RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AT THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE RESEARCH CENTER¹

Charles D. Shackelford²

Abstract. The Rocky Mountain Regional Hazardous Substance Research Center (HSRC) is one of five HSRCs established by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2001. Each of these HSRCs is affiliated with one to three of the 10 EPA Regions and focuses on basic and applied research including technology transfer with respect to a primary regional issue related to protection of human health and the environment. Accordingly, the Rocky Mountain Regional HSRC is affiliated with EPA Region 8 states (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming) with the primary research focus on developing new and improve existing methods or technologies for in situ remediation of mine waste sites. The purpose of this paper is to describe the scope of the research activities at the Rocky Mountain Regional HSRC. After defining the nature and extent of the types of research activities that are conducted through the Rocky Mountain Regional HSRC, a brief overview of the six research projects currently being funded is presented. This presentation is followed by a description of the short-term (≤ 5 yrs) direction of the Rocky Mountain Regional HSRC, followed by a description of the future role of the Rocky Mountain Regional HSRC with respect remediation of mine waste sites.

Additional Key Words: acid mine drainage, EPA, metals, mine waste remediation, treatment, remediation technologies

¹Paper was presented at the 2003 National Meeting of the American Society of Mining and Reclamation and The 9th Billings Land Reclamation Symposium, Billings MT, June 3-6, 2003. Published by ASMR, 3134 Montavesta Rd., Lexington, KY 40502.

²Charles D. Shackelford is Professor of Civil Engineering and Director of the Rocky Mountain Regional Hazardous Substance Research Center, Department of Civil Engineering, Colorado State University, Fort Collins CO 80523-1372.