

July 16, 2008

Donna L. Drogos, P.E.
Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist

Paresh C. Khatri
Hazardous Materials Specialist

Alameda County Health Agency
Department of Environmental Health Services
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577

Dear Ms. Drogos and Mr. Khatri:

Mr. Ravi Sekhon has just retained Environmental Risk Specialties Corporation (ERS) as his new consultant. He mailed a letter to your office yesterday to introduce our relationship. Although you may not have received his letter yet, due to the urgency of responding to your March 28, 2008 letter on his behalf, I have decided to make this contact before you read Ravi's letter. Since ERS just received this project, additional time is needed for ERS to get familiar with the site and the project. The purpose of this letter is to request an extension of the schedule listed in your March 28, 2008 letter.

After reviewing your March 28, 2008 letter, ERS decided to first gather and check all former reports and documents provided by Ravi as well as those documents posted on your FTP site and upload outstanding reports and data to the GeoTracker at your request. In order to expedite the initiation of site remediation, ERS will review all available former investigation results and conduct a preferential pathway study prior to the development of an initial SCM. As soon as the initial SCM is developed, ERS will then prepare an SCM Report and a Data Gap Work Plan for requesting additional data collection, if needed. Both the SCM Report and the Data Gap Work Plan will be submitted to your office by the end of December 2008. We also will resume the quarterly groundwater monitoring, keeping as close as possible to the schedule listed on Page 6 of your letter.

In addition to the request for extension of the schedule for the SCM Report and the Data Gap Work Plan, ERS has the following requests:

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1. Since MTBE is a highly soluble compound in water and is the major contaminant of concern at the site, MTBE tends to be uniformly distributed in the water column as opposed to the light petroleum hydrocarbons. Thus, ERS recommends the use of Low-Flow Rate Purging and Sampling to replace the three-casing volume purging method formerly used for all quarterly groundwater monitoring events for this site.
2. Although EPA Methods 8015 and 8260 are both applicable for the UST sites, because oxygenates are the major contaminants of concern, ERS recommends the use of EPA Method 8260 because this method has the power to separate MTBE/benzene from other interference compounds and eliminate the positive bias.

If you have questions, please feel free to call the undersigned at (925) 938-1600 ext. 108. Your assistance on this site is very appreciated.

Sincerely,

ERS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Ho". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Ho, Ph.D., P.E.
Principal Engineer

Cc: Ravi Sekhon, 21696 Knuppe Place, Castro Valley, CA 94552