enforcement actions. EPA determined LDEQ has a policy of public noticing settlement agreements and soliciting public comment. LDEQ assured EPA it will maintain this policy and included a restatement of its position in the revised PD.

EPA notes that even as LDEQ becomes authorized for additional RCRA provisions, the Agency will continue to be actively involved in Louisiana's hazardous waste program. EPA retains oversight authority of the delegated program and complete Federal authority over many regulations under HSWA. In addition, EPA retains Federal enforcement authority under RCRA sections 3008, 7003, and 7013.

For almost ten years, EPA and LDEQ have worked closely to address environmental issues in Louisiana. During that time, LDEQ has demonstrated its desire and ability to respond to citizen complaints and concerns about the environment.

Further, prior to EPA authorizing Louisiana for the HSWA provisions in this approval, the State demonstrated it had the capability to administer a hazardous waste program that could implement the proposed authorization, as well as effectively implement its currently authorized program. In the spirit of authorization, LDEQ and EPA will monitor and review Louisiana's hazardous waste program to ensure it remains consistent with, equivalent to, and as stringent as the Federal requirements.

EPA will continue its involvement and presence in the implementation and enforcement of LDEQ's hazardous waste program until such time in the future that the State is fully authorized for all applicable Federal laws and regulations, and continuously demonstrates the capability to implement the program to the satisfaction of EPA. Even then, EPA will retain the authority to enforce

against violators, even in an authorized State, under RCRA sections 3008, 7003, and 7013.

EPA has reevaluated its decision to approve this final authorization for the State's hazardous waste program and all documentation, including the authorization application with revised PD, and several EPA mid-year and end-of-year evaluation reports on LDEQ. Additionally, EPA considered the LDEQ HSWA capability assessment, and the State/EPA corrective action plan to resolve any Agency concerns in it. EPA hereby affirms its decision to approve this final authorization. This authorization is effective January 23, 1995.

Dated: January 13, 1995.

Barbara J. Goetz,

Acting Regional Administrator.
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