UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Greg Haet
Environmental Project Manager
Office of Environment, Health & Safety
University of California, Berkeley
University Hall 3rd Floor #1150
Berkeley, California 94720

Re: USEPA Conditional Approval of PCB Cleanup Plan for University of California, Berkeley Richmond Field Station B112 Transformer at 1301 South 46th Street in Richmond, California, CAD983669268

Dear Greg Haet:

Thank you for working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 ("USEPA") to address the disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCBs") found in soil near the former pole-mounted transformer in the Central Meadow, which is near the northeast corner of Building 112 at the University of California, Berkeley ("UC Berkeley") Richmond Field Station ("RFS") located at 1301 South 46th Street in Richmond, California (the "Site"). The transformer was also known as the B112 transformer. USEPA has received and reviewed UC Berkeley's *Risk-based Disposal Approval Application* (the "Application") dated April 21, 2021, which outlines UC Berkeley's plan for excavation and disposal of soils containing PCBs at the Site as well as post-remediation verification sampling.

The Application describes excavation and subsequent disposal of soils consistent with Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA") standards. The RFS currently has non-residential land use consisting of an academic teaching and research facility, library facility, and several non-university commercial tenants. The 2014 Berkeley Global Campus Long Range Development Plan anticipates continued similar land use. Additionally, a planned deed restriction will prohibit residential use. The site-specific risk-based cleanup level of 1 ppm total PCBs is protective of both ecological receptors in nearby Stege Marsh which is impacted by stormwater flow, and of human receptors at the Site given the current and anticipated future non-residential land use.

There are no records of releases of PCBs at the Site, but it is likely that the PCB contamination resulted either from transformer leaks or spills during maintenance. The maximum concentration of PCBs found at the Site was 35 ppm. It is estimated that 3.63 cubic yards of soil will need to be removed for off-site disposal to meet the cleanup level of 1 ppm. Confirmation sampling from excavation bottoms and sidewalls will ensure the cleanup level has been reached. Incremental sampling methodology will be used for confirmation sampling.

In addition to the soil removal, any sediment within existing storm drains affected by the B112 transformer area will be removed and sediment filters will be installed at storm drain inlets. During the rainy season, straw wattles will be staked around the inlets to reduce inflow of sediment. Sediment filters will be monitored quarterly, and once enough sediment has accumulated for PCB analysis, a sample will be collected to determine if the area is a continuing source of PCBs.

USEPA is approving UC Berkeley's Application with conditions pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 761.61(c) (i.e., risk-based disposal standards of TSCA). USEPA believes implementation of the approval will pose no unreasonable

risk of injury to health or the environment. UC Berkeley shall implement the Application as modified by the conditions listed below.

USEPA Conditions of Approval and Additional Comments:

1. **Disposal of PCBs:** UC Berkeley shall dispose of all PCB waste that it generates during the PCB cleanup in accordance with the TSCA PCB regulations and other applicable federal, state, and local regulations. In determining the disposal method for the waste, UC Berkeley must comply with the anti-dilution requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 761.1(b). All bulk PCB remediation waste (i.e., soil) must be disposed of in accordance with the requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 761.61(a)(5). UC Berkeley must select appropriate disposal facilities based on the in-situ PCB concentrations of the waste.

2. **PCB Cleanup Waste Disposal:** Cleanup waste (e.g., personal protective equipment, rags, gloves, booties) shall be disposed of in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.61(a)(5)(v). Disposal of all waste shall be in accordance with all federal, state, and local regulations.

3. **Equipment Decontamination:** UC Berkeley shall decontaminate non-disposable sampling tools and equipment, as well as movable equipment used during cleanup and/or additional sampling in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.79(c)(2). Decontamination residues must be disposed of at their original concentrations in accordance with the requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 761.79(g). Recordkeeping of the decontamination events must be maintained in accordance with the requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 761.79(f)(2). These procedures must be implemented in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment consistent with the requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 761.79(e).

4. **PCB Cleanup Report:** UC Berkeley shall submit a PCB cleanup report to USEPA, to include all relevant data and justification demonstrating that the work completed is consistent with this approval. UC Berkeley must address at a minimum all the reporting requirements set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 761.61(a)(9) and 40 C.F.R. § 761.125(c)(5). UC Berkeley shall also include figures, surveys, or GPS coordinates depicting the location and results for all site characterization samples and verification samples.

5. **Procedures to Submit Reports, Documentation, and Correspondence to USEPA:** The cleanup party should follow the below procedures to submit reports and documentation required in this approval to USEPA and to send correspondence to USEPA related to this approval.
    a. The title of the report or the subject line on documentation and correspondence (inclusive of emails) shall include the PCB cleanup site identification number ("PCB SITE ID") assigned by USEPA and the PCB site name ("PCB Site"). Specific to USEPA's approval of the cleanup party's initial application: the PCB SITE ID is CAD983669268, the PCB Site is UC Berkeley Richmond Field Station B112 Transformer, and the USEPA project manager is Sara Ziff (ziff.sara@epa.gov).
    b. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies the submitted information, then such information may be made available to the public by USEPA without further notice to you [15 U.S.C. 2613; 82 FR 6522 (January 19, 2017); 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(a)].
    c. The cleanup party must contact USEPA about submission procedures, if the cleanup party intends to submit information to USEPA with an assertion of business confidentiality.
    d. Except as otherwise specified in these instructions, all documentation (e.g., reports), correspondence, and other written communications shall be submitted to USEPA electronically via email to the USEPA project manager (ziff.sara@epa.gov) with a courtesy electronic copy via email to R9LandSubmit@EPA.gov. Please include the PCB SITE ID (i.e., CAD983669268) and PCB Site name (i.e., UC Berkeley Richmond Field Station B112 Transformer) in the email's subject line.

6. **Future Proposed Modifications to Cleanup Plan:** UC Berkeley shall request any changes to the approved cleanup plan via email to USEPA, and USEPA will provide any response to the request via email.

This approval does not relieve UC Berkeley from complying with all other applicable federal, state, and local regulations and permits. Departure from the conditions of the approval without prior written permission from USEPA may result in the commencement of proceedings to revoke this approval and/or an enforcement action. Nothing in this approval bars USEPA from imposing penalties for violations of this approval or for violations of other applicable TSCA PCB requirements or for activities not covered under this approval.

This approval only applies to the Site. USEPA reserves the right to require additional characterization and/or cleanup of PCBs at the Site if new information during additional site characterization, cleanup verification, and/or during future post-cleanup activities shows that PCBs remain at the Site above the approved PCB cleanup level or change of land use (e.g., redevelopment or post-redevelopment) at the property. In addition, USEPA may require cleanup of areas immediately adjacent to the Site if those areas are found to be impacted by PCBs from the Site. If additional information demonstrates that EPA cannot sustain the no unreasonable risk determination, EPA will modify or revoke this approval. In case of conflict between the Application and applicable requirements in 40 CFR Part 761, the applicable requirements in 40 CFR Part 761 take precedent.

USEPA appreciates the opportunity to assist UC Berkeley with this PCB cleanup. If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Sara Ziff at (415) 972-3536 or ziff.sara@epa.gov. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Scott, Jeff
Digitally signed by Scott, Jeff
Date: 2021.05.11 11:15:20 -07'00'

Jeff Scott, Director
Land, Chemicals, and Redevelopment Division

cc (electronic): Alicia Bihler, UC Berkeley Office of Environment, Health & Safety
Lynn Nakashima, DTSC