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October 9, 1997

VIA FACSIMILE

Michael T. Donnellan, Esq.
U.S. Department of Justice
Environment and Natural Resource Division
Environmental Enforcement Section
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, DC 20044-7611

Re: Backup Information on SVE Calculations

Dear Michael:

I am a bit perplexed at the radically different understandings that Pierce and Mike had about the conference call on September 30, 1997, regarding the SVE system. I talked with Pierce immediately after that conference call and he felt that the technical people from your side had understood that we needed the basis for the numbers in the report in order to properly evaluate your proposal. Pierce had understood that information was to be supplied to us. We were, therefore, very surprised when Mike said he understood all the information we needed had already been provided. At any rate, that is water under the bridge. What I am more interested in is focusing on getting the information we need in order to have a meaningful dialogue on Tuesday.

Therefore, in advance of the conference call this afternoon, the following is a list of issues left open after the last conference call:

1. We need the backup for EPA's cost estimates. How were those numbers calculated and on what design parameters were they based? For instance the cost of the capital equipment for EPA's system is identified as \$35,000. Where did this figure come from and how is it arrived at? This same question applies to each one of the entries in the cost comparison spreadsheet applicable to EPA's estimate.
2. I understand that EPA's system would have four extraction wells. What we do not know is what flow rate and/or vacuum EPA assumed and whether those numbers are based on actual or standard conditions.
3. Likewise, what operating parameters were assumed for the extraction unit inlet; again what is the flow rate and/or vacuum and were those numbers based on actual or standard conditions.

Michael Donnellan, Esq.

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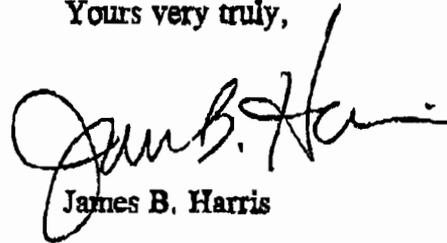
Page 2

4. What are the operating parameters at the treatment unit inlet? Again, flow rate, pressure, vacuum, temperature and whether those are based on actual or standard conditions.
5. It looks as though EPA's system assumes that there is one blower and four extraction wells. What is the assumed horsepower for the blower?
6. Is EPA's system either the GTE or Digital Systems moved to the Sparton site, or is it something different?
7. On the spreadsheet for carbon and power costs, where did you get the information on the pounds per day of VOC extracted from the GTE site?
8. What did you understand to be the constituents and ambient concentrations in the subsurface at the GTE site?
9. What did EPA understand to be the flow rate, vacuum, and horsepower (again, is this expressed in standard or actual conditions) that correspond to that VOC production?
10. Where is the backup for the VOC removal rates at Sparton? Again, what constituents, and ambient and concentrations were you assuming? What flow rate, vacuum, and horsepower (again, in standard or actual conditions) did you base that number on? Where are the backup calculations to each number in that spreadsheet?
11. For the columns labeled "carbon usage" and "carbon cost" where are the backup calculations? For instance, how many carbons units did you assume were in place? Were those units being operated in series or parallel? What operating parameters did you assume?
12. For the column labeled "Sparton monthly power cost" where are the backup calculations? In particular, we need to see what was done for the entire system, from extraction through discharge to the atmosphere, and what operating parameters were assumed and the points of measurement.
13. For the column labeled "Sparton monthly O&M cost" where are the supporting calculations? What was the basis for the cost and how was that cost distributed, linearly, logarithmically or otherwise?

Michael Donnellan, Esq.
October 9, 1997
Page 3

Michael, as I am sure can appreciate, without this information it is impossible for us to critically analyze EPA's proposal. Additionally, we need this information to cross check it against GTE's actual experience, which we learned about as a result of Pierce's site visit on October 2, 1997. If at all possible, we would appreciate your faxing as much of this information to Pierce as possible before the 2:00 p.m. conference call. I am hopeful that we can get these information gaps filled today.

Yours very truly,



James B. Harris

JBH/eshd
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