

Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site
Draft Site Physical Characterization Summary Report, dated February 16, 2005
EPA Review Comments

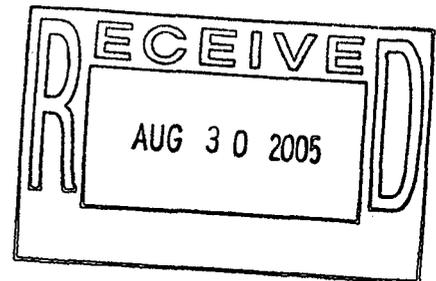
General Comment

Due to the timing of this document's release, the site-wide drainage plan had not been finalized. In the revised version, please provide a discussion of the drainage plan consisting of functional channel configurations, interceptor ditches, and vegetative cover designed for diverting and capturing runoff. The document should also include a figure displaying final drainage configurations and overland flow directions.

Specific Comments

1. **Page 11, Section 4.5, Seismic Conditions.** Given that limited seismic data is available in the state, the sentence concluding that the site is in a zone of relatively low seismic activity should be qualified.
2. **Page 13, Section 5.0, Surface Water Hydrology.** To clarify the surface water hydrology section, additional discussion describing the regional watershed, including an overview of all water supply ditches within the Rocky Flats drainage system, would be beneficial. As an example, this discussion would be improved with a description similar to the Technical Memorandum, Final Work Plan, Operable Unit No. 7, Volume 1, Section 2.6.1 (EG&G, 1994). Also, please define the stream classifications for the various water bodies discussed throughout the text (e.g., page 14, Rock Creek stream segment 8) and displayed in Figure 11.
3. **Page 14, Section 5.1, Rock Creek.** Please provide a more detailed description of the creek similar to the sections describing the Walnut Creek and Woman Creek drainages.
4. **Page 15, Section 5.1, Rock Creek.** Although the document describes the creek as ephemeral, it should be noted that portions of Rock Creek are perennial.
5. **Page 17, Section 5.2.2, No Name Gulch.** Please provide a more specific description of the diversion ditches around the landfill and the location of discharges from the diversion ditches into No Name Gulch.
6. **Page 22, Section 5.3, Woman Creek.** The description of Woman Creek would be improved by listing tributaries and diversions to the watershed in the opening paragraph comparable to the Walnut Creek discussion (Section 5.2). It is recommended that the description provided in the April 1996 Final Phase I RFI/RI Report, Woman Creek Priority Drainage, Operable Unit 5, Volume 1, Section 3.5 be used as guide to improving readability of this section.
7. **Page 41, Section 8.6, Future RFETS Land Use, Footnote 8.** The website (www.rockyflats.fws.gov) identified in the footnote is not accessible.

8. **Page 57, Section 9.2.5, Wildlife Species of Special Concern.** Please also mention the special status of the black-tailed prairie dog.
9. **Page 58, Section 9.2.7, Potential Effects of Contamination on Wildlife and Vegetation.** This section provides information on studies conducted at the site and potential impacts to the resources at the site. The information appears to be somewhat out of context since it is not related to a description of ecology. It is recommended that this information be moved to a more appropriate section of the RI.
10. **Figure 3, Easement Location Map.** Figure 3 identifies all easements located at Rocky Flats. The map identifies 39 easements in the right margin, but not all 39 are identified on the map. If not all easements are going to be identified on the map, please add a note on the map to that affect.
11. **Figure 11, CWCCC Stream Classification Segments.** For consistency, please label all segmented water bodies.



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