



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Bob Martinez Center
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Rick Scott
Governor

Carlos Lopez-Cantera
Lt. Governor

Jonathan P. Steverson
Secretary

April 22, 2016

Via Electronic Mail

David.Alden@TersusEnv.com

David Alden, P.E.
Tersus Environmental, LLC
1116 Colonial Club Road
Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587

Re: **Nutribind™**

Dear Mr. Alden:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Waste Management (Division) hereby accepts Nutribind™ for in-situ bioremediation of petroleum hydrocarbons and other suitable contaminants in groundwater and soil.

Nutribind™ is a powdered reagent that contains finely ground activated carbon, sulfate, yeast fermentation product, nutrients, and additives both proprietary and nonproprietary. When mixed with water and injected as slurry, it binds with contaminants in the soil and groundwater to immobilize them, and then provides a large surface area for colonization by the cleanup site's indigenous microorganisms for sulfate enhanced bioremediation.

The considerations of this letter should be taken into account for the use of Nutribind™, and a site-specific Remedial Action Plan should be submitted for review and approval by the Department. A voucher for the confidential disclosure of the proprietary ingredients in Nutribind™ is provided in Enclosure 1. Regulatory information is provided in Enclosure 2.

While the Department of Environmental Protection does not provide endorsement of specific or brand name remediation products or processes, it does recognize the need to determine their acceptability from an environmental standpoint with respect to applicable rules and regulations, and the interests of public health and safety. Vendors, upon receipt of an acceptance, must market their product or process on its own merits regarding performance, cost, and safety in comparison to competing alternatives in the marketplace. This acceptance letter shall not be construed as either an approval of the product or a certification of its performance.

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It is not a requirement that a remediation product or process obtain an acceptance from the Department in order to be proposed for use in a site-specific Remedial Action Plan, but the plan must contain information to show that it meets all applicable and appropriate rules and regulations. For Nutribind™, a copy of this acceptance letter containing regulatory compliance advice should be included in the appendix of each site-specific Remedial Action Plan that proposes its use.

The Department reserves the right to revoke its acceptance of a product or process if it has been falsely represented. Additionally, Department acceptance of any product or process does not imply it has been deemed applicable for all cleanup situations, or that it is preferred over other treatment or cleanup techniques in any particular case. A site-specific evaluation of applicability and cost-effectiveness must be considered for any product or process, whether conventional or innovative, and adequate site-specific design details must be provided in a Remedial Action Plan. If you have any questions, contact Elena Compton at (850) 245-8911, through Mail Station 4580 at the letterhead address, or by e-mail at Elena.Compton@dep.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,



Elena Compton, M.S., P.E.
Professional Engineer II
PRP Team 2, FDEP
850-245-8911

Enclosures: (1) Voucher for Disclosure of Proprietary Additives in Nutribind™
(2) Regulatory Information

ec: John Wright – FDEP, Tallahassee – John.Wright@dep.state.fl.us



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Tersus Environmental, LLC
1116 Colonial Club Road
Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587

Re: Voucher for Disclosure of Proprietary Additives in Nutribind™

Dear Mr. Alden:

The Division of Waste Management (Division) hereby acknowledges confidential disclosures dated April 5, 2016 and April 15, 2016 by Tersus Environmental, LLC, and April 20, 2016 by its associate Ziltek Pty Ltd regarding the proprietary additives in Nutribind™. Having reviewed the disclosures, the Division hereby vouches for the information.

Without this voucher for the disclosures, and the advice provided by the Division in Enclosure 2 based on its review of all the ingredients, users of Nutribind™ would not know how to comply with the requirements of Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) for a temporary Zone of Discharge.

For underground injection control purposes, aquifer remediation plans proposing the use of Nutribind™ must indicate the volume and complete chemical composition of the fluid to be injected. Since the identities of some ingredients are proprietary, it will suffice to indicate just the overall volume and concentration of Nutribind™ to be injected, and then provide a footnote indicating that one-time confidential disclosures dated April 5, 2016, April 15, 2016, and April 20, 2016 are already on file with the Division.

Please direct questions regarding this voucher to Elena Compton at 850-245-8911.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elena G. Compton".

