

August 31, 2010

Mr. Andrew Fan
US EPA Region III, 3WC23
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Ms. Barbara Brown
Project Coordinator
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Re: Consent Decree, Civil Action Nos. JFM-97-558, JFM-97-559
Draft Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment for On-Site Areas (BERA) Report

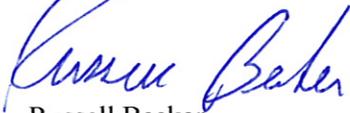
Dear Mr. Fan and Ms. Brown:

Enclosed with this correspondence is the draft *Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment for On-Site Areas (BERA) Report* that was conducted for the Severstal Sparrows Point Facility in accordance with the requirements of the referenced Consent Decree. The BERA characterizes risks for valued wildlife receptors from exposure to surface soil and on-site sediment and/or surface water and will support future decisions regarding the need for and potential extent of on-site remediation.

This tier of the ecological risk assessment process follows a *Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment for On-Site Areas* (URS 2009a) and a *Supplemental Report, County Lands Parcel 1B Ponds* (URS 2009b) (collectively, the SLERA) that were originally submitted to the agencies in April 2008 and January 2009, respectively. Comments on the draft SLERA reports were received from EPA on February 25, 2009. The SLERA reports were subsequently revised and re-submitted to USEPA in April and May 2009. USEPA completed review of the revised reports and determined that the clarifying responses were acceptable with some additional exceptions that were outlined in correspondence dated July 9, 2009. Final responses and associated revisions on the SLERA were completed and submitted to EPA in August 2009.

Please contact me at (410) 388-6622 should questions arise during your review of the enclosed BERA report.

Sincerely,



Russell Becker
Division Manager, Environmental Engineering and Affairs

Enclosure

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MultiMedia Consent Decree

Document Certification

Draft Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) Report for On-Site Areas

August 31, 2010

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.



Russell Becker
Division Manager
Environmental Engineering and Affairs

Severstal Sparrows Point LLC