



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION 8  
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DENVER, CO 80202-2466  
Phone 800-227-8917  
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>**

**MAR 13 2002**

Ref: 8EPR-F

Mr. Joseph A. Legare  
Assistant Manager  
for Environment and Stewardship  
Department of Energy  
Rocky Flats Field Office  
10808 Highway 93, Unit A  
Golden, Colorado 80403-8200

Dear Mr. Legare:

In recent discussions involving DOE, CDPHE, and EPA, EPA has expressed its concern that the proposal contained in the Buffer Zone Sampling and Analysis Plan (BZSAP) for data aggregation and hot spot evaluation has evolved into a methodology that is overly complicated. Although we understand the rationale that has resulted in this unique methodology, it is our concern that it may be impractical to implement in the manner that Kaiser-Hill has proposed and that the methodology could have profound effects on how the cleanup is implemented at Rocky Flats. EPA believes that before any data aggregation and hot spot evaluation methodology is applied at Rocky Flats, further discussion needs to occur between DOE, EPA, CDPHE, local officials and interested public about the potential impacts on how such methodology would affect the environmental restoration program.

As we have stated in our discussions, EPA is comfortable with the sampling methodology that is being proposed. Therefore, EPA hereby approves use of the BZSAP dated January 2002 so that important data collection activities may proceed. However, at the present time EPA will withhold its approval of data aggregation and hotspot evaluation methodologies. In addition, EPA hereby approves the sampling activities for BZ Group 900-2 (IHSSs 153 and 154) from BZSAP Addendum BZ-02-01 so that data collection efforts can move forward these areas. A full evaluation of the other locations listed in this addendum will be completed in the next week.

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MAR 2002  
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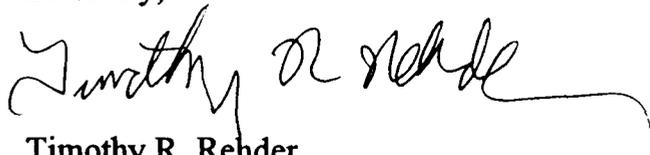
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Please contact me at (303) 312-6293, if you have any questions about the approvals granted in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy R. Rehder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Timothy R. Rehder  
Rocky Flats Team Leader

cc: Steve Gunderson (CDPHE)  
Steve Tarlton (CDPHE)  
Joe Legare (DOE)  
Dave Shelton (Kaiser Hill)  
RFCAB  
RFCLOG