SOLDER

May 24, 2022

Maureen Hatfield MC-127 VCP-CA Section, Team 1, Remediation Division Texas Commission on Environmental Quality P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

RE: NOTIFICATION OF TREE PLANTING ACTIVITIES UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY - HOUSTON WOOD PRESERVING WORKS HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT/ COMPLIANCE PLAN NO. 50343; ISWR NO. 31547

Dear Ms. Hatfield:

Golder Associates USA Inc (Golder), a member of WSP, on behalf of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), is providing notification of planned tree planting activities at the UPRR Houston Wood Preserving Works site (the Site). UPRR plans to plant 95 hybrid poplar trees along the north portion of the Site outside of the Soil Cap area. The approximate location of the trees is shown on Figure 1. The tree planting is part of overall property management and to improve the aesthetics of the property. Hybrid poplar trees may also provide remedial benefits for the shallow groundwater. The trees will be planted within boreholes spaced approximately 12 feet apart and extend down to the top of the A-Transmissive Zone (A-TZ) (approximately 15 feet below ground surface (bgs)) to promote root growth downwards and establishment of the trees. The boreholes will be drilled by an environmental driller using solid-stem augers. The holes will be backfilled with clean fill up to 8 feet bgs, 12-footlong poplar trees will be placed in the boreholes, and the remaining annulus of the borehole will be filled with a clean fill, peat moss mixture. Poplar trees will be inoculated with endophytic bacteria prior to planting to reduce the possibility of elevated stress on the trees from impacted soil and groundwater. A drip irrigation system will be installed with a temporary 1,000-gallon container of potable water and operated until the poplar trees become established (expected to take 2 to 3 years).

Soil cuttings generated from the boreholes will be placed in roll-off boxes for temporary storage on-Site. UPRR's licensed waste contractor will manage the waste and coordinate final pick-up and delivery to an authorized waste disposal facility. Soil generated within the Site will be classified as listed hazardous waste (F034/K001).

A dust control and air monitoring plan will be implemented during the drilling and planting activities. The same plan used for the North By-Pass Project provided in a letter to the TCEQ titled *Notification of Planned Construction Activities dated April 23, 2021* will be followed for these activities.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to give Golder or Kevin Peterburs of UPRR at 414-267-4164 a call.

Sincerely,

Golder Associates Inc.

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Michelle Hermiston Senior Project Hydrogeologist

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Eric Matzner Director, Hydrogeologist

CC: Kevin Peterburs, UPRR

Attachments: Figure 1 – Tree Location Map

