



Kennecott South Zone, Operable Unit 2 Southwest Jordan River Valley Groundwater Plumes

October 2006



Public Review Period

The public may comment on the ESD through December 8, 2006. Extension of the review period will not be granted. Review the ESD at the Kennecott South Website at: www.deq.utah.gov/Issues/nrd/index.htm

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Public Records

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www.deq.utah.gov/Issues/nrd/index.htm

A clarification to the decision document for the Southwest Jordan Valley Groundwater Plumes, Operable Unit (OU) 2 of the Kennecott South Zone, is being proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality. This fact sheet provides information about the document - called an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD). The ESD proposes clarifications to the Record of Decision (ROD) OU 2.

Explanation of Significant Differences

EPA and UDEQ issued a joint ROD for this OU in December 2000. The ROD was previously clarified by an ESD in August 2003. This pending ESD is the second for this ROD.

This ESD does not substantively alter the remedy selected by the Agencies but allows for the following clarifications:

- Permits the use of other management options, besides reverse osmosis treatment, for water extracted from the barrier wells, provided those uses are consistent with the quality of the water, previous decision documents, and acceptable to EPA and UDEQ.
- Clarifies that source controls to prevent further groundwater contamination will be operated under existing state permits.
- Strengthens the performance standards for the remedy to include objective requirements for containment and cleanup of the groundwater contamination.

Revised Standards

Revised performance standards now include:

- A minimum extraction rate for groundwater from the core of the Zone A plume, of 1200 acre-feet per year on a rolling five-year average. A minimum extraction rate had not been established previously.
- A network of compliance wells on the perimeter of the Zone A plume. Containment is demonstrated by maintaining sulfate concentrations in these wells at or below 1,500 mg/l. The 2000 ROD specified that water with greater than 1,500 mg/l sulfate was to be contained within the Kennecott Utah

Copper
Corporation property boundary as of the date
of the ROD.

- Revised final cleanup levels for contaminants:

Contaminant	Cleanup Levels throughout the Acid Plume (dissolved concentrations)
pH	pH = 6.5 – 8.5
Arsenic	0.05 mg/l
Barium	2 mg/l
Cadmium	0.005 mg/l
Copper	1.3 mg/l
Fluoride	4 mg/l
Lead	0.015 mg/l
Selenium	0.05 mg/l
Nickel	0.1 mg/l
Sulfate*	1500 mg/l

* Once sulfate has reached 1500 mg/l throughout the plume, active remediation may be discontinued in favor of monitored natural attenuation until sulfate concentrations throughout the plume reach 500 mg/l.

This ESD does not affect the following components of the OU2 ROD:

- Containment of the plume using barrier wells and wells in the core of the plume.
- Remediation of the aquifer through extraction of contaminated water and natural attenuation.
- Management of extracted groundwater and disposal of treatment residuals.
- Mitigation, as appropriate, of impacts to third parties.
- Maintenance of institutional controls to prevent public exposure, and monitor progress.

Send Comments

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