

From: Saliars, Gwen N - DNR
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 12:09 PM
To: Friedman, Sarah
Subject: DNR Response to EPA Optimization Report for Better Brite Superfund Site
Attachments: 20240523_99_Optimization_Rpt_Response.pdf

Sarah,

Attached is DNR's response to EPA's optimization report for Better Brite. Overall, it is not feasible for DNR to implement the recommendations due to limited funding. DNR can prepare a scope of work for the recommendations if EPA could provide a site-specific grant to conduct the work. Reach out with any questions you have. Thanks,

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Gwen Saliars

State Projects Coordinator
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
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gwen.saliars@wisconsin.gov





May 23, 2024

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Attn: Sarah Friedman, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago IL 60604-3507
Sent via electronic mail only – Sarah.Friedman@epa.gov

Subject: DNR Response to EPA Optimization Review Report for Better Brite Plating Co. Chrome and Zinc Shops Superfund Site
315 South Sixth Street & 500 Lande St Block, De Pere, WI
BRRTS # 02-05-000030 & 02-05-000031

Dear Ms. Friedman,

On January 13, 2021, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received the report titled “Optimization Review Report: Remedial Process Optimization Study” from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the above referenced site (Site). The Report detailed various options to improve the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of the remedy in place at the Site. The Report included the following recommendations:

- Install six permanent groundwater wells at the Chrome Shop;
- Install 13 temporary groundwater wells at the Zinc Shop for the purpose of additional characterization. Depending on results, install French Drains to be used for groundwater extraction or clean water injection;
- Reduce sampling frequency to once every two years and ensure all monitoring locations are sampled for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) for at least two events.

DNR has reviewed these recommendations and has the following comments:

- It is not feasible for DNR to install permanent groundwater wells at the Chrome Shop due to limited funding. DNR does not believe there is an exposure risk present at the Chrome Shop;
- It is not feasible for DNR to install temporary groundwater wells at the Zinc Shop, along with any potential French Drains, due to limited funding. DNR does not believe there is an exposure risk present at the Zinc Shop;
- VOCs were sampled at every monitoring location in 2022 and 2023. VOCs were detected above Wis. Admin. Code NR 140 groundwater quality enforcement standards only at MW-116 on the Chrome Shop. EPA has requested DNR continue to sample VOCs at each well every year.
- If EPA determine further characterization at the Zinc shop is warranted, then DNR can prepare a scope of work in consultation with EPA for a site-specific grant to conduct this work. Any decisions about modifications to the existing monitoring network or monitoring frequency can be made pending the outcome of the additional characterization. Unless additional funding is available, DNR will not proceed with any of the proposed recommendations in the report.

You may contact me with any additional questions you have at gwen.saliars@wisconsin.gov or call (920) 510-4343.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gwen Saliars". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gwen Saliars
State Projects Coordinator
Remediation and Redevelopment Program