



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
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NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

Michael D. Holland
Site Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Brookhaven Site Office
Office of Science
P.O. Box 5000
Upton, NY 11973

Re: Transmittal of Signed Explanation of Significant Differences for Operable Unit III, Area of Concern 32, Building 452 Freon-11 Source Area and Ground Water Plume, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York

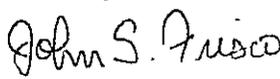
Dear Mr. Holland:

Enclosed are copies of the signed Explanation of Significant Differences for Operable Unit III (OU III), which adds treatment of a groundwater plume related to and in the vicinity of Building 452 Freon-11 Source Area and Ground Water Plume, Area of Concern 32 (AOC 32), at Brookhaven National Lab, Upton, New York. The AOC 32 plume overlaps the geographic area of the OU III plume, so the two plumes are being addressed together. Based on our review of this report, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concurs with the Explanation of Significant Differences.

The remedy for the OU III plume was selected in 2000 in a Record of Decision (ROD) for OU III. The freon-11 ground water plume was discovered in 2011 and designated as AOC 32. The changes to the remedy selected in the OU III ROD are documented in the enclosed Explanation of Significant Differences document pertaining to the changes which were necessitated by the identification and inclusion of AOC 32 in OU III. The modifications to the remedy include pumping and treating ground water contamination at a new extraction well (EW-18) with an air-stripping system as well as the continued use of the Building 96 extraction well (RTW-1) and treatment system. These changes do not fundamentally alter the remedy selected in the OU III ROD.

If you have any questions regarding the subject of this letter, please contact me or have your staff contact Jessica Mollin, EPA Project Manager, at (212) 637-3921.

Sincerely,


for Walter E. Mugdan, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

cc: B. Howe, USDOE
J. Sattler, USDOE

cc: T. Kneitel, USDOE
J. Harrington, NYSDEC
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