



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

The Honorable Katherine Hammack
Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Installations, Energy and Environment)
Department of the Army
110 Army Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310-0110

Dear Ms. Hammack:

Thank you for presenting Army's concerns with respect to the Longhorn Army Ammunition Plant cleanup and the groundwater cleanup policy generally. We understand that the Army and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have come to agreement on the remedy for the contamination of the aquifer under the Longhorn site (Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer) which includes in situ bioremediation followed by monitored natural attenuation. We also understand that the cleanup goals for perchlorate at the public health advisory levels are projected to be achieved in advance of the MCL-driven cleanup goals for trichloroethylene (TCE) at the site due to the nature of those two constituents and expect that the draft Record of Decision can be modified accordingly. Based on these developments, OMB is not revisiting the Administrator's determination.

Following our inquiry, we find that the agencies need to have further discussions regarding the implementation of the Federal groundwater cleanup policy to resolve miscommunications that led to Army's concerns. We are encouraged by the ongoing communications between the agencies on this issue and will be convening a meeting at OMB in the next couple of months to ensure that agencies understand how the policy will be implemented and enforced.

In addition, please send us a legislative proposal for the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act that will authorize the Army to pay the \$1.1 million stipulated penalties assessed under the Longhorn Federal Facility Agreement.

We will be in touch to set up a date for the meeting.

Sincerely,

Ali Zaidi
Associate Director
for Natural Resource Programs

Jonathan Lachman
Associate Director
for National Security Programs

cc: Rachel Jacobson, Deputy General Counsel (EE&I), DOD
Avi Garbow, General Counsel, EPA
Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management, EPA
Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, EPA