



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JAN 30 2019

SUBJECT: Request for Additional Funds, a Change of Scope, and Exemption from the 12-Month Statutory Limit for a Removal Action at the Old Wilmington Road Superfund Site in Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania

FROM: Eduardo Rovira, Jr., On-Scene Coordinator
Eastern Response Branch (3HS31) *for*

TO: Paul Leonard, Acting Director
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division (3HS00)

THRU: Kevin Boyd, Acting Associate Director
Office of Preparedness and Response (3HS30)

THRU: Michael Towle, Chief
Eastern Response Branch (3HS31)

I. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this "Request for Additional Funds, a Change of Scope, and Exemption from the 12-Month Statutory Limit for a Removal Action" ("Action Memo") is to document the need for a scope change, additional funding, and an exemption to the 12-month limit for removal action under the consistency exemption in CERCLA Section 104(c)(1)(C) for a Time Critical Removal Action to prevent, limit, or mitigate the threat posed by hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants at the Old Wilmington Road ("OWR") Superfund Site (the "Site"), which is located in and around Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania. This action was initiated by the On-Scene Coordinator pursuant to Delegation of Authority 14-2 as documented in the April 24, 2018 Special Bulletin.

The Site is currently on the Superfund National Priorities List ("NPL") and in the Remedial Investigation ("RI") stage. Several houses in the area had carbon filtration systems installed during a previous Removal Action due to high volatile organic compounds ("VOCs") in their wells. Following a recent re-delineation of the VOC plume, the Remedial Program conducted private well inorganic and organic sampling in connection with the OWR Site in November 2017. Due to preparation and lab issues, some inorganic results were unreliable, so an additional round of sampling was scheduled for May 2018. However, the November 2017 validated results for two private wells came back with elevated metals. Elevated manganese levels (3,980 ppb) were detected in

well 539OWR and elevated lead levels (75.7 ppb) were detected in well 514OWR. EPA toxicologists concluded that based on the levels found, immediate intervention to interrupt the exposure pathway was recommended for the two wells. On April 24, 2018, after consulting with the EPA Remedial Project Manager and EPA toxicologists, and evaluating the factors contained in Section 300.415 of the NCP, OSC Rovira determined that conditions at the Site posed a significant threat to public health, welfare or the environment and initiated response activities pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA to mitigate the threat. Pursuant to Delegation of Authority 14-2, OSC Rovira authorized the expenditure of CERCLA funding in an amount not to exceed \$7,500 to deliver bottled water to the two affected properties at least until the completion of the second round of sampling.

During the sampling conducted in November 2017, high manganese was initially found in well 539OWR, and high lead was found in well 514OWR. Resampling of the residential wells occurred in mid-May 2018. The validated data from the May 2018 sampling indicated that high lead was again detected (78.2 ppb) in well 514OWR and high manganese was again detected (3,290 ppb) in well 539OWR. In addition, two additional private wells from the May 2018 sampling were found to have elevated metals. High lead (64 ppb) and high manganese (2,940 ppb) were detected in well 114KC. High manganese (1,610 ppb) was detected in well 538OWR. Bottled water delivery was continued or begun for all four properties by September 2018. After further review of the remedial investigation data, including the November 2017/May 2018 sampling data, and previous site monitoring well data, manganese was determined by the Remedial Program to be Site-related, but the lead was not. Bottled water delivery was discontinued in November 2018 for the home associated with well 514OWR, which had no elevated manganese detections. Under a residential drinking water scenario, the manganese concentration that equates to a Hazard Index ("HI") of 1 is 430 ppb. A Removal Action for a non-carcinogen is typically considered when the HI exceeds 3. For manganese, that trigger would be 1,290 ppb.

Additional CERCLA funding in the amount of \$25,000 for the installation of treatment systems at the affected properties, confirmatory sampling, and additional bottled water delivery until the treatment systems are installed is requested above the \$7,500 already authorized by the OSC pursuant to Delegation of Authority 14-2. The OSC expects that the Removal Action will ultimately exceed 12-months necessitating an exemption from the 12-Month Statutory Limit on removal action set forth in Section 104(c) of CERCLA. This funding will establish an estimated Removal Project Ceiling of \$39,000 of which \$27,500 is from the Regional Allowance. The additional funding is necessary to mitigate the threats identified in this Action Memorandum. In addition, the OSC requests that the scope of the Removal Action be changed to include installation of treatment systems as described in Section V.

