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# EG&G ROCKY FLATS

EG&G ROCKY FLATS, INC  
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October 24, 1994

94-RF-10788

Robert H Birk  
Environmental Restoration Division  
DOE/RFFO

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING OPERABLE UNIT (OU) 3 AIR/METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING STATION INSTALLATION - THS-004-94

Action None required

In follow-up to the Standley Lake bald eagle letter dated October 18, 1994, this letter presents additional information regarding the installation of four air and meteorological monitoring stations within Operable Unit (OU) 3 EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc, recommends that the Department of Energy/Rocky Flats Fields Office (DOE/RFFO) include the following information in a formal letter to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to describe the work already completed at each monitoring station and to propose future work at the station sites based on the biological assessment results for each site with respect to the nesting bald eagles

Three ultra high-volume air monitoring stations and one meteorological monitoring station are planned for installation in areas located offsite of the Rocky Flats Site, generally around Standley Reservoir (see attached figure) The monitoring stations shall be used to collect data as part of the Rocky Flats Site OU 3 Offsite Areas, Human Health Risk Assessment The OU 3 Offsite Areas risk assessment is directed by the Environmental Restoration Interagency Agreement between the Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Health and Environment, and the Department of Energy A status summary and biological determination for each monitoring station site is provided below

### 100th Avenue - Air Monitoring Station

The 100th Avenue air monitoring station is located immediately north of 100th Avenue, between Alkire Street and Simms Street (see attached figure) Construction of this monitoring station was completed on October 14, 1994 The station consists of one three-phase blower motor assembly mounted on a four-foot by four-foot precast concrete pad foundation, which is fenced within six-foot high chain link The station site dimension is approximately 16 feet by 20 feet The air monitoring station will be ready to operate once electrical power is provided to the station equipment by Public Service Company of Colorado (PSC) PSC will need to connect an electrical line from a nearby power pole

The USFWS has recommended (during a site visit on October 17, 1994) that the power source connection operations be performed by PSC after dark when the eagles have left the area for the Eldorado Canyon night roost or during the early morning hours before the eagles return to the nesting area from the roost EG&G is attempting to schedule this work during the week ending October 21, 1994

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PARTIAL

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If the PSC work can be accomplished as proposed, there will be no effect on the bald eagles. Even if the work is started before light and the eagles return while the work is ongoing, the minimal effect is only that they might not remain near the ongoing work. Our finding is that this project completion phase will have no effect on the bald eagle pair.

The USFWS will likely recommend that the 100th Avenue station air sampling equipment not be turned on until the eagles have departed from the nesting area at the end of the winter nesting period. However, based on the demonstration results of the 86th Avenue/Kipling Street air sampling motor (discussed below), operation of the 100th Avenue monitoring station while the eagles are in residence may be justifiable.

#### 86th Avenue/Kipling Street - Air Monitoring Station

This air monitoring station is located near the southwest corner of the intersection of 86th Avenue and Kipling Street. Construction of this station was completed on October 14, 1994. This station is essentially the same as the 100th Avenue site, with the exception of a single-phase blower motor assembly in place of a three-phase motor. The dimension of this monitoring station is approximately 16 feet by 20 feet. Like the 100th Avenue station, PSC will need to connect the electrical power source for the air sampling equipment to become operational.

The USFWS has indicated that this station is not likely to impact the eagles, but would like to witness the initial start-up of the air sampling motor to determine if the operation of similar stations will generate a noise level that may be detrimental to the eagles.

There will be no impact from PSC's installation of power at the site. Unless the sampler is extraordinarily loud, operation will also have no effect on the Bald eagles. Our finding is that project completion and operation of this station will have no effect on the Bald eagle pair.

#### 88th Avenue - Air Monitoring Station

The 88th Avenue air monitoring station is planned to be installed east of 88th Avenue near the southwest shoreline of Standley Reservoir (see attached figure). This monitoring station will consist of the same components and dimension as the 86th Avenue/Kipling Street station site. Construction activities at this site have been delayed as a result of the site development approval process conducted by the Jefferson County Planning Commission. The site approval was granted by the County on October 7, 1994. Construction operations were originally planned to begin at the 88th Avenue site during the week ending October 14, however, due to the early arrival of the Bald eagles it was not possible to meet this schedule.

Due to its location relative to the nesting area, the USFWS recommended during an informal meeting held on October 13, 1994 not installing the proposed air monitoring station at the east end of 88th Avenue near Standley lake at this time, since the construction activities and/or operation may adversely impact the pair of nesting eagles. However, EG&G recommends that the construction activities be proposed. In the event the station installation is deferred, it will be the result of formal USFWS direction.

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Meteorological Monitoring Station - East of the Rocky Flats Site

The meteorological monitoring station is planned to be installed approximately 1,300 feet south of Great Western Reservoir (see attached figure). The site will consist of a 10-meter meteorological tower supported with guy wires on a four-foot by four-foot precast concrete pad foundation. The station will be surrounded by six-foot chain link fencing. Construction activities at this site have been delayed as a result of the site development approval process conducted by the Jefferson County Planning Commission. The site approval was granted by the County agency on October 7, 1994. Construction operations were originally planned to begin during the week ending October 14, however, due to the early arrival of the Bald eagles it was not possible to meet this schedule.

The location of the meteorological monitoring station is approximately one mile from both eagle nest structures. The topography at the station location is such that the site is not within line-of-sight of either structure or the eagle "loafing" tree. Due to the distance and visual barrier, our finding is no effect on the Bald eagle pair. The USFWS indicated during an October 17, 1994 site visit that installation of the meteorological station is not likely to impact the eagles and may begin at any time.

The USFWS summary/proposal letter should include a monitoring station location map and indicate that the USFWS will be invited (along with the Colorado Division of Wildlife) to attend a demonstration of the air samplers located at the 100th Avenue and 86th Avenue/Kipling Street sites. This demonstration should be scheduled to take place after dark when the eagles have left the area and gone to their night roost.

Please call me at extension 8551 if you have any questions or require additional information.

*Tracey H Spence*

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Operable Unit 3  
Environmental Restoration Program Division  
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc

THS tjr