



Advance Questions from LCCAR Members and Stakeholders Leadership Council for a Cleaner Anacostia River June 8, 2023

ADVANCE QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Question 1: During the March 2022 LCCAR meeting, DOEE provided June 2022 as the goal date for a Baseline and Performance Monitoring Work Plan. More recently, DOEE stated that a new workplan/schedule would be available this spring. When can we expect an updated schedule for the clean up? Has DOEE considered adding a public dashboard with target dates to its website? (Dev Murali, DOEE)

- **Response:** DOEE will issue the Baseline and Performance Monitoring Work Plan later this month (June). This release is in accordance with the timeframe indicated in the March 2022 LCCAR Meeting.

• **Question 1, Part 2: When can we expect an updated schedule for the clean-up?**

Response: The ARSP schedule includes all tasks necessary to complete the interim cleanup actions covered in the IROD. The schedule assumes that each phase of the project will be conducted within a similar timeframe (i.e., inclusive of the three OUs). A high-level summary of the schedule is provided on slide 13 and follows:

- Pre-design Investigation: July 2022 – January 2023 (Complete)
- 30% Remedial Design Stakeholders and public review and public meeting: Fall/winter 2023
- Permitting for construction: Summer 2024 – Fall 2025
- Public meeting and final design: Fall 2024
- RA Contractor Procurement: Fall 2024 – Fall 2025
- Remedy Construction: Fall 2025– Fall/winter 2026

• **Question 1, Part 3: Has DOEE considered adding a public dashboard with target dates to its website?**

Response: Currently, DOEE communicates project status through quarterly LCCAR meetings and ARSP [website https://restoretheanacostiariver.com/arsp-home](https://restoretheanacostiariver.com/arsp-home). DOEE may consider a public dashboard moving forward.

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Question 2: Are there any updates on the guidance for beneficial reuse? What issues were raised in public comments? How have those comments been addressed? (Dev Murali, DOEE)

Response: A draft was issued for public review in March 2022 and comments from stakeholders on that draft were received by DOEE. DOEE prepared a response to comments matrix combining stakeholder comments on the guidance and posted the matrix to the ARSP Document Library <https://restoretheanacostiariver.com/library>. DOEE is currently in discussions with NPS on the appropriate path forward to resolve various NPS comments, related primarily to sediment screening levels, secondary line of evidence requirements and beneficial use of dredged sediment through upland and aquatic placement.

- **Question 2, Part 2: What issues were raised in public comments?**

Response: DOEE received comments from EPA Region 3, National Park Service, various NGOs (DC Appleseed and Anacostia Watershed Society), and private consultants (Environmental Consultants and Contractors, Inc. [ECC]). Some of the issues raised in the comments received included requests of additional information on BU design requirements, wetland creation considerations, definition of category screening threshold concentrations, and applicability of site-specific risk assessments. Some concerns were expressed regarding containment in severe storms, beneficial use of dredged sediment for agricultural purposes, and liability issues associated with aquatic placement. The comments also requested more efficient and frequent communication with the public and an overall improvement in document clarity. The comments and response to comments are posted on the DOEE web site for review. <https://restoretheanacostiariver.com/library>

- **Question 2, Part 3: How have those comments been addressed?**

Response: DOEE prepared a response to comments matrix combining stakeholder comments on the guidance and posted the matrix to the ARSP Document Library <https://restoretheanacostiariver.com/library>. DOEE is currently addressing comments as proposed in the matrix to the BU Guidance document. As noted in the response to Part 1 of this question, DOEE is currently in discussions with the NPS to resolve various comments that NPS made regarding aquatic placement. Since the outcome of these discussions may have broader impact on DOEE's responses to other stakeholder comments, finalization of DOEE's responses will happen once the NPS comments are resolved.

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Question 3: What is the current timeline for the Remedial Design phase for Kenilworth Park? (Donna Davies, NPS/Ray Montero, DOEE)

Response: The District (DOEE) is preparing planning documents for the pre-design investigations that will collect the data used for the remedial design. The actual schedule for completion of activities related to next steps of the CERCLA response action for KPN are currently being negotiated between NPS and the District. This schedule will be released to the public when it is finalized.

Question 4: What is the status of the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS) for Poplar Point? (Donna Davies/Ray Montero)

Response: DOEE has submitted and NPS has approved plans to address minor data gaps identified after Phase 2 RI activities. Field work is tentatively scheduled to begin June 12, 2023. Currently, the RI report is scheduled to be completed in early 2024 and the FS report is scheduled to be completed in late 2024.

Question 5: What steps have the District taken thus far to coordinate and secure dredging for navigation, equity, and resilience interact alongside remedial dredging? (Gretchen Mikeska, DOEE/Richard Jackson, DOEE)

Response: In September 2022, DOEE held a Navigation Summit at DC Water's headquarters (HQO) to discuss how to achieve a consistently boatable Anacostia River for now and future generations and heighten awareness of navigational issues in the Anacostia River. Participants from DOEE, DC Water, USACE, Leadership Council for a Cleaner Anacostia River (LCCAR) members, Anacostia River boat clubs, and environmental stakeholders shared their knowledge and concerns regarding navigation on the Anacostia River. Almost 300 persons attended the summit either in person or virtually.

DOEE is currently seeking District and/or Federal funds to conduct an Assessment of Navigational Dredging for the Anacostia River. The assessment will prioritize dredging areas, identify alternative dredging volumes, costs, and placement areas for the dredgings, that will result in a Navigational Dredging Plan for the River. Once the dredging plan is complete, the District will be in the position to seek funds for implementing selective dredging in the Anacostia River. DOEE continues to seek federal funding opportunities for navigational dredging, including assessing funds from IRA (Inflation Reduction Act), BIL (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), and WRDA (Water Resources Development Act).

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Question 6: *Is DOEE still committed to dredging deeper channels in Kingman Lake (as presented in the IROD) with the exception of areas with heavy vegetation? (Dev Murali, DOEE)*

Response: DOEE is evaluating various channel alignments and designs in Kingman Lake including the conceptual designs presented in the IROD. In these evaluations, DOEE is ensuring that channel placement is nondisruptive to any existing high-functioning wetlands in Kingman Lake and is closely coordinating with DOEE Natural Resources Administration with the planning and design for additional wetland construction for the Kingman Lake Restoration Project.

Question 7: *Based on discussion at the March 2023 LCCAR meeting, we understood the NRDAR trustees would release a Damages Assessment Process (DAP) document shortly. Can you provide an updated timeline for the DAP? Is there anything else we should look for in regards to NRDA? (Christina Kravitz, NPS)*

Response: NRDAR Trustees expect the DAP to be released to the public sometime in July with a 30-day public comment period. An email will be sent to the LCCAR group with information on where the document is located. Additionally, each lead Trustee website (DOEE, NPS, and NOAA) will either have a link to the document or a downloadable version of the document on their websites for the NRDAR case, along with instructions on how to provide public comment.

QUESTIONS?