



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98101

March 26, 2003

Reply To  
Attn Of: ECL-112

Mr. Peter Capell, Director/County Engineer  
Clark County Public Works  
PO Box 9810  
Vancouver, WA 98666-9810

Subject: Camp Bonneville BRAC Site and Early Transfer

Dear Mr. Capell:

EPA would like to thank Clark County for meeting to discuss the Camp Bonneville site. I believe EPA's experience with federal facilities and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clean-up can be very useful to Clark County as you complete acquisition of this site. It is my understanding that the discussion regarding early transfer between Mr. Sean Sheldrake and Mr. Brian Vincent of our respective staffs was fruitful and we look forward to additional opportunities to work with you.

As discussed with Mr. Vincent, the data available at Camp Bonneville is quite limited; overall the site is not characterized as to the nature and extent of contamination. For instance, there is substantial uncertainty about what soil and groundwater contamination may exist at the site, what levels and types of UXO clearance may be appropriate (e.g. digitally recorded geophysics vs. dig and sieve, 2 foot vs. 4 foot clearance depth of UXO, etc.), in addition to other issues such as the scope and duration of Institutional Controls that may be necessary. Consequently, EPA strongly recommends using very conservative assumptions in any cost estimates for an early transfer. This approach provides the best security, in the face of a lot of uncertainties, that there are adequate funds to clean up Camp Bonneville to your reuse goals.

While the County is likely even more concerned than EPA about having adequate funding to achieve cleanup, EPA can uniquely assist the County in analyzing transfer impacts. Involvement by nationally recognized experts in our office with UXO investigation and cleanup processes on a national basis with the Department of Defense and the Corps of Engineers provides us with a critical set of knowledge and perspective on this issue. It is my hope that you will avail yourself of this local resource.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns at (206) 553-6694; please also feel free to call Sean Sheldrake of my staff, EPA Project Manager for Camp Bonneville at (206) 553-1220.

Sincerely,

David Croxton, Manager  
Site Cleanup and Brownfields Unit

cc: Barry Rogowski, Ecology      *via email*  
Eric Waehling, Army            “ ”