



Date: April 24, 2006

J. Chris Pfahl  
Site Manager  
ASARCO LLC  
PO Box 440  
Wallace, ID 83873

Dear Mr. Pfahl:

Thank you for the productive conference call on April 19, 2006. The purpose of this letter is to provide guidance, as requested in the letter written on Asarco's behalf by MFG, Inc and dated April 20, 2006.

- *MFG Request: Methodological approach expected for the human health and ecological quantitative risk assessments.*  
Forest Service (FS) Answer: See the Kromona Mine risk assessment work plan for methodology.
- *MFG Request: Level of detail required for a quantitative risk assessment.*  
FS Answer: See the Kromona Mine risk assessment work plan and final report for expected level of detail.
- *MFG Request: Expected approach for developing sampling distributions for sample sizes of 3 or less.*  
FS Answer: For small sample sizes (i.e. 3 or less), the maximum value shall be used as the exposure point concentration and the mean value shall be used for background. For sample sizes greater than 3, if the 95% UCL results in a value greater than the maximum observed, then default to the maximum.
- *MFG Request: Incorporation of SI data into the risk assessment (how to handle single sample data for locations other than those sampled in the EE/CA).*  
FS Answer: Data across a single medium should be grouped (e.g. soil, surface water, sediment).
- *MFG Request: Assumptions to use for the assessment of risk upon the catastrophic failure of the waste rock pile.*  
FS Answer: Please propose an approach. This should tie in with the stability analysis of the waste rock and tailings piles.
- *MFG Request: Specific threatened and endangered species to use in the risk assessment.*  
FS Answer: Please assess the impacts to bull trout.
- *MFG Request: Specific contaminants of potential interest (COPIs).*



FS Answer: In addition to As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Pb, Mn, Ni and Zn identified in the draft risk assessment, aluminum, cobalt, silver and vanadium should also be included as COPIs.

Please submit a revised risk assessment by May 24, 2006. If anything requires further clarification, please call me at 360-891-5168.

Sincerely,

*/S/ CHERYL WOODALL*

Cheryl Woodall  
On-Scene Coordinator

cc: James Alexander-OGC  
Dick Sawaya – Forest Service  
Bob Fujimoto – Forest Service  
Rick Roeder – Washington Department of Ecology  
Tom Mullen – MFG, Inc.