This Action Memorandum incorporates and supplements the attached Special Bulletin. Where information is unchanged from the Special Bulletin, the reader is referred to that document.

II. SITE CONDITIONS AND BACKGROUND

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

1. Site Background

Please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

2. Physical Location/Site Characteristics

The Site is located in the vicinity of Old Wilmington Road in West Caln Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania and consists of multiple investigation areas and multiple overlapping plumes of groundwater contamination. Areas of the Site associated with the Removal Action are as follows:

- Well 539OWR: downgradient of landfill (potential source), in path of groundwater, approximately 100 feet north of VOCs plume edge.
- Well 114KC: downgradient of landfill, in path of groundwater, approximately 500 feet SE of VOCs plume edge.
- Well 538OWR: downgradient of landfill, in path of groundwater, approximately 50 feet north of VOCs plume edge.

For additional information, please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

3. Quantities and Types of Substances Present

Well 539OWR: 3,980 ppb manganese (November 2017)
3,290 ppb manganese (May 2018)

Well 114KC: Results R flagged (November 2017)
2,940 ppb manganese (May 2018)

Well 538OWR: Results R flagged (November 2017)
1,610 ppb manganese (May 2018)

An R qualifier means the data is unusable. The sample results were rejected due to deficiencies in meeting quality control criteria.

For additional information, please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

4. National Priorities List (NPL)

Please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

B. OTHER ACTIONS TO DATE

1. Previous Actions

Please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

2. Current Actions

The Removal Program is currently delivering bottled water to three houses due to high levels of manganese and was previously delivering water to one property due to high levels lead. That action was an interim action until new data was received.

The Remedial Program received new validated data and after further review EPA concluded that the lead contamination in well 514OWR was not related to the OWR Site. The OSC concluded that the lead contamination is likely the result of deterioration of the private well system and therefore outside the scope of CERCLA response authority. Therefore, the delivery of bottled water for well 514OWR was terminated as of November 2018. The OSC recommended the property owners of well 514OWR not use their well water for consumption.

The Remedial Program continues working on the RI. The Remedial Program has contacted all property owners where elevated lead was detected and provided appropriate risk information and resources.

C. STATE AND OTHER AUTHORITIES' ROLE

Please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

III. THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH OR WELFARE OR THE ENVIRONMENT, AND STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

The State does not have the resources to provide bottled water or install the treatment systems. For additional information please refer to attached April 2018 Special Bulletin.

IV. ENDANGERMENT DETERMINATION

Actual and threatened releases of hazardous substances from this Site, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this Action Memorandum, may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment.

V. EXEMPTION FROM STATUTORY LIMITS

The OSC originally initiated this Removal Action using his emergency authorities pursuant to EPA Region III CERCLA Delegation of Authority 14-2. At this time, because the work continues at the Site, as described in Section II (B)(2) above, Site conditions continue to meet the NCP section 300.415(b) criteria for a removal action described in the Special Bulletin, dated April 24, 2018. In accordance with CERCLA Section 104 (c)(1)(C), continued response action at the Site is appropriate in order to protect certain residents from contaminated drinking water and is consistent with remedial action to be taken.

As stated in Section II (B) of the Special Bulletin, the Site was added to the NPL in February 2000. Although the Remedial Process is still in the initial stages (Remedial Investigation – RI), the proposed Removal Action (provision of bottled water and installation of treatment systems) is appropriate and consistent with some of the likely remedial actions that may be anticipated to be taken at the Site. At this time, the Remedial Program is considering a “point of use” remedy as one of the options for their Record of Decision (“ROD”).

The proposed Removal Action therefore meets the criteria for a consistency exemption from the 12-month statutory limitation on Removal Actions.

VI. PROPOSED ACTIONS AND ESTIMATED COSTS

A. Proposed Action Description

The objective of the proposed Removal Action is to interrupt the manganese exposure pathway (ingestion) at levels that pose a potential threat to human health and the environment.

The Removal Action will consist of the following:

1. Install a treatment system for manganese at the three affected properties served by wells 539OWR, 114KC, and 538OWR.
2. Conduct sampling after the treatment systems are installed to verify they are working properly.
3. Continue to deliver bottled water until the treatment systems are installed.

B. Contribution to Remedial Performance

The Remedial Program is currently working on the RI. The actions proposed are similar in nature to what the Remedial Program would have proposed and/or taken.

C. Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (“ARARs”)

The Removal Action will comply with all Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs), to the extent practicable, considering the exigencies of the situation. EPA OSC Rovira asked the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) for the ARARs for the site by email on 11.23.18.

D. Project Schedule

The treatment systems would be installed by Spring 2019.

E. Estimated Costs

The proposed distribution of funding is as follows:

	Present Ceiling	Ceiling Increase	Total
<u>Extramural Costs</u> <u>Regional Removal Allowance Costs</u>			
OSC authorized ceiling (EPA Delegation 14-2)	\$7,500		
Total Cleanup ERRS Contractor Costs		\$20,000	\$27,500
Subtotal Extramural Costs (Regional Removal Allowance)			\$27,500
Other Extramural Costs Not Funded from the Regional Allowance			
Total START		\$5,000	\$5,000
Subtotal Extramural Costs		\$25,000	\$32,500
Extramural Costs Contingency (20% of Subtotal, Extramural Costs; round to nearest thousand)			\$6,500
TOTAL REMOVAL ACTION PROJECT CEILING			\$39,000

VI. EXPECTED CHANGE IN SITUATION SHOULD ACTION BE DELAYED OR NOT TAKEN

If no action is taken, or action is delayed, at the Site, the residents of the three affected houses would have to continue to receive bottled water to continue to prevent exposure (ingestion) to elevated levels of manganese.

VII. OUTSTANDING POLICY ISSUES

No outstanding policy issues.

VIII. ENFORCEMENT

Based on the information currently available, the OSC recommends that Superfund monies be allocated to implement the Removal Action proposed herein.

A confidential enforcement addendum has been prepared and is included as an attachment to this document.

The total EPA costs for this Removal Action, based upon full-cost accounting practices that will be eligible for cost recovery, are estimated below as follows¹:

Direct Extramural Costs:	\$39,000
Direct Intramural Costs:	\$ 2,340
Total Direct Costs	\$ 41,340
Indirect Costs	\$26,549
Estimated EPA Costs for the Removal Action	\$67,889

IX. RECOMMENDATION

This decision document identifies a recommended Removal Action for the Old Wilmington Road Site, in and near Coatesville, Pennsylvania developed in accordance with CERCLA, and is not inconsistent with the NCP. This decision is based on the administrative record for this action.

¹Direct Costs include direct extramural costs and direct intramural costs. Indirect costs are calculated based on an estimated indirect cost rate expressed as a percentage of site-specific direct costs, consistent with the full cost accounting methodology effective October 2, 2000. These estimates do not include pre-judgment interest, do not take into account other enforcement costs, including Department of Justice costs, and may be adjusted during the course of a removal action. The estimates are for illustrative purposes only and their use is not intended to create any rights for responsible parties. Neither the lack of a total cost estimate nor deviation of actual total costs from this estimate will affect the United States' right to cost recovery.

By signing this Action Memorandum, you are hereby establishing the documents listed below as the Administrative Record supporting the issuance of this Action Memorandum, pursuant to Section 113 (k) of CERCLA and EPA Delegation No. 14-22.

1. Special Bulletin, April 24, 2018.
2. Results from EPA's well water sampling event, November 2017.
3. Results from EPA's well water sampling event, May 2018.
4. Email correspondence between EPA OSC Eduardo Rovira and EPA RMP Rombel Arquines (04.19.18, 04.23.18, 04.24.18, 09.14.18, 10.09.18, 11.06.18, 11.29.18).
5. Email correspondence between EPA OSC Eduardo Rovira and EPA toxicologist Dawn Ioven (04.17.18) and Martin Gehlhaus (07.14.18, 09.26.18).

Conditions at the Site continue to meet the NCP section 300.415(b) criteria for a Removal Action and the criteria for extending the Removal Action beyond 12 months under Section 104(c)(1)(C) and I recommend your approval of the proposed Removal Action. The total project ceiling, if approved, will be \$39,000. Of this, as much as \$27,500 comes from the Regional removal allowance. Please indicate your approval or disapproval below.

Action by the Approving Official:

I have reviewed the above-stated facts and based upon those facts and the information compiled in the documents described above, I hereby determine that the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at and/or from the Site presents or may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or to the environment. I concur with the recommended removal action as outlined.

APPROVED:



Paul Leonard, Acting Director
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
EPA Region 3

DATE: JAN 30 2019

DISAPPROVED:

Paul Leonard, Acting Director
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
EPA Region 3

DATE: _____

Attachments:

Special Bulletin
Enforcement Confidential Memo