

DRAFT RSET ISSUE PAPER #31 – New Surface Material (NSM) Exposed by Dredging

POLICY COMMITTEE, S. Stirling, Chair
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QUESTION/ISSUE: New Surface Material (NSM) Exposed by Dredging, Section 6.6.5. What is the policy towards NSM evaluation when in-water biological testing is inappropriate for the material being removed?

DISCUSSION: Present DMEF requires testing of NSM if “sediment immediately above the NSM has concentrations of chemicals-of-concern exceeding screening levels and fails the applicable biological tests...” The DMEF tests are for unconfined in-water disposal. What is to be done if the material is not slated for in-water disposal and therefore no applicable biological tests are conducted on the material to be removed? These biological tests are also discussed in the last sentence of second paragraph and bullet one.

REFERENCES: DMEF 1998, Upland Testing manual, Section 6.6.5.

RECOMMENDATION: Edit text to include appropriate evaluation of the exposed surface or provide a management option such as capping.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE CHANGES: Change in paragraph 2 “levels and fails” to “levels and/or fails”; delete last sentence in the second paragraph; add to last sentence in bullet 1 “...of the exposed new surface material.”; also review second bullet language.

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