



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

August 30, 2018

Mr. Brian T. Hennessey
SRS Remedial Project Manager
Infrastructure and Area Completion Division
U.S. Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE &

SEP - 4 2018

AREA COMPLETION PROJECTS

RE: EPA Comments: Land Use Control Implementation Plan for the Wetland Area at Dunbarton Bay in Support of Steel Creek Integrator Operable Unit (U), SEMS Number: 71 (SRNS-RP-2018-00479, Revision 0, June 2018)

Dear Mr. Hennessey,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 (EPA), has reviewed the Land Use Control Implementation Plan for the Wetland Area at Dunbarton Bay in Support of Steel Creek Integrator Operable Unit. Attached are our comments:

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (404) 562-8648.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jon Richards".

Jon Richards, Acting FFA
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division

cc: C.L. Bergren, SRNS-ACP
Susan Fulmer, SCDHEC

TECHNICAL COMMENTS

1. Section 4.1, Property Record Notices and Restrictions, Page 6 of 20:

Review of this section indicates that the substantive use restrictions achieved by the institutional controls are not sufficiently described. For example, the first bulleted item on this page states that contracts, deeds, or other transfer documents will include restrictions on residential use of the site. However, Section 3.0, Land Use Control Objectives, indicates that use restrictions also include elementary and secondary schools, child care facilities, and playgrounds; these use restrictions are not listed in Section 4.1. In addition, Section 3.0 indicates that removal or excavation of ash/contaminated soil should be prevented; however, associated restrictions are not specified in Section 4.1. *Revise Section 4.1 to ensure that all applicable use restrictions to be included in any contracts, deeds, or transfer documents are described to ensure that the land use control (LUC) objectives are met.*

2. Section 4.3, Site Use Program, Page 8 of 20:

The last paragraph on this page states that the Department of Energy (DOE) will notify the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) in advance of any change to internal site management procedures, including the Site Use Program, which would affect implementation or maintenance of LUCs; however, it is unclear how far in advance DOE will provide notice to EPA and SCDHEC, as this is not specified. *Clarify how far in advance DOE will provide notice to the regulatory agencies of changes to applicable site management procedures, ensuring ample time is granted for review of applicable procedural changes.*

3. Section 4.5, Warning Signs, Page 9 of 20:

It is unclear which compass direction the warning signs face, as this is not specified. If signs are to face away from Dunbarton Bay, it is unclear if a trespasser potentially could access the site from Dunbarton Bay itself, especially during the dry season. Similarly, it is unclear why four signs are sufficient. For example, it is unclear if additional signs along the road to the southwest of Dunbarton Bay are warranted. *Revise Section 4.5 to clarify the compass direction the warning signs will face, and provide rationale for the selected direction. In addition, provide rationale for the number of signs to be installed.*

4. Section 4.7, Field Inspection and Maintenance for Land Use Controls, Pages 9 and 10 of 20:

This section states that DOE will conduct inspections to ensure that access control signs are in place; however, it is unclear if the LUC monitoring program will include a periodic document review to ensure that institutional controls (e.g., deed restrictions, permit program) are being implemented and maintained in addition to the engineering controls. *Clarify if a document review will be conducted as part of the LUC monitoring program to ensure that institutional controls are being implemented and maintained, and how often this review will be conducted.*

5. Section 4.7, Field Inspection and Maintenance for Land Use Controls, Pages 9 and 10 of 20:

The last paragraph on page 9 states that additional inspections may be necessary in the event of

“unusual weather or any other condition warranting inspection.” It is unclear what constitutes “unusual weather” and what types of “other conditions” may warrant inspection. As such, it is unclear how it will be determined if additional inspections are necessary. *Revise this section to provide the specific qualifying criteria that may trigger the need for additional inspections.*

6. Section 4.7, Field Inspection and Maintenance for Land Use Controls, Page 10 of 20:

This section states that DOE will conduct inspections to ensure that access control signs are in place; however, inspections should also ensure that access signs are legible. It should be noted that Appendix B, Field Inspection Checklist for WADB, requires verification that the signs are legible from a distance of 25 feet. *Revise this section to specify that inspections will ensure that access signs are legible.*