



20 June 2024

Mr. Steven Kroll, P.G.
Project Manager
Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.
1230 East Diehl Road
Suite 200
Naperville, Illinois 60563

Reference: Former Rare Earths Facility
800 Weyrauch Street
West Chicago, IL 60185

Dear Mr. Kroll,

West Chicago Environmental Response Trust (WCERT) is pleased to respond to your inquiry regarding remediation activities undertaken or completed at the former Rare Earths Facility (REF) since 2022. For your information, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) approved the Corrective Action Program (CAP) in 2022. Key features of the approved CAP are as follows:

- Treat near-surface and readily accessible unsaturated soil in Pond 1, Pond 2, and the SFE area. Treatment will reduce the adsorbed uranium on the soil, promoting more desirable land reuse at the REF.
- Remove existing sheet piles around various areas of the REF to promote natural attenuation of residual uranium on saturated soil, resulting in a shortened regulatory compliance timeframe compared to a no-action condition.
- Remove and treat stagnant groundwater in Pond 1, Pond 2, and the SFE areas to minimize the release and migration of elevated fluoride and uranium concentrations to downgradient groundwater.
- Use institutional controls, such as the existing City of West Chicago and DuPage County ordinances, to significantly restrict groundwater use at the site and downgradient of the REF.

Since 2022, WCERT has undertaken and implemented the following CAP components:

- Year 2022 - Removal of sheet piles from the north factory east area of the site.

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- Year 2023 – Treatment of stagnant groundwater in the Pond 1 area with an ion exchange system and design and construction of an on-site in-ground treatment cell to facilitate uranium leaching from select site soils.
- Year 2024 – Construction of the process treatment building and installation of the treatment equipment and supporting infrastructure to treat the leachate generated during the uranium leaching process.

I hope to have answered your query adequately. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Deepak L. Bhojwani
Trust Administrator / Sr. Program Manager

Email cc: Mehul Patel (City of West Chicago); Kelly Horn (IEMA)