

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



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November 27, 2013

Karl Brooks
Environmental Protection Agency
Regional Administrator, Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

Dear Regional Administrator Brooks,

The State of Missouri has received a Phase I Status Report detailing the preliminary results of the Gamma Cone Penetrometer Testing that EPA has required in preparation for the installation of an isolation barrier at the Westlake site in Bridgeton, Missouri. After reviewing the report, the State is concerned about some of the raw data summaries, which suggest the presence of higher-than-background-level radioactivity at depth outside the area where previous maps represented the radioactive material was located.

In light of this new preliminary data, it is critically important that EPA direct the completion of a comprehensive survey of the Westlake site to determine with certainty the boundary lines encompassing the radioactive material. The implementation of engineering controls, including the isolation barrier intended to separate the radioactive material in Westlake from the smoldering event in the Bridgeton landfill, depends on an accurate picture of the radiological profile of the site. The State calls upon EPA to commence this comprehensive survey without delay.

In addition, due to the importance of this data and the high level of public interest in the site, the State strongly encourages EPA to make the information publicly available as soon as EPA validates the data for accuracy.

We look forward to hearing from you and continuing to work with you in addressing the difficult challenges ahead.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Koster".

CHRIS KOSTER
Attorney General.