From: Axelrad, Don
To: gilmourc@si.edu
Subject: FW: Remediation of methylmercury (MeHg) with polysulfides in Florida waters
Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 1:15:30 PM
Attachments: Memo re remediating MeHg with polysulfides v2 2009_03_25.doc

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Cindy,

Can you afford to spend 10 minutes getting Mr. Rowzee on the right path - which may be "forget about MeHg remediation via polysulfides"?

I hate to see him waste his and NOAA's time…..

I will not give him your contact details without your approval.

Don

From: Axelrad, Don
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 1:08 PM
To: Joyner, Daryll
Cc: Frydenborg, Russel; Miller, Denise
Subject: RE: Remediation of methylmercury (MeHg) with polysulfides in Florida waters

Daryll,

See draft 2 attached.

Mr. Rowzee is a nice guy and I hate to rain on his parade, but he really ought to talk to Cindy Gilmour (new bullet point 15) to get a reality check on his ideas re methylmercury remediation, and perhaps come up with new ideas.

My money is still on our mercury TMDLs…..

Don

From: Joyner, Daryll
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 12:56 PM
To: Axelrad, Don
Cc: Frydenborg, Russel; Miller, Denise
Subject: RE: Remediation of methylmercury (MeHg) with polysulfides in Florida waters

Don,
This looks good and no edits are needed for this memo to me. I'm not sure whether Mimi wants a formal response to Mr. Rowzee, but I'm going to forward your e-mail to Jerry with the following synopsis:

Jerry,

Don contacted Mr. Rowzee and reviewed some documents he mentioned, and Don concluded that the feasibility of methylmercury remediation of coastal waters or lakes via application of polysulfides is sufficiently questionable that we should not submit a letter to the NOAA Restoration Program grants office supporting the project. Some of the reasons for this conclusion include:

1) Application of these polysulfides to aerated surface waters would oxidize them and prevent polysulfides from reaching sediments where mercury methylation occurs.

2) Depending on water and sediment porewater chemistry, sulfur addition could either promote or repress mercury methylation.

3) Even if such a method of remediation was effective, the frequency of treatment (polysulfide) application is unknown, and effective polysulfide application rate is unknown.

4) Sulfur addition to freshwaters could be detrimental

5) The effect of polysulfides on aquatic and marine life is unknown.

Let us know if you would like us to prepare a formal response to Mr. Rowzee.

Daryll

From: Axelrad, Don
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 7:53 PM
To: Joyner, Daryll
Cc: Frydenborg, Russel; Miller, Denise
Subject: Remediation of methylmercury (MeHg) with polysulfides in Florida waters

Daryll, Russ, Denise,

See attached; edits please.

Don

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