



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAR 27 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Draft Office of Inspector General Report Titled "EPA Has Implemented Corrective Actions to Improve Conditions at Asheville, North Carolina Superfund Site"

**FROM:** Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming  
Regional Administrator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G Fleming".

**TO:** Elizabeth Grossman  
Acting Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the findings and recommendations contained in the OIG draft report titled "EPA Has Implemented Corrective Actions to Improve Conditions at Asheville, North Carolina Superfund Site." EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment is our number one priority at the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Site. I want to assure you that we are doing everything within our scope of authority to ensure the safety of the residents in the area of the site.

Attached you will find our comments organized by OIG recommendation, with a statement of Region 4 concurrence or non-concurrence and proposed dates of completion for the implementation of recommendations.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (404) 562-8357. Questions of a technical nature may be directed to Samantha Urquhart-Foster (404) 562-8760 or [Urquhart-Foster.Samantha@epa.gov](mailto:Urquhart-Foster.Samantha@epa.gov)

Again, thank you for this opportunity to comment on this report, and we appreciate the chance to work with you on behalf of the environment in Region 4.

Attachment

## ATTACHMENT

### **EPA Region 4 Responses to Office of Inspector General Recommendations in Draft Report Titled "EPA Has Implemented Corrective Actions to Improve Conditions at Asheville, North Carolina Superfund Site"**

The following comments are offered in response to OIG recommendations contained in the draft report titled "EPA Has Implemented Corrective Actions to Improve Conditions at Asheville, North Carolina Superfund Site."

**Recommendation 1. Revise the supplemental information sheet for site-related private well sampling to conform to the model provided in the region's October 2010 Standard Operating Procedure "Communicating Environmental Data to Property Owners and Tenants." In addition, the region should implement controls to ensure that residents are aware of the revised sheet.**

**Region 4 Response.** We concur. Currently, the supplemental sheet is being revised by our Technical Services and Support (TSS) staff. The sheet will be included in the mailing of sampling results from the March 2012 sampling event. TSS members, Nardina Turner and Glenn Adams, have been added to the distribution list due their involvement in this effort. We anticipate the revised supplemental fact sheet will be provided to residents by June 15, 2012.

**Recommendation 2. Develop an updated CIP to include a specific communication strategy for disseminating information to the public. Additionally, the CIP should include revisions to reflect the site's current NPL proposed status and recent site activities.**

**Region 4 Response.** We concur. Region 4 staff is currently revising the Community Involvement Plan and expect its completion July 30, 2012. It will include our updated communications strategy, as well as updated information on NPL status and recent site activities.

**Recommendation 3. Create an index for the site informational repository and schedule periodic reviews of the index to ensure it is maintained and up to date.**

**Region 4 Response.** We concur. Region 4 personnel visited the Information Repository in Asheville during the week of March 19, 2012, to begin making an inventory of the information in the repository. Given the uncertainty in the time required to complete this task, our proposed completion date is June 30, 2012. Thereafter, we will update the inventory annually.

**Recommendation 4. Complete the final report on the removal action pilot study and fact sheet for the community that summarizes the results of the study.**

**Region 4 Response.** We concur. CTS' contractor, MACTEC, has drafted a final report for the Ozonation Pilot Study. Region 4 personnel are reviewing the study and are in the process of finalizing the report. EPA will draft a fact sheet summarizing the report and will make the fact sheet and report available to the public. We anticipate completing this task by May 30, 2012.