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Approval letter for the Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU) Annual Quality Assurance Project Plan for Butte Reduction Works (BRW) Smelter Area Mine Waste Remediation and Contaminated Groundwater Hydraulic Control Site; Phase I BRW Quality Assurance Project Plan (dated July 20, 2022)

Nikia Greene

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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8, MONTANA OFFICE**

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Ref: 8MO

September 20, 2022

Mr. Josh Bryson
Liability Manager
Atlantic Richfield Company
317 Anaconda Road
Butte, Montana 59701

Re: Approval letter for the Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU) Annual Quality Assurance Project Plan for Butte Reduction Works (BRW) Smelter Area Mine Waste Remediation and Contaminated Groundwater Hydraulic Control Site; Phase I BRW Quality Assurance Project Plan (dated July 20, 2022)

Dear Josh:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in consultation with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), is approving the *Annual Quality Assurance Project Plan for Butte Reduction Works (BRW) Smelter Area Mine Waste Remediation and Contaminated Groundwater Hydraulic Control Site; Phase I BRW QAPP, (dated July 20, 2022)*, with the following comments:

- Section 2.5.1, Step 2 – Please change “What is the direction of flow and chemical variability of groundwater within the alluvial aquifer at the BRW Site?” to “What are the concentrations of COCs in groundwater and what is the direction of flow and chemical variability of groundwater within the alluvial aquifer at the BRW Site? “
- Section 2.5.1, Step 3 – It appears that item 4 under item 3 Piezometers is mis-formatted and should not be a numbered bullet.
- If the content or the technical approach provided in the plans have changed or requires revisions, please submit the revised plan to EPA and DEQ. Changes that require a revision to a QAPP include changes made to the sampling strategy, sample quantities and analysis, and piezometer and monitoring stations. Any sampling/field activity that requires such a change to a QAPP must be approved prior to conducting the activity.
- Please attach the EPA and DEQ approval page and EPA crosswalk to the QAPP and distribute as final.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (406) 457-5019.

Sincerely,

Nikia Greene
Remedial Project Manager

Attachments: EPA crosswalk and EPA and DEQ signature page

cc: (email only)

Butte File

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