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From: Meredith Brown <racer@lanl.gov>
Subject: Green Alert: Remediation Evaluation Savings

Title: GREEN - **Remediation Evaluation Leads to Significant Savings**

Identifier: INEEL Lessons Learned #98277
Date: June 5, 1998

Lessons Learned/Success Story Statement:

A CERCLA non-time critical removal action was conducted at several CERCLA sites in and around the Central Facilities Area at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. These sites were contaminated with significant volumes of petroleum and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Typically this type of contamination is remediated through the use of thermal treatment technologies such as thermal desorption.

The project team saw the importance of performing this work quickly, cost effectively, safely, and in compliance with requirements so that the project would be viewed as a success by the customer. In order to meet these goals, the project team worked with the regulatory agencies and the customer to find innovative and cost effective ways of completing this project, including

1. Using bioremediation instead of off-site thermal desorption
2. Maintaining close communication with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Idaho Department of Health and Welfare counterparts
3. Thoroughly evaluating the remedial technologies applicable to the contaminants of concern at the site
4. Using Lessons Learned from previous projects that performed similar work
5. Using direct, professional, and complete subcontractor oversight.

Through a careful and detailed evaluation of contaminate data, the project team was able to negotiate with the agencies and meet these goals, thus completing the project ahead of schedule, safely, and under budget while meeting all requirements.

Recommended Actions:

1. Maintain close, direct, and frequent interaction with the regulatory agencies to create an effective team atmosphere.
2. Research alternative project methods in detail.
3. Review and apply appropriate Lessons Learned previously reported.

4. Communicate clearly with subcontractors and maintain direct, complete oversight.

Estimated Savings/Cost Avoidance: Life-cycle costs savings are approximately \$2,772,000.

Originator: Environmental Restoration, Lockheed Martin Technologies

Company Contact: Doug Kuhns, (208) 526-8226

Authorized Derivative Classifier: Dale Claflin, (208) 526-1199

Reviewing Official: Dale Claflin, (208) 526-1199

Functional Categories (DOE): Environmental Restoration and Waste Management, Management
Functional Categories (User-Defined): Environmental Restoration, Leadership/Management/
Planning

Key Word(s): CERCLA, removal, petroleum, hydrocarbons, desorption, bioremediation,
regulatory, agencies, lessons learned

References: N/A

Follow-up Action: Information in this report is accurate to the best of our knowledge. As a means of measuring the effectiveness of this report, please notify Terry Pierce at (208) 526-4288 (or by electronic mail at txp@inel.gov) or the INEEL Lessons Learned Program Office at (208) 526-1530 (e-mail at mae@inel.gov or lmitll@inel.gov) of any action taken as a result of this report or of any technical inaccuracies you find. Your feedback is important and appreciated.