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Explanation of Significant Differences for the Lime Basins Dense Non-aqueous Phase Liquid Remediation Project *Remediation Project – Rocky Mountain Arsenal Federal Facility Site*

The U.S. Army recently completed the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the Lime Basins Dense Non-aqueous Phase Liquid Remediation Project. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires public notification for any modification to a Record of Decision (ROD), which provides detailed descriptions of the cleanup approach selected for the site. The On-Post ROD for areas within the Rocky Mountain Arsenal boundaries was signed by the U.S. Army, State of Colorado, and EPA on June 11, 1996, and is supported by Shell Oil Co. and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Lime Basins Remediation Project area is located in the central portion of the site. From 1942 to 1974, the former Lime Basins were used to treat and discharge to Basin A liquid waste and storm runoff from Army and Shell chemical manufacturing operations. Although these were common industrial and waste disposal practices of the time, they resulted in contamination of surface soils and groundwater.

The selected remedy for the Lime Basins involved containing contaminated soil and groundwater in place beneath a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-Equivalent cover. A vertical groundwater barrier wall and dewatering wells were also installed to provide effective overall containment. During field monitoring of the dewatering wells, the presence of DNAPL was discovered, which resulted in additional components being added to the remedy and changes being made to the groundwater standards for the facility that treats water extracted from the Lime Basins dewatering wells.

These changes do not alter the overall hazardous waste management remedy selected in the ROD and are supported by federal, state and local regulatory agencies.

This ESD, the administrative record, the RODs and Post-ROD documents supporting the cleanup are available at the RMA Joint Administrative Record and Document Facility, Building 129, 6550 Gateway Road, Commerce City, CO 80022; 303-289-0983; open M – F 12 – 4 p.m. or by appointment, and at the EPA Superfund Records Center, 1595 Wynkoop, Denver, CO 80202; 303-312-7287; open M – F 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Comments on this ESD are due by Dec. 9, 2011. Written questions/concerns should be directed to: Ms. Peggy Machamer, RVPRO, RMA, Building 129, 6550 Gateway Road, Commerce City, CO, 80022; 303-289-0300; Fax: 303-289-0582;

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