Part B 14-1

## **SIEMENS**

October 15, 2007

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Arlene Kabei
Associate Director
Waste Management Division
US Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Landowner Signature and Certification of Permit Application

Siemens Water Technologies Corp. ("Siemens")

EPA ID# AZD982441263

Dear Ms. Kabei:

We are in receipt of your letter to us dated September 26, 2007 informing us that the hazardous waste permit application submitted to your office by Siemens is administratively complete and that EPA regulations require that both the landowner and facility owner sign the hazardous waste permit application.

Your letter indicates that EPA previously provided the Colorado River Indian Tribes with "tribal owner certification language" that has been approved by the EPA Office of General Counsel and that any changes to this language will require the concurrence of that office. Your letter also asks that we respond within thirty days of receipt with a report detailing the steps that Siemens has taken to obtain the signature and certification of the Colorado River Indian Tribes ("CRIT") on the permit application, and a schedule of the steps Siemens will take to obtain the requested signature. You also indicate that EPA is available to consult on this issue. This letter is intended to constitute our response to these requests.

Following receipt of your letter, Siemens met with the Attorney General of CRIT to discuss the process for obtaining the signature and certification of CRIT on the permit application. Our meeting was very cordial and assisted greatly in our understanding of the unique position of CRIT and the importance of structuring the signature process to address CRIT's needs. We appreciate that we must recognize the differences between the simpler review of an application by a mere land owner or landlord, and the somewhat more complex process that exists in this situation, where the application is reviewed by a Tribal Council and a sovereign government on behalf of its constituents.

We believe that it will be important to involve all three parties (CRIT, EPA and Siemens) in a discussion of the process to be followed and we therefore accept EPA's

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offer to consult on this topic. We would be available at any time that is convenient to EPA to discuss the appropriate process by telephone or in person.

For purposes of responding to your request to set forth a schedule, we propose the following:

- 1. By November 30, 2007, representatives of CRIT, EPA and Siemens participate in a conference call to discuss and reach agreement on the procedure and timeline for obtaining the necessary signature and certification. The discussion would include comments on this proposed schedule, and the appropriateness of the use of the certification language in 40 CFR 270.11(d), the alternative language offered by EPA, or other language which may be requested by CRIT.
- 2. By a date selected by EPA, complete EPA review of the risk assessment submitted by Siemens in July, 2007, and provision of EPA's conclusions to CRIT. We understand that CRIT, as a governmental entity, will want to review EPA's conclusions as to the sufficiency of the risk assessment as part of this process.
- 3. If CRIT wishes to revise the certification language, by a date selected by EPA and CRIT in consultation, the two parties would agree on revised language.
- 4. Following the completion of Items 1, 2 and 3 above, CRIT, upon approval, would deliver a certified signature to Siemens and/or EPA.

We look forward to continuing a dialogue on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Monte McCue

Director of Plant Operations

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cc: Eric Shepard, Esq., CRIT Attorney General Mimi Newton, Esq., EPA Stephen Richmond, Esq., Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.