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February 15, 2006

Ms. Robin Stankoff
ASC/ENVR - Building 8
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APPROVAL OF FINAL INTERIM REMOVAL ACTION COMPLETION REPORT FOR INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM (IRP) SITE 6, OPERABLE UNIT 2, AIR FORCE PLANT 42 (AFP 42), PALMDALE, CALIFORNIA

Dear Ms. Stankoff:

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) have reviewed the subject document dated January 2006, prepared by CH2M HILL on behalf of the Air Force. Site 6, Original Fire Training Circle, is part of Operable Unit (OU) 2 located in the south-central portion AFP 42. The site consists of an abandoned earth-lined burn pit approximately 60 feet in diameter and was used to conduct fire department training activities between 1954 and 1959. The report documents the removal action activities performed in February and March 2005, site backfilling and restoration activities, and confirmation sampling conducted at IRP Site 6. Approximately 1,957 tons of soil was removed from the site and disposed as California hazardous waste at the Chemical Waste Management Facility in Kettleman City, California. The excavation area measured approximately 83 feet by 67 feet and the depth of the excavation was approximately six to 13 feet below ground surface. In addition to the removal action at Site 6, an area of dried paint adjacent to the Site 6 excavation was also removed as a housekeeping measure. Approximately 18 tons of dried paint and underlying soil was removed and disposed offsite.

Prior to backfilling with clean soil and restoration of the site to its original condition, 9 confirmation soil samples and a duplicate were collected from the bottom of the excavation and side walls of the excavation to confirm that contaminated soils have been removed and that site-specific cleanup goals have been achieved. Based on the results of the confirmation sampling, the remedial action met the remediation standards specified in the approved Removal Action Workplan dated December 2004.

The report also identified additional areas of potential concern in the vicinity of the Site 6 excavation based on visual observations during the removal activities. The newly identified features included areas with black-stained surface soil, and several additional areas of scattered paint chips. It is not known whether these features are associated with historic fire training activities at Site 6. However, given the proximity of Site 6, additional investigation will be performed at these areas as part of a supplemental Site 6 remedial investigation.

DTSC and RWQCB are satisfied that their comments of October 5, 2005 on the draft document have been adequately addressed and hereby approve the final repot as written. Also, DTSC and RWQCB agree with the recommendations of the report to conduct additional investigation of the newly identified areas of potential contamination in the vicinity of Site 6.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Tayseer Mahmoud of DTSC at (714) 484-5419 or Mr. Douglas E. Feay of RWQCB at (760) 241-6583.

Sincerely,

Emad Yemut

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