From:	Jennifer Woronets
To:	Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA; Chip Humphrey/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
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Subject:	FW: Upriver Data Set Revision and Revised Sediment Background Results
Date:	06/25/2010 03:24 PM
Attachments:	2010-06-18_DRAFT_Background_Sed_Tables_RIupdates_Summary.pdf

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Eric, Chip,

Please see below and attached revised sediment background results from Laura Jones.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Jen Woronets ☺
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From: Laura Jones [mailto:ljones@integral-corp.com]
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 11:21 AM
To: Jennifer Woronets
Cc: Sandy Browning; Christine Hawley
Subject: Upriver Data Set Memo

Jen, please forward to EPA. Thanks. Laura

As noted in a separate e-mail transmitted to EPA today, the Portland Harbor Existing Data Database has been updated to correct errors in the EPA's upriver data set (Survey Code WLFLH07). The mistakes were largely related to the omission of validator data qualifiers primarily for SVOCs. The revisions have been used to recalculate sediment background values for seven chemicals previously reported in the Draft RI Report. These chemicals are:

Benzo(a)anthracene
Benzo(a)pyrene
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate
Chrysene
CPAH BaP Eq
Hexachlorobenzene

The attached tables present the revised sediment background statistical results and compares them to the original values. Table 1 presents a summary of the 95th percentile UPL, and Table 2 presents a detailed comparison of summary stats, UPLs, and central tendency statistics. Briefly, the changes in estimated background concentrations were generally small, with the exception of a large shift downward in estimates for hexachlorobenzene. Hexachlorobenzene was analyzed using two different methods (SVOCs and Pesticides/PCBs) and the method detection limits varied greatly between these two methods (e.g., 22 µg/kg versus 0.44 µg/kg, respectively). Because the "U" qualifier had been erroneously omitted for hexachlorobenzene in this upriver dataset, these higher detection limits were used in the background calculations. With the correct detection qualifiers in place, the high non-detect values were excluded as high-biasing non-detects, per the background calculation protocols.

In addition to background calculations presented in Section 7, these upriver data were used in two places in the Draft RI:

1. Section 5.6 – (Upriver N&E) – This section includes discussion, maps, and summary statistics of PAHs in the upriver reach. These will be replaced during revision of the RI in response to agency comments.
2. Section 10 (CSM) – There is one sentence in Section 10 that notes upriver PAH values: "However, for comparison, summary statistics compiled for the upriver, background reach (RM 15.3–28.4) show a surface sediment concentration range for total PAHs of 0.91 to 1,510 µg/kg with a mean of 107 µg/kg (Table 5.6-1)." This sentence will be revised to report the corrected estimate during revision of the RI in response to agency comments.

Please don't hesitate to contact Laura Jones or Christine Hawley for more information.

Laura and Christine

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