Elena Compton, M.S., P.E.
Professional Engineer II
PRP Team 2, FDEP
850-245-8911

REGULATORY INFORMATION

- a. Groundwater cleanup standards: The onus shall be on users of Nutribind™ to ensure that all applicable groundwater standards will be met at the time of project completion for the contaminants of concern being remediated, and any by-products produced as a result of chemical or biochemical reactions induced or assisted by Nutribind™. The following chapters of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) are cited: Chapter 62-550, F.A.C., for primary and secondary water quality standards; Chapter 62-520, F.A.C., for groundwater classes and standards; Chapter 62-522, F.A.C., for groundwater permitting and monitoring requirements; Chapter 62-528, F.A.C., for underground injection control, particularly Part V, for Class V, Group 4 aquifer remediation projects; Chapters 62-780, 62-782, and 62-785 F.A.C., for cleanup criteria; and Chapter 62-777, F.A.C., for cleanup target levels.
- b. Injection well permit: Per Rule 62-528.630(2)(c), F.A.C., the issuance of an enforceable, site-specific Remedial Action Plan Approval Order by the Department for injection-type aquifer remediation constitutes the granting of a Class V injection well construction/clearance permit.
- c. Underground Injection Control (UIC): Remedial Action Plans proposing injection-type aquifer remediation shall include the information required by Rules 62-528.630(2)(c)1 through 6, F.A.C., for the purposes of the UIC program. Reviewers of those plans, upon issuance of a Department-enforceable Remedial Action Plan Approval Order must transmit this information to the UIC program in Tallahassee by submitting a completed copy of the "UIC Notification". The notification is in the form of a memorandum currently located on the Internet at www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/pcp/pages/innovative.htm.
- d. General information about temporary Zones of Discharge (ZOD): For groundwater remediation, the composition of a fluid to be injected must meet the primary and secondary drinking water standards set forth in Chapter 62-550, F.A.C., and the minimum groundwater criteria of Chapter 62-520, F.A.C. [and Chapter 62-777], pursuant to UIC Rule 62-528.600(2)(d), F.A.C. Aquifer remediation products that do not meet these requirements must seek relief from water quality criteria by one of two mechanisms as follows. Permission for a temporary ZOD may be obtained via Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C. If permission for a ZOD cannot be obtained by rule, then it will be necessary to seek a variance from Department rules in accordance with Section 120.542, Florida Statutes.

Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., allows for a temporary ZOD for closed-loop re-injection systems, for the prime constituents of the reagents used to remediate site contaminants, and for groundwater secondary standards. In order to obtain permission for a temporary ZOD by rule, a site-specific Remedial Action Plan must indicate: (a) the chemical ingredients of concern in the fluid to be injected that will be present in excess of groundwater standards; (b) the size of the ZOD that is needed; (c) the amount of time that the ZOD will be needed; and (d) a plan for monitoring the injected chemical ingredients of concern. The size of the temporary ZOD will usually be the injection well radius of influence when the treatment system is a single injection point. For a multiple point system, the ZOD can usually be expressed and illustrated as the total area covered by all the injection points, located side-by-side with overlapping radii of influence.

- e. Site-specific Remedial Action Plans shall indicate the volume and concentration of the aqueous Nutribind™ slurry/solution that will be injected. Tersus Environmental LLC

indicates that a typical concentration of Nutribind™ in the fluid to be injected is 25% by weight or less, and that the maximum is approximately 28%, depending on site conditions.

f. Specific ZOD information for Nutribind™:

In order to comply with UIC ZOD requirements:

1. Obtain permission for a temporary injection ZOD by way of Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., for aluminum, ammonia, copper, iron, pH, and sulfate.
2. For the ZOD parameters aluminum, ammonia, copper, iron, pH, and sulfate, reviewers of Remedial Action Plans, when filling out the UIC Notification memorandum, should check the box labeled as follows:

“☒ ZOD permission by rule 62-520.310(8)(c) , F.A.C., for reagent chemical species and/or parameter(s) in the fluid to be injected (or re-injected) that exceed secondary groundwater standards. ...”.

