GWOU ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
SECTION TITLE:
GW-500-501-1.30

92700

STATE OF MISSOURI
Bob Holden, Governor • Stephen M. Mahfood, Director
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

April 29, 2002

Ms. Pamela Thompson, Project Manager
Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project
7295 Highway 94 South
Weldon Spring, MO 63304

RE: Groundwater Operable Unit Effective Porosity

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Based on my review of email correspondence between Tom Pauling, Becky Cato, and Branden Doster there seems to be a lack of clarity regarding the value for effective porosity the Department of Energy (DOE) will use to evaluate the data generated in the Groundwater Operable Unit (GWOU) Field Study. Your contractor has suggested several potential reference sources for the value to be used including the Domenico and Schwartz textbook and the 1998 pump test report but has not identified the specific value selected. The range of possible values we have gleaned from these suggested sources is in conflict with the value used to calculate remediation times in the Supplemental Feasibility Study (SFS) for the GWOU, hence our confusion.

To help us resolve this quandary I request that you identify the specific value for effective porosity DOE plans to use when recalculating remediation timeframes for the GWOU. If the value is from a recognized reference please identify the specific source, relevant pages, and technical justification for use in this setting. If the effective porosity is determined from empirical data generated in the field study, please provide copies of all calculations and assumptions used to derive the value.

I am asking at this time in the spirit of our agreement to identify potential problems that might arise in evaluation of the GWOU Field Study as early as possible. The value selected may have significant impact on GWOU decisions and should be as site-specific as possible. We have tried to resolve this issue through informal communication with your contractor over several weeks and have not received a definitive answer. Therefore, I am asking that you provide a written response to these questions on or before May 6, 2002. If you have any questions or would rather schedule a technical meeting to discuss this issue before you respond, please contact me at (636) 441-8030.

Sincerely,
HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

Ben Moore

pc: Dan Wall, United States Environmental Protection Agency

RECYCLED PAPER

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