

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

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In the Matter of:

United States Department of the Army,

Docket No. CERCLA-08-2020-0001

Respondent.

EIGHTH ORDER STAYING PROCEEDING

On July 14, 2021, I issued an Order on Motions for Accelerated Decision that granted in part and denied in part Complainant's Motion for Partial Accelerated Decision on Liability and that denied Respondent's Motion for Accelerated Decision. The remaining issues related to assessment of an appropriate penalty were set to be scheduled for hearing.

Thereafter, the parties reached a settlement in principle, and I have stayed this proceeding while they work to amend the consent decree that governs cleanup of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal to permit Respondent to pay the Agency's costs. *See* Order Staying Proceeding (Aug. 18, 2021); Second Order Staying Proceeding (May 31, 2022); Third Order Staying Proceeding (Dec. 5, 2022); Fourth Order Staying Proceeding (July 10, 2023); Fifth Order Staying Proceeding (Nov. 30, 2023); Sixth Order Staying Proceeding (Feb. 1, 2024); Seventh Order Staying Proceeding (May 1, 2024).

On August 1, 2024, a day before the most recent stay expired, the parties filed a Joint Status Report Regarding Settlement and Motion to Extend the Stay of the Proceedings ("Motion"). In the Motion, the parties report that they continue to wait for the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado to approve their amended consent decree. Upon the district court's entry of the amended consent decree, EPA intends to withdraw its Complaint in this matter. The parties request the stay of this proceeding be extended until November 1, 2024. Mot. at 1.

Among other powers and duties, I am authorized to "issue all necessary orders" and to "take all measures necessary for the maintenance of order and for the efficient, fair and impartial adjudication of issues arising" in this proceeding. 40 C.F.R. § 22.4(c)(2), (10). Here, I find it appropriate to extend the stay of this proceeding while the parties await the district court's action on the amended consent decree.

Accordingly, the parties' Motion is <u>GRANTED</u>, and this proceeding is stayed until **November 1, 2024**. The parties shall file a joint status report on that date if the case has not yet settled.

SO ORDERED.

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Christine Donelian Coughlin Administrative Law Judge

Dated: August 6, 2024 Washington, D.C. In the Matter of *United States Department of the Army*, Respondent. Docket No. CERCLA-08-2020-0001

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing **Eighth Order Staying Proceeding**, dated August 6, 2024, and issued by Administrative Law Judge Christine Donelian Coughlin, was sent this day to the following parties in the manner indicated below.

Bannell

Matt Barnwell Attorney Advisor

Copy by OALJ E-Filing System to:

Mary Angeles, Headquarters Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Administrative Law Judges Ronald Reagan Building, Room M1200 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004

Copies by Electronic Mail to:

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Andrew J. Corimski Litigation Attorney, Environmental Law Division U.S. Army Legal Services Agency 9275 Gunston Road Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5546 Email: andrew.j.corimski.civ@army.mil For Respondent

Dated: August 6, 2024 Washington, D.C.