc: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

Cindy/Marthea: Can you attach the latest doc to this email chain. Thanks

Russell L. Kaiser
Chief, Freshwater and Marine Regulatory Branch
Oceans, Wetlands and Communities Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
1301 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Room 7114B West Bldg.
Washington, DC 20004
P: 202.566.0963
C: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:34 PM
To: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>
Cc: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

OK – Marthea has agreed to clean up the version I had to a redline edit only. She'll send that around.

Russ – then will Palmer be signing off for OW staff on the edits. This is trying to correct tone and clarity. Wait until you see Marthea's final version and see if you can turn it around quickly.

I'll see if I can get an OGC staff to do a quick OK.

Then we'll send this to Rebecca for her to send up through R10 to Chris.

I think this will help the discussions tomorrow stay focused on content vs. get distracted

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Director, NEPA Compliance Division
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Washington, DC
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Cell: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>; Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>
Cc: Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pebble letter update to leadership

I'm in meetings most of the day. I can ask Palmer to review and advise. Let me know if that works.

Russell L. Kaiser
Chief, Freshwater and Marine Regulatory Branch
Oceans, Wetlands and Communities Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
1301 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Room 7114B West Bldg.
Washington, DC 20004
P: 202.566.0963
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From: Barger, Cindy <Barger.Cindy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:12 PM
To: Chu, Rebecca <Chu.Rebecca@epa.gov>
Cc: Kaiser, Russell <Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov>; Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>
Subject: Pebble letter update to leadership
Importance: High

Hi Rebecca

Since it looks like we are both in meetings, here's recommendations from Rob (call me if needed) that would go well with leadership here. Russ – do you think you would be able to send back any staff level concurrence with my recommendations to go along with Rob's suggested approach?

1. Send up edits to Chris as soon as you can in redline with the following statement (be sure to delete my comment bubbles) "Here are additional recommended edits to the letter we worked with OFA to provide for more constructive language to provide recommendations to the Corps. In talking with OFA, we recommend that you send this to the Senior leadership immediately to work from tomorrow. OW staff have also seen these comments."

2. Chris' email can say something like "Attached is an updated version (in redline) that provides for more constructive language that our R10 and the OFA team worked on since Friday that we believe will be more effective in communicating recommendations to the Corps. I recommend that we work from this version in our discussion."

We believe that this will help to show sensitivity of trying to make sure we are providing useful recommendations to the Corps and the ongoing teamwork with R10 and HQ that will provide for effective discussions at the leadership level tomorrow.

Thanks!
Cindy

Cindy S. Barger
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