

4. *By Facsimile.* Fax your comments to: (703) 603-9240, Attention Docket ID. No. SFUND-2002-0004.

II. Purpose of the Science Plan

This Contaminated Sediments Science Plan is a mechanism for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and coordinate Agency-wide science activities in the contaminated sediments area. Along with the EPA's contaminated sediments science activities database, this plan provides an analysis of the current Agency science activities in this area, identifies and evaluates the science gaps, and provides a strategy for filling these gaps. The Contaminated Sediments Science Plan has three goals to promote the vision of providing a strong scientific basis for addressing contaminated sediments: (1) To develop and disseminate the tools and science necessary to address the management of contaminated sediments; (2) To enhance the level of coordination and communication of science activities dealing with contaminated sediments across the Agency Program and Regional Offices and the Office of Research and Development; and (3) To develop an effective, cost-efficient strategy to promote these scientific activities and research.

III. Description of Science Plan

The draft document has four chapters. Chapter 1 discusses the goals and objectives and how the Science Plan relates to the Agency's mandate. Chapter 2 provides an overview of the contaminated sediments work across the Agency. These issue summaries provide the overall context for the discussion of the specific research and science needs given in the rest of the Science Plan. Chapter 3, along with the EPA's contaminated sediments science activities database (Appendix A), is the data collection and analysis section of the Science Plan. It documents the current contaminated sediment science activities ongoing within the Agency and places these activities within the context of Agency goals. These activities are sediment site characterization, exposure assessment, human health and ecological risk assessment, risk communication, sediment remediation, baseline and post-remediation monitoring and information management and exchange activities. Significant data gaps and uncertainties in methodology/assessment procedures are identified. Finally, it proposes research and science activities to fill those data gaps and resolve related issues. Chapter 4 provides the key recommendations for future Agency

science activities, including research, based upon the discussion in Chapter 3. For each recommendation, critical EPA partners, and the immediate or long-term nature of the science activity are proposed. An internal mechanism for implementing the science recommendations is proposed. Implementation of the science recommendations will be contingent upon overall Agency priorities and resources available within the annual budgetary planning cycle.

Issues for Public Comment: The EPA solicits comments on all aspects of the draft science plan. In particular, the EPA requests comments and information on the following questions: (1) The Contaminated Sediments Science Plan (Science Plan) is the first official Agency science plan of its kind designed to address a significant cross-agency environmental issue in a systematic and integrated fashion. Does the Science Plan adequately convey the need for such a strategic planning document, i.e., are the goals and objectives of the plan understandable and appropriate to the subject? (2) Are the major areas of contaminated sediments science (sediment site characterization, exposure assessment, human health effects and risk assessment, ecological effects and risk assessment, sediment remediation, baseline and post-remediation monitoring, risk communication, and information management and exchange activities) appropriately addressed? Are any major areas missing?

(3) Are the key recommendations clearly defined and appropriate to resolve the science needs discussed in Chapter 3?

(4) Are there other issues or key recommendations which should be considered in this Science Plan?

Dated: July 12, 2002.

Marianne Lamont Horinko,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7248-8]

Valley Chemical Superfund Site/ Greenville, MS; Notice of Proposed Settlement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposed settlement.

SUMMARY: Under section 122(h)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental

Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed to settle claims for response costs at the Valley Chemical Superfund Site (Site) located in Greenville, Mississippi, with Carl A. Bauer. EPA will consider public comments on the proposed settlement for thirty days. EPA may withdraw from or modify the proposed settlement should such comments disclose facts or considerations which indicate the proposed settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. Copies of the proposed settlement are available from: Ms. Paula V. Batchelor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, CERCLA Program Services Branch, Waste Management Division, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, (404) 562-8887.

Written comment may be submitted to Mr. Greg Armstrong at the above address within 30 days of the date of publication.

Dated: June 26, 2002.

James T. Miller,

Acting Chief, CERCLA Program Services Branch, Waste Management Division.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 96-45; DA 02-1466]

Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Comment on Smith Bagley, Inc. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the Navajo Reservation in Utah

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice; solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: In a Public Notice in this proceeding released on June 21, 2002, the Wireline Competition Bureau sought comment on Smith Bagley's petition seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to receive Federal universal service support for the provision of service on the Navajo Reservation in Utah.

DATES: Comments are due on or before August 21, 2002. Reply comments are due on or before September 5, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. See Supplementary Information section for where and how to file comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anita Cheng, Assistant Division Chief,