

August 23, 2001

Office of Environmental Policy and Guidance(EH-41):Bascietto:6-7917

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY "COMPREHENSIVE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW GUIDANCE."

Distribution

PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM To notify DOE program offices and field organizations of the availability of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "Comprehensive Five-Year Review Guidance" (OSWER Directive 9355.7-03B-P, June 2001).

BACKGROUND The Environmental Protection Agency has issued a final version of its "Comprehensive Five-Year Review Guidance." A draft of the EPA guidance was reviewed and commented upon by a Department of Energy Focus Group in 1998 (see "*Focus Group For Reviewing and Commenting On 'Consolidated Five-Year Review Guidance,'*" EH-41 memorandum, July 23, 1998).

Discussion The stated purpose of the subject EPA document is to provide EPA's regional offices with guidance for conducting five-year reviews of remedial and corrective actions at Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) sites when the selected remedies at these sites leave hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants in place at levels that exceed those that would allow unlimited use or unrestricted exposures. Many Department of Energy sites in long-term stewardship, and possibly other DOE sites are expected to fall into this category.

While it is important to recognize that EPA's regional offices may utilize the subject EPA guidance to determine whether or not CERCLA remedies or RCRA corrective actions implemented at Department of Energy sites remain protective after five years, DOE remedial and corrective action program and project managers personnel responsible for long-term stewardship of Department of Energy sites should also be aware that the Department's Office of Environmental Management (EM) has previously announced its intention to and may issue its own programmatic five-year review guidance.

AVAILABILITY Copies of the subject EPA guidance can be obtained by logging onto the Superfund Program URL: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/pubs.htm> or by calling 1-800-424-9346.

More Information Questions concerning the information contained herein may be directed to John Bascietto of my staff by:

- C Calling at (202) 586-7917,
 - C Faxing messages to (202) 586-3915, or
 - C Communicating electronically, via Internet, to
["john.bascietto@eh.doe.gov"](mailto:john.bascietto@eh.doe.gov).
-

Thomas T. Traceski
Director, RCRA/CERCLA Division
Office of Environmental Policy and Guidance