

**FINAL DECISION ON PROPOSED
CORRECTIVE MEASURES UNDER RCRA SECTION 3008(h)**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PARCEL
SOUTHEAST FEDERAL CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

I. INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) is issuing this Final Decision regarding the U.S. Department of Transportation (“DOT”) Parcel, located within the Southeast Federal Center, Washington, D.C. This Final Decision describes the Corrective Measures remedy selected by EPA to address releases of hazardous waste and/or hazardous constituents at the DOT Parcel.

In a document called the Statement of Basis (SB), EPA described and evaluated corrective measure alternatives to mitigate or eliminate releases of hazardous waste and/or hazardous constituents at the DOT Parcel. The SB was issued on February 24, 2005 and also describes EPA’s preferred Corrective Measures alternative for the cleanup of the contamination at the DOT parcel. The SB is incorporated by reference and is attached to this document.

During the 30-day public comment period, EPA received no comments on the proposed remedy or alternatives for the DOT Parcel, as presented in the SB. The public comment period began on February 24, 2005 and ended March 28, 2005. Therefore, EPA’s selected corrective measure is the proposed measure presented in the Statement of Basis, as discussed below.

II. THE SELECTED CORRECTIVE MEASURES

Based on the findings of the RCRA Facility Investigation (“RFI”) Report, the Interim Measures Implementation Report and previous studies, EPA makes the following final decisions for soil and groundwater at the DOT Parcel.

(1) For soil, EPA is requiring no further action. Areas of soil were delineated that had the following contaminants of concern, at levels above human health risk-based screening levels: polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and some petroleum hydrocarbons. From 1999 to 2004, contaminated soil was removed from former buildings and areas of concern, and was hauled off-site to appropriate disposal facilities. Contaminated soil excavated from the DOT building footprint and surrounding areas was also hauled off-site to the appropriate disposal facility. The soil that remains at the DOT Parcel meets levels that are protective of human health for the current use, such that no further action is necessary.

(2) Groundwater: A plume of groundwater contaminated with benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene (BTEX) was delineated beneath the DOT Parcel. The data indicates a possible off-site

source for this plume. Efforts to treat the groundwater include dewatering the shallow aquifer through dewatering wells and injecting an oxygen release compound into the aquifer to enhance the natural biodegradation of BTEX. Groundwater remediation will be on-going, in accordance with the EPA-approved Long-Term Monitoring Plan. The effectiveness of groundwater treatment will be evaluated by EPA annually. Public water is provided by the local utility and groundwater is not used in this area. To provide additional protection, a property deed with a notice of use restriction will prohibit the use of groundwater from the DOT Parcel for drinking water purposes (institutional control measure).

EPA's selected corrective measures for the DOT Parcel meet EPA's four threshold criteria for corrective measures (overall protection; attainment of media cleanup objectives; source control; and compliance with waste management standards), and the five remedy selection decision factors or balancing criteria (long-term reliability and effectiveness; reduction in toxicity, mobility or volume; short term effectiveness; implementability, and cost). EPA has explained how the selected corrective measures meet these criteria in Attachment 3 of the Statement of Basis, which is attached to this Final Decision.

III. DECLARATION

Based on the Administrative Record compiled for this Corrective Action, I have determined that the selected Corrective Measures as set forth in the Statement of Basis is appropriate and will be protective of human health and the environment.

7/14/05
Date

Donald S. Welsh
Donald S. Welsh
Regional Administrator
EPA Region III