g. Required UIC ZOD compliance monitoring for Nutribind™: In order to comply with Rule 62-520.310(8)(c) , F.A.C., the receiving groundwater must be monitored for aluminum, ammonia, copper, iron, pH, and sulfate. Quarterly monitoring should suffice in most cases. Upon expiration of the time period granted for the ZOD by way of Rule 62-520.310(8)(c) , F.A.C., the concentrations of these six (6) parameters must meet their respective groundwater standards or their natural-occurring background values at the specific cleanup site, whichever is less stringent. Ammonia is classified as a minimum groundwater criterion contaminant with a current standard of 2.8 milligrams per liter (mg/L) maximum. The others are secondary groundwater contaminants with current standards as follows: aluminum, 0.2 mg/L; copper, 1 mg/L; iron, 0.3 mg/L; pH, range 6.5 to 8.5; and sulfate, 250 mg/L.

h. Operating parameters: Remedial Action Plans should identify the Nutribind™ operating parameters to be monitored in the groundwater during the period of active bioremediation. This type of monitoring is not for UIC compliance but rather the measurement of parameters that serve as indicators of biological activity; for example: dissolved oxygen; pH; temperature, oxidation-reduction potential; total organic carbon; phosphorus; electron acceptors such as sulfate and nitrate; etc.

i. Utilization of wells: If a remediation site happens to have an abundance of monitoring wells, then the Division of Waste Management has no objection to the use of some wells for the injection of Nutribind™ slurry if the wells are suitable for the purpose. However, no “designated” monitoring well, dedicated to the tracking of remediation progress (by sampling) shall be used to apply Nutribind™. This will avoid a premature conclusion that the entire site meets cleanup goals. By making sure that designated tracking wells are not used for treatment, there will be more assurance that the treatment process has permeated the entire site and that it did not remain localized to the area immediately surrounding each injection well.

j. Three categories of groundwater monitoring:

1. Active remediation monitoring for a cleanup site’s contaminants of concern: During the period of active remediation, groundwater shall be monitored in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 62-780.700, F.A.C.

2. Post Active Remediation Monitoring for a cleanup site's contaminants of concern: At least one (1) year of quarterly post remediation groundwater monitoring for the contaminants of concern shall be conducted at a minimum of two (2) wells: one located in the area of highest contamination, the other at the downgradient edge of the contamination plume, pursuant to Section 62-780.750, F.A.C.
 3. Monitoring of the UIC zone of discharge: For Nutribind™, in order to comply with Rule 62-520.310(8)(c), F.A.C., monitor the ZOD for aluminum, ammonia, copper, iron, pH, and sulfate as discussed in paragraph *g* above.
- k. Injection operations:
1. Avoidance of migration: For injection-type, in-situ aquifer remediation projects, injection of Nutribind™ shall be performed in such a way, and at such a rate and volume that no undesirable migration of either the Nutribind™ or the contaminants of concern in the aquifer results, pursuant to Rule 62-528.630(3), F.A.C.
 2. Underground Injection Control operating permit: Although an operating permit is not required for aquifer remediation wells pursuant to Rule 62-528.640(1)(b), and 62-528.640(1)(c), F.A.C., since no movement of the contamination plume is expected to accompany the treatment process, the Department requests that the information items listed in Rule 62-528.640(1)(b), F.A.C., be considered and included in Remedial Action Plan proposals as a matter of good and thorough design practice. Briefly summarized, they are: quality of water in the aquifer; quality of the injected fluid; existing and potential uses of the affected aquifer; and well construction details.
- l. Abandonment of wells: Upon issuance of a Site Rehabilitation Completion Order or a declaration of "No Further Action", injection wells shall be abandoned pursuant to Section 62-528.645, F.A.C. The Underground Injection Control Section of the Department shall be notified so that the injection wells can be removed from the inventory-tracking list.
- m. Open-pit application: There is no objection to the introduction of Nutribind™ to an open excavation pit in which the groundwater has been exposed. Open-pit application is not injection, and it is not necessary to notify the Underground Injection Control Section, but this should not be construed as carte blanche to introduce to the pit any substance at any concentration with no regard to potential toxicological effects. The Division of Waste Management therefore recommends that the groundwater in the area of the pit be monitored for the same zone of discharge parameters that would have been monitored (if any) had the application actually been an injection.
- n. Limitation: Nutribind™ is not intended for bulk removal of free product. Remove the bulk of the free product by other means prior to the use of Nutribind™.
- o. Additional information: U.S. Patent 8,940,958 and information currently located at www.tersusenv.com/products/enhanced-anaerobic-bioremediation/nutribind.