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Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185

date: March 3, 1994

to: Joe Fernandez, MS 1348 (Org. 7583)

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from: Otto Laursen, MS 1348 (Org. 7583)

subject: Weekly ADS Summary (u)

ADS 1336 (Salton Sea Test Base):

Assistance to the U. S. Navy and California EPA SSTB Remedial Project Managers (RPMs) continues. The final Preliminary Assessment (PA) report on the SSTB is still being reviewed to see if there are any additional corrections that need to be made in future revisions to the Site Investigation (SI) Work Plan. Several other SSTB work procedures and plans (field SOPs, SI Work Plan Addendum, Data Management Plan, etc.) have also been recently received, and are under review.

I attended a meeting of the SSTB BRAC Cleanup Team during the week of February 21-25 in San Diego, CA. The meeting lasted one day and covered final comprehensive review of the BRAC Cleanup Plan for the SSTB before submittal to the DoD authority in March, 1994 (the turn-in date has been stepped-up about a month from the original DoD date to allow for U. S. Navy review). I plan to submit a trip report on this meeting at a later date.

The SSTB project is proceeding at a much more rapid pace than originally planned. This is primarily due to increased emphasis placed on the cleanup under the BRAC program. All but two USTs have been removed from the site, all friable asbestos has been removed, all PCBs have been removed, many of the non-contaminated buildings have been torn down and the debris is being removed, and SI field work began in earnest in January, 1994. As part of the field work, the Navy contractor (Bechtel National, Inc.) plans to begin survey of the land target and the two water target areas within the next month. The land target may be surveyed by use of the GEO-CENTERS, INC. Surface Towed Ordnance Locator System (STOLS) based on a recommendation for consideration of its use by John Cochran and Otto Laursen of SNL. GEO-CENTERS, INC. gave a free demonstration of the STOLS' capabilities in February, 1994 at the SSTB by surveying a landfill and comparing the results with previously obtained hand-held

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magnetometer data. Navy officials were so impressed with the speed and comparative accuracy of the system, they are presently conducting a cost-benefits analysis to determine whether to contract GEO-CENTERS, INC. to do the work. The Navy still plans to begin the survey of suspected underwater bomb debris areas (at locations near the two former water targets) by using underwater side-scan sonar, subbottom profiling, magnetometry, and bathymetry, to locate large masses of debris. Until the debris profile is known, a decision on sediment sampling of these areas is being withheld.

ADS 1337 (Offsite Areas):

ADS 1337 task order team research continues on all 12 of the former AEC storage sites. We are also continuing to render our direct assistance to DoD employees and contractors already engaged in PA/SI, RI/FS or other environmental restoration activities at these and other former DOE/SNL test sites.

The task order for contracting the services of the Lamb/Halliburton task order team was renewed effective March 1, 1994, for a second three-month period. This sub-project is presently well under anticipated cost and schedule due primarily to startup problems and other administrative delays; none of these are attributable to the subcontractors' performance. Nevertheless, the team has obtained a good handle on site functions, made a number of contacts with DoD officials, has completed initial mandatory SNL training, made a formal status report (by briefing) to SNL management, and has already gathered a significant amount of documentation to begin/continue desktop review of the 12 former AEC sites. We anticipate several site visits and submittal of some of the site status reports for DOE review during the next contract period.

SNL retiree Harold Rarrick will lead a walking tour and briefing on environmental areas of concern to familiarize the ADS 1337 task order team members, selected SNL ER project personnel, and USAF/contractor personnel with the site and its former use.

General Information:

Input on the above two ADSs for update of the Five Year Plan (FYP) was developed and submitted to cost analysts for processing during the first few days of this week.

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