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Date: June 28, 2013

Mr. David Haldenman  
Division Administrator  
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality  
Waste Management Division  
P.O. Box 98922  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. Haldenman:

This No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) determination is provided to US EPA Region VII and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ). This NFRAP determination letter documents the USDA Forest Services' completion of work for Nebraska National Forest Sites #1 and #2 (EPA CERCLIS SITE ID Numbers NE6122390010 and NE2122390030) on the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands in Thomas County, Nebraska.

This letter was generated based on review of various technical reports referenced in the enclosed electronic bibliography (with entire text of each reference included for your files) CD entitled Bessey Drum Site, CERCLA Research Report, USDA Forest Service – Region 2 Nebraska National Forest and Grasslands (May, 2013).

In summary, although subsurface environmental contamination may remain at the Nebraska National Forest Site #1 under a cap, no further action is necessary at this time, as any remaining contamination does not pose a substantial threat to either human health or the environment. Preliminary assessment and site investigations at Nebraska National Forest Site #2 did not reveal any release (confirming EPA's assigned NFRAP status found in the Federal Facilities Compliance Docket update #18).

In 1982, the Nebraska National Forest and Grasslands (NNFG) notified the EPA of a potential hazardous waste site (therein referred to as Site #1) in the NNFG by the Bessey Nursery, near Halsey, Nebraska. According to the NNFG, Site #1 consisted of 47, 33-55-gallon drums containing Lindane, DDT and other miscellaneous pesticides. The drums were reportedly dumped into a sand pit in 1970, crushed and compacted by a bulldozer, then covered with approximately 6 feet of sand.

According to a record of communication dated May, 1985, the Forest Service identified a second dump site (hereinafter referred to as Site #2), located approximately two miles from Site #1, which contained buried, unknown quantities of potentially-pressurized containers of Methyl-Bromide and 55-gallon drums of Lindane. The pesticide containers were reportedly bulldozed for compaction purposes prior to being covered with sand. The Forest Service estimates Site 2 was also created in 1970.

Following notification, the USDA Forest Service coordinated with the EPA Superfund Division and the NDEQ Groundwater Division (delegated by EPA to manage site evaluation/remediation efforts) to characterize and address Nebraska National Forest Site #1 and Site #2.



As indicated in the attached documentation, Nebraska National Forest Site #1 was capped with clay and fenced, thereby eliminating any threat to human health or the environment.

At the Nebraska National Forest Site #2, the amount, quantity, and concentration of this release does not warrant a federal response, as the removal site characterization revealed that there is no substantial endangerment to either human health or the environment (per 40 CFR 300.410(f)(3),(5), & (7)).

For these reasons, the USDA Forest Service does not plan any further action at these sites.

If there are any questions about this matter, please direct them to Kurt Muenchow at (303) 275-5201.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Mary C Deaguero,*  
MARY C DEAGUERO,  
Director, Engineering

Enclosure

cc: Kurt A Muenchow  
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