



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 29 2013

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Dear Interested Parties:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking input on a draft *Groundwater Remedy Completion Strategy*. The draft document provides a recommended strategy to help site teams focus resources on the information and decisions needed to effectively complete groundwater remedies. Groundwater remediation can take decades to achieve and is a component of most Superfund cleanup actions. The draft *Strategy* and a fact sheet are attached to this email message.

The draft *Strategy* describes a recommended step-wise plan and decision-making process for evaluating remedy operation, progress and attainment of remedial action objectives (RAOs) using an updated conceptual site model, performance metrics and site-specific data. We have designed the completion strategy to help the site team focus resources on the information and decisions needed to effectively move a site to completion and ensure protection of human health and the environment. Generally we believe that consideration of such a strategy may be appropriate throughout the cleanup process, and should help focus resources on evaluating the selected cleanup, its operation and progress toward attaining the RAOs and associated cleanup levels in a reasonable timeframe.

The completion strategy includes example remedy evaluation questions and provides some criteria to consider during remedy decisions. However, it does not provide policy direction for those decisions. The strategy also does not alter the Agency approach for setting remedial objectives or cleanup levels. In addition, the recommended strategy does not change existing Superfund statutes, regulations, guidance or policy. This guidance does not address state or tribal groundwater classifications or use designations.

Please send input via email to gwcompletionstrategy@epa.gov by December 20, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact Becki Clark, Director of the Assessment and Remediation Division in the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation at (703) 347-8551 (clark.becki@epa.gov), or have your staff contact Anne Dailey at (703)347-0373 (dailey.anne@epa.gov). Thank you very much for your engagement in this important effort.

Attached: Draft *Groundwater Remedy Completion Strategy*
Fact Sheet: Groundwater Remedy Completion Strategy under Development