

Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Submits Feasibility Study to EPA

Study Ranks Remediation Options at Former Plant

COLUMBIA FALLS, MT – June 16, 2021 – Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (“CFAC”) today announced it has submitted a feasibility study to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) in connection with the former Anaconda Aluminum Plant federal Superfund site (the “Site”).

Since 2015, CFAC has worked under EPA supervision, with Montana Department of Environmental Quality (“MDEQ”) input, to assess conditions at the Site and review options to protect public health and the environment. CFAC hired an experienced, independent environmental engineering firm to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study to investigate the Site for environmental issues and develop and evaluate options to address them. The remedial investigation, which was finalized and approved by EPA in March 2020, included a comprehensive investigation of soils, river sediments, and ground and surface water. The remedial investigation informed the development and evaluation of remediation options in the feasibility study. As required by EPA, the feasibility study examined multiple options to achieve legally required groundwater quality standards and used a well-established analytical method to rank the options.

The submission of this document completes the process of investigating the site and evaluating remedial options that CFAC committed to in the Administrative Agreement and Order on Consent that it entered into with EPA in 2015.

“We are pleased to have completed this important step in the Superfund process, and we look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with EPA, MDEQ and other stakeholders as this process moves forward,” said John Stroiazzo, Project Manager at CFAC.

The evaluation work in the remedial investigation and feasibility study, once approved, will help inform EPA’s selection of a set of preferred alternatives to remediate the Site, which EPA will publish in its Preliminary Plan. Once the Preliminary Plan is issued, EPA will open a public comment period to solicit input and, at the conclusion of the public comment period, will select its sitewide preferred option, which will be issued in a Record of Decision.

CFAC will continue to work with EPA, MDEQ and other stakeholders as this process moves forward.

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Contacts

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