UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

January 26, 2017

CERCLA 104(e) INFORMATION REQUEST
URGENT LEGAL MATTER: PROMPT REPLY REQUESTED
CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED #7014 0150 0000 2454 2223

The Corporation Company
Registered Agent
Southwest Electric Power Company
425 West Capitol, Suite 1700
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Hope Iron & Metal Superfund Site, located at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Arkansas

Dear Sir/Madam:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) seeks cooperation from Southwest Electric Power Company in providing information and documents relating to the Hope Iron & Metal Superfund Site (Site) in Hope, Hempstead County, Arkansas. Obtained information will aid the EPA in its investigation of the release or threat of release of certain hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants at this Site. Your response will also help the EPA develop a better understanding of activities that occurred at the Site.

This information request is not a determination that you are responsible or potentially responsible for contamination that occurred at the Site. The EPA is sending this letter as part of its investigation of the Site and does not expect you to pay for or perform any site-related activities at this time. If the EPA determines that you are responsible or potentially responsible for response activities at the Site, you will receive a separate letter clearly stating such a determination as well as the EPA's basis for such determination.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 104(e), 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e), gives the EPA the authority to require the respondent to respond to this information request (see Enclosure 1). We encourage you to give this matter your full attention, and we respectfully request you to respond to this request for information within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this letter. You may designate another official with the requisite authority to respond on behalf of yourself. However, failure to respond to this information request may result in the EPA seeking penalties of up to $54,789 per day of violation. In addition, furnishing false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations is subject to criminal penalty under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

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Please provide a written response to Mr. David Eppler, Enforcement Officer, at the address included in the Information Request. Please refer to Enclosure 2 for important instructions and definitions and Enclosure 3 for specific questions that require your response to this Information Request. If you have any questions regarding this letter, contact Mr. Eppler at (214) 665-6529. For legal questions concerning this letter, please have your legal counsel contact Mr. Marvin Benton, at (214) 665-3190. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ben Banipal, P.E., Branch Chief
Technical and Enforcement Branch
Superfund Division

Enclosures (4)

ENCLOSURE 1

HOPE IRON & METAL SUPERFUND SITE
INFORMATION REQUEST

RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as the federal "Superfund" law, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) responds to the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants into the environment to stop additional contamination and to clean-up or otherwise address any prior contamination.

The EPA is requesting information under CERCLA Section 104(e). Section 104(e) may be found in the United States Code (U.S.C.) at Title 42 Section (section is denoted by the symbol "§") 9604(e), 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e).

Pursuant to the authority of CERCLA §104(e), you are hereby requested to respond to the enclosed information request. If you have any questions concerning the **Hope Iron & Metal** Superfund Site (Site) or this information request letter, please contact Mr. David Eppler, the designated Enforcement Officer for the Site, at phone number (214) 665-6529, fax number (214) 665-6660, or via email at eppler.david@.epa.gov. Please mail your response within 30 calendar days of your receipt of this request to the following address:

Mr. David Eppler, Enforcement Officer
Superfund Enforcement Assessment Section (6SF-TE)
U.S. EPA, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

If you or your attorney has legal questions that pertain to this information letter request, please contact Mr. Marvin Benton at phone number (214) 665-3190, fax number (214) 665-6460 or via email at benton.marvin@epa.gov. For contact via mail, use the following address:

Mr. Marvin Benton
Office of Regional Counsel (6RC-S)
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

ENCLOSURE 2

HOPE IRON & METAL SUPERFUND SITE
INFORMATION REQUEST

INSTRUCTIONS and DEFINITIONS

1. Please provide a separate narrative response for each and every Question and subpart of a Question set forth in this Information Request.

2. Precede each answer with the Question (or subpart) and the number of the Question (and the letter of a subpart of a Question, if applicable) to which it corresponds.

3. If information or documents not known or not available to you as of the date of submission of a response to this Information Request should later become known or available to you, ***you must supplement*** your response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Moreover, should you find, at any time, after submission of your response, that any portion of the submitted information is false or misrepresents the truth, or, though correct when made, is no longer true, you must notify the EPA of this fact as soon as possible and provide the EPA with a corrected response.

4. For each document produced in response to this Information Request, indicate on the document, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the Question (and the letter of a subpart of a Question, if applicable) to which it responds.

5. You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information which you submit in response to this request. Any such claim must be made by placing on (or attaching to) the information, at the time it is submitted to the EPA, a cover sheet or a stamped or typed legend or other suitable form of notice employing language such as "trade secret," "proprietary," or "company confidential." Confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified and may be submitted separately to facilitate identification and handling by the EPA. If you make such a claim, the information covered by that claim will be disclosed by the EPA only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in subpart B of 40 CFR Part 2. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by the EPA, it may be made available to the public by the EPA without further notice to you. The requirements of 40 CFR Part 2 regarding business confidentiality claims were published in the Federal Register on September 1, 1976, and were amended September 8, 1976, and December 18, 1985.

6. Personal Privacy Information; Personnel and medical files, and similar files the disclosure of which to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy should be segregated from your responses, included on separate sheet(s), and clearly marked as "Personal Privacy Information."

