



Robin Bullock

Director, Environmental Science and NRD

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February 9, 2012

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Debora McClain
Acting DOI DWH NRDAR Case Manager
Fish and Wildlife Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30345

Re: Advance Funding Request for Quality Assurance/Quality Control

Dear Ms. McClain:

I write in response to your correspondence dated November 18, 2011, requesting \$100,000 in advance funding to support U.S. Fish & Wildlife's (USFWS's) Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) effort.

BP agrees that review of NRDA data is a worthwhile endeavor that will help to encourage data quality and, ultimately, ensure that BP and the Trustees can agree on common data sets. However, the proposed work plan enclosed with your letter lacks sufficient detail to enable us to evaluate its scope or understand fully the associated deliverables. For instance, we would like to reach agreement on:

- What data sets will be part of the QA/QC process;
- The common elements of QA/QC across data sets (e.g., ensuring that all data points are associated with a date, time, and location);
- Any elements of QA/QC that are specific to particular data sets;
- Whether the anticipated deliverables will include quality-checked databases compiling each of the NRDA data sets;
- Where these data sets and/or databases will be housed;
- The approximate staffing resources that will be brought to bear on the project; and
- The approximate timeline for completion of each phase of the project.

In addition, and importantly, we would like to reach agreement on how the QA/QC effort will be integrated into the Data Summary Report stipulation process that the Trustee Council and BP have negotiated. Finally, we would like confirmation that the goal of the effort will be to ensure completeness and accuracy of data, rather than to re-evaluate the data (e.g., as in the proposed Pelagic Oiled Bird Photo Evaluation).

Your November 18 letter states that per BP's correspondence of July 28, 2011, "BP agreed to fund this cooperative effort upon receipt of a scope of work and budget." However, in the correspondence you reference, BP indicated that funding for cooperative efforts was approved, "but work plans for each of these efforts or resource groups is needed to confirm

funding, schedule, and concurrence on scope of work.” To that end, we welcome the opportunity to discuss a path forward to enable support of the QA/QC as a cooperative effort. I hope you and/or your colleagues at DOI will contact me at your earliest convenience, and I look forward to developing a mutually agreeable approach.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robin Bullock in blue ink.

Robin Bullock
Director, Environmental Science and NRD
BP Gulf Coast Restoration Organization

Cc via email: Administrative Record
Cynthia Dohner (DOI)
Greg Masson (DOI, Deepwater Horizon NRDAR)
Troy Baker (NOAA)
Robert Haddad (NOAA)
Dr. Nick Tew (Geological Survey of Alabama)
N. Gunter Guy (Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources)
Lee Edmiston (Florida Department of Environmental Quality)
Garret Graves (Louisiana Coastal Protection and Resource Authority)
Roland Guidry (Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office)
Peggy Hatch (Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality)
Robert Barham (Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries)
Bob Harper (Louisiana Department of Natural Resources)
Trudy D. Fisher (Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality)
Don Pitts (on behalf of Texas Trustees)
Craig R. O'Connor (NOAA)
M.E. Rolle (NOAA)
Stephanie Willis (NOAA)
Harriet M. Deal (DOI)
John Carlucci (DOI)
Will Gunter (AL DCNR)
Bennett Bearden (GSA)
R. Cooper Shattuck (AL)
Stephanie Morris (LOSCO)
Drue Banta (LA CP&R)
Lisa Ouzts (MS DEQ)
Larry Morgan (FDEP)
Christa McLintock (on behalf of Texas Trustees)
Brian Israel (Arnold & Porter, LLP)
Jean Martin (BP Legal)
Chris Herlugson (BP)
Larry Malnor (BP)