



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

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December 18, 2018

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Mr. George Jamison
Vice Chair
City-County Board of Health for Lincoln County
418 Mineral Ave
Libby, MT 59923

Re: BOH letter to EPA dated November 15, 2018

Dear Mr. Jamison:

The Agencies appreciate your response to our letter dated October 16, 2018. We, the Agencies;

- Wish to continue working with the City-County Board of Health for Lincoln County (BOH).
- Believe that the most effective way to ensure future compliance with the proposed Controlled Groundwater Area (CGA) is to have the support of a local entity.
- Have worked together with the BOH for over a year and a half and would like to build upon those efforts and,
- Agree that holding a public meeting in spring of 2019 is a logical next step and we will work with the BOH and other stakeholders to schedule a meeting.

In response to the BOH's request that International Paper (IP) representatives participate in meaningful dialogue about the groundwater resource, the Agencies have encouraged both parties to engage with each other on this matter. However, the Agencies would like to emphasize that the CGA is a necessary component of the Superfund remedy to ensure protection of human health for residents of Lincoln County, now and in the future. Addressing this issue in a timely manner would ensure that a significant component of the groundwater remedy is put in place.

Again, the Agencies appreciate your response to our letter and request to petition the proposed CGA. We will reach out in the near future to schedule a public meeting regarding the proposed CGA. If you have any questions or wish to discuss these issues further, please do not hesitate to contact me at schmidt.andrew@epa.gov or (303) 312-6283.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A.S. Schmidt".

Andrew Schmidt, P.G.
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Remedial Program

cc: Henry Elsen, EPA
Stan Christensen, EPA
Lisa DeWitt, MDEQ
Jessica Wilkerson, MDEQ
Kathy Olsen, DNRC
Richard Angell, counsel for IP
Steve Ginski, IP