7. Objections to questions; Regardless of any objections you may have to some or all the questions within this Information Request Letter, you are still required to respond to each of the questions.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply to the following words as they appear in this enclosure:

1. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.

2. The term "any", as in "any documents" for example, shall mean "any and all."

3. The term "arrangement" means every separate contract or other agreement between two or more persons.

4. The terms "document(s)" and "documentation" shall mean any object that records, stores, or presents information, and includes writings of any kind, formal or informal, whether or not wholly or partially in handwriting, including by way of illustration and not by way of limitation, any invoice, manifest, bill of lading, receipt, endorsement, check, bank draft, canceled check, deposit slip, withdrawal slip, order, correspondence, record book, minutes, memorandum of telephone and other conversations including meetings, agreements and the like, diary, calendar, desk pad, scrapbook, notebook, bulletin, circular, form, pamphlet, statement, journal, postcard, letter, telegram, telex, telecopy, telefax, report, notice, message, analysis, comparison, graph, chart, map, interoffice or intra office communications, photostat or other copy of any documents, microfilm or other film record, any photograph, sound recording on any type of device, any punch card, disc pack; any tape or other type of memory generally associated with computers and data processing (together with the programming instructions and other written material necessary to use such punch card, disc, or disc pack, tape or other type of memory and together with the printouts of such punch card, disc, or disc pack, tape or other type of memory); and (a) every copy of each document which is not an exact duplicate of a document which is produced, (b) every copy which has any writing, figure or notation, annotation or the like on it, (c) drafts, (d) attachments to or enclosures with any document and (e) every document referred to in any other document.

5. The term "identify" means, with respect to a natural person, to set forth the person's name, present or last known business and personal addresses, email address(es), and telephone numbers, and present or last known job title, position or business. Also provide e-mail addresses.

6. The term "identify" means, with respect to a corporation, partnership, business trust or other association or business entity (including, but not limited to, a sole proprietorship), to set forth its full name, address, and legal form (e.g. corporation [including state of incorporation], partnership, etc.), organization, if any, a brief description of its business, and to indicate whether or not it is still in existence and, if it is no longer in existence, to explain how its existence was terminated and to indicate the date on which it ceased to exist. Also provide e-mail addresses.

7. The term "identify" means, with respect to a document, to provide the type of document, to provide its customary business description, its date, its number, if any (invoice or purchase order number), subject matter, the identity of the author, addressor, addressee and/or recipient, and the present location of such document.

8. The term "person" shall have the same definition as in Subsection 101 (21) of CERCLA, 42U.S.C. §9601 (21).

9. The term "Site" or "facility" shall mean and include the **Hope Iron & Metal** Superfund Site at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Hempstead County, Arkansas.

10. The term "you" or "Respondent" shall mean the addressee of this Request, the addressee's officers, managers, employees, contractors, trustees, partners, successors and agents.

11. Words in the masculine shall be construed in the feminine, and vice versa, and words in the singular shall be construed in the plural, and vice versa, where appropriate in the context of a particular question or questions as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.

12. All terms not defined herein shall have their ordinary meaning, unless such terms are defined in CERCLA, RCRA, 40 CFR Part 300 or 40 CFR Parts 260-280, in which case the statutory or regulatory definitions shall apply.

ENCLOSURE 3

HOPE IRON & METAL SUPERFUND SITE
INFORMATION REQUEST

QUESTIONS

1. Identify the person(s) that provides answers to the questions below on behalf Southwest Electric Power Company (Respondent).

2. Does the Respondent wish to designate an individual for future correspondence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that associates the Respondent to this Site? If yes, please provide the individual's name, address, telephone number, and fax number.

3. Please identify the Respondent's corporate parent and all of its corporate subsidiaries, if any.

4. Please provide any documents or record of communications related to enforcement activities, actions, or contacts with any Federal, State, or Local regulatory entities directed toward the Respondent and the Site.

5. Concerning Respondent's relationship with Hope Iron & Metal and that also had involvement with real property located at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Arkansas:

   A. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to any agreement(s), or intended agreement(s), between Respondent and any business entity as listed in '5' above," and that also had involvement with real property located at 705 North Main, Hope, Arkansas;

   B. At any time has Respondent conducted business with or otherwise legally associated with any business entity with a name as listed in '5' above, and that also had involvement with real property located at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Arkansas? If your answer to this question is yes, please explain and provide a copy of the agreement(s) and/or contract(s), or documentation of association.

6. Concerning the Hope Iron & Metal facility located at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Arkansas (the Site):

   A. Please identify the date range that Respondent conducted business with the facility at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Arkansas.

   B. Please describe any transformers, electrical equipment, or any other materials delivered to Hope Iron & Metal at 705 North Main Street, Hope, Arkansas, 71801, for disposal or recycling.

   C. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents, including but not limited to contracts, invoices, correspondence, manifests, bills of lading, sample analysis, etc. that pertains to Hope Iron & Metal.

ENCLOSURE 4

HOPE IRON & METAL SUPERFUND SITE
PARTIES RECEIVING DECEMBER 2016 INFORMATION REQUESTS

Mr. Steve Saum
General Manager
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Hope, Arkansas 71802-2020

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Janan E. Honeysuckle
Registered Agent
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Venita McCellon-Allen
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