



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
North Cascades National Park
Lake Chelan National Recreation Area
Ross Lake National Recreation Area
810 State Route 20
Sedro-Woolley, Washington 98284-9394

IN REPLY REFER TO:
4.B.1

August 9, 2017

Seattle City Light
ATTN: Tom Meyer
700 5th Avenue, Suite 3200
P.O. Box 34023
Seattle, WA 98124-4023

RE: CERCLA Time-Critical Removal Action at the Ladder Creek Settling Tank, North Cascades National Park Service Complex

Dear Mr. Meyer:

The attached Action Memorandum (AM) documents the National Park Service's (NPS) basis for and approval of a time-critical removal action (TCRA) for the Ladder Creek Settling Tank Site (Site) located within Ross Lake National Recreation Area, Washington, in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended, (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.*, and its implementing regulations the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 C.F.R. Part 300. NPS has been delegated the President's CERCLA section 104 response authority and is the lead agency at the Site.

As outlined in the AM, all on-site project activities must attain "applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements" (ARARs) under federal and state environmental laws and facility siting laws that NPS determines to be practicable considering the exigencies of the situation (CERCLA Section 121(d); NCP Section 300.415(j)). While the AM includes the list of identified federal ARARs, by this letter, NPS is providing additional information on specific ARAR requirements for the TCRA, along with factors "to be considered" during TCRA implementation. These requirements and factors include the following:

1. While the NPS acknowledges the need to remove approximately eight (8) trees to enable helicopter access for the transport of soil and debris off Site, existing vegetation shall be preserved to the maximum extent possible during TCRA implementation (36 CFR § 2.1(a)).
2. To reduce the chance that harmful, non-native plants or organisms will be transported from off-park locations to the Site, the contractor, prior to entering the Site, shall clean all soils, roots, seeds, and other sources of plant parts and pathogens from any equipment which has previously been operating off-Site (36 § CFR 2.1(a); *Invasive Non-Native Plant Management Environmental Assessment* (2011)).
3. A Construction Erosion and Sediment Control Plan shall be prepared and shared with the NPS for review and comment prior to implementation of the TCRA (Elly_Boerke@nps.gov and Hugh_Anthony@nps.gov). This plan will be designed and implemented and its measures monitored regularly to prevent dust or sediment, particularly exposed soils, from entering the air

7. Following the removal of contaminated soils at the completion of the TCRA, SCL will leave all area(s) authorized to be used under the terms of the AM in substantially the same condition prior to the activities authorized by the AM (Section 4.8.2.4 of the 2006 NPS Management Policies; Section 4.1.5 of the 2006 NPS Management Policies).

Within six (6) months of completing the TCRA, the NPS also would request that SCL prepare a completion report that includes the following information: 1) before and after photos and any photos during TCRA implementation that SCL determines to be informative; and 2) certification that the TCRA was completed as planned and designed, or clarification of how the project deviated from plans and why the deviation was needed. This "certification" should include copies of any additional permits obtained as necessary, quantities of material removed from site, ultimate destination of those materials, quantities of soil brought into site, number of flights needed to implement the project, report from confirmation sampling, and any other supporting documentation. This completion report can be sent directly to Elly_Boerke@nps.gov.

If any issues or concerns arise during implementation of the TCRA, or substantial deviations from the TCRA are necessary, please contact Elly Boerke, Environmental Protection Specialist (360-854-7328) before continuing work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Taylor-Goodrich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Karen F. Taylor-Goodrich
Superintendent