



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

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February 10, 2022

Wally Moon
Section Chief, Spill Prevention, Assessment and Removal
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 6th Ave, ECL 116
Seattle, WA 98101

**RE: Request for Assessment and Removal Assistance
Offsite contamination from J H Baxter & Co., Eugene, Oregon
Oregon DEQ Environmental Cleanup Site Information #0055**

Dear Wally:

I am following up from our recent discussions regarding contamination in a neighborhood in West Eugene from the J H Baxter & Co. facility, to request CERCLA removal assistance from US EPA.

Oregon DEQ designated the J H Baxter & Co. site as an Industrial Orphan Site, please see the enclosed Orphan Declaration Memo. This designation will provide funding to address the cleanup of dioxin-contaminated soil at three residential properties that ODEQ, in collaboration with Oregon Health Authority has designated as needing cleanup as soon as possible.

Additional sampling is necessary to delineate the extent of offsite contamination from the J H Baxter & Co. facility. Sampling results may show the need for further cleanup of residential properties. ODEQ has reprioritized the Industrial Orphan Site work planned for 2022 and has identified sufficient funding to pay for the cleanup work on the three residential properties. However, ODEQ's Industrial Orphan Site Account does not currently have sufficient funding for the additional offsite sampling and cleanup of other residential properties. Therefore, ODEQ is requesting US EPA's assistance to perform this work.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or if you need any additional information, please contact me at 541-687-7331 or by email at michael.kucinski@deq.oregon.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Kucinski, Manager
Western Region Cleanup and Emergency Response

Encl: Orphan Declaration Memo

Cc: ECSI File #0055