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April 13, 2012

Trey Hawthorne, Esq.
Gentle Turner & Sexton
501 Riverchase Parkway East, Suite 100
Hoover, AL 35244

Re: Draft Report - Soil Remediation
Perrine DuPont Settlement
Spelter, West Virginia
Our File: 12-0201

Dear Mr. Hawthorne,

As requested, I have reviewed the "Superfund Lead-Contaminated Residential Sites Handbook," (OSWER 9285.7-50), August 2003 (Final), prepared by EPA's "Lead Sites Workgroup," as it pertains to soil remediation, and specifically as it relates to the soil remediation program currently envisioned for the Perrine DuPont Settlement. The handbook principally addresses investigation and remediation of lead in soil, dust, paint, and tap water. With regard to soil, the Agency strongly recommends a minimum of twelve inches of clean soil as a barrier above contaminated soil in a residential yard for the protection of human health (Section 6.1 of the handbook, p. 37). In Section 1.3 of the handbook, the Agency indicates, "This document, while addressing primarily lead contamination, may also be appropriate for use in the remediation of sites contaminated with other metals."

The current soil remediation plan for the Perrine DuPont Settlement in areas of soil contamination is to excavate six inches of contaminated soil, and emplace six inches of clean soil and a sod cover. Given this remediation approach, if soil contamination exists below the six-inch clean soil cover layer, there would be less than the twelve-inch minimum barrier recommended by EPA. Based on Dr. Flowers reports (February 2005, November 2005), the soil sampling program that was the basis for soil remediation in the settlement remediation plan consists of 1068 sites, where the top two inches of soil were sampled, and eight sites in Spelter where it appears as much as 45 inches of the soil profile was sampled. At the deeper sampling sites in Spelter, one or more target metals (arsenic, cadmium, lead, and zinc) were detected at concentrations above the screening level at depths below two-inches.

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Based on the EPA Handbook, if any contamination is detected in the upper 12 inches of the soil profile, then a minimum of 12 inches of clean soil should be emplaced as a barrier to protect human health, and such a requirement should be considered for the Perrine-DuPont Settlement soil remediation.

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
RB Adams, LLC

Richard B. Adams, PE, BCEE