To: Jeffrey Tomich[JTomich@post-dispatch.com]
From: Whitley, Christopher
Sent: Fri 9/20/2013 8:46:50 PM
Subject: RE: Answers from EPA

And yes, you were the first journalist to receive this press release.

Chris Whitley

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. EPA Region 7 Office of Public Affairs

11201 Renner Boulevard

Lenexa, KS 66219

913-551-7394

From: Jeffrey Tomich [mailto:JTomich@post-dispatch.com]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 3:21 PM
To: Whitley, Christopher
Subject: RE: Answers from EPA

FIrst? - you told KWMU amn hour ago, right?

From: Whitley, Christopher [mailto:Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 3:15 PM
To: Jeffrey Tomich
Subject: RE: Answers from EPA

Per directions from the Regional Administrator, we wanted you to get this first.

Chris Whitley

Public Affairs Specialist

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From: Jeffrey Tomich [mailto:JTomich@post-dispatch.com]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 11:20 AM
To: Whitley, Christopher
Subject: RE: Answers from EPA

Sorry - yes to Sunday.

From: Whitley, Christopher [mailto:Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 11:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Tomich
Subject: RE: Answers from EPA

Yes to Sunday, or yes to tomorrow?

Chris Whitley

Public Affairs Specialist

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From: Jeffrey Tomich [mailto:JTomich@post-dispatch.com]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 11:19 AM
To: Whitley, Christopher
Subject: RE: Answers from EPA

Yes, Thanks.

From: Whitley, Christopher [mailto:Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 11:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Tomich
Subject: Answers from EPA

Hope this helps, Jeff. Am I clear that you are writing for Sunday, or will this run tomorrow?

Questions:

1. Can you confirm that EPA will have lead agency with oversight of this project because of its location in OU1- Area 1 at West Lake?

A: Yes. EPA Region 7 would have lead oversight responsibilities for any project occurring in OU1, within the boundaries of the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site.

2. Is EPA comfortable with this plan in concept? I realize a lot of testing yet to be done to determine exact locations, specifications of isolation barrier.

A: While EPA Region 7 has not yet seen Republic Services' detailed proposal for construction of an isolation barrier, we are pleased that the company appears to be ready to move ahead on the work required by its agreement with the State of Missouri, and take proactive steps to prevent issues from the Bridgeton Landfill from posing threats to the radiation-contaminated material in the adjacent West Lake Landfill.

3. How would this complement or conflict with ongoing remedial investigation at West Lake? - i.e. groundwater sampling and USGS groundwater survey.

A: EPA Region 7 has not yet seen a detailed proposal for construction of an isolation barrier, but the Agency does not anticipate that Republic Services' conceptual approach would adversely affect EPA's plans for the continuing environmental investigation at West Lake Landfill. The additional data and insights developed as a result of a barrier project should actually prove helpful to the ongoing environmental investigation.

4. How would the existence of an isolation barrier affect EPA's ultimate decision with respect to amending the ROD? - i.e. does the presence of a barrier provide additional protection when it comes to exposure pathway or in any other way shape the final decision on a remedy for West Lake?

A: Construction of an isolation barrier is not anticipated to have any significant impact on EPA's continuing environmental investigation, the issuance of an amended ROD, or ultimately on the Agency's decision in regard to a final remedy for the site. Construction of an isolation barrier should actually preserve EPA's ability to complete the continuing environmental investigation in a thorough but timely manner. EPA will exercise its oversight authority to ensure that no exposure pathways are created as a result of the construction of an isolation barrier.

Chris Whitley

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