



August 14, 2006

Louise Bardy
Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

**RE: Weekly Progress Report for Week Ending August 11, 2006
BNSF Skykomish Levee Zone Interim Action for Cleanup**

Dear Louise:

This weekly progress report is submitted on behalf of BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) per Agreed Order No. DE 3279 for the week ending August 11, 2006 and provides:

- A list of activities that have taken place during the week
- Detailed description of any deviations from the Order and project plans and
- Description of all deviations from the schedule and any planned deviations in the upcoming week, and plans for recovering lost time and maintaining compliance with the schedule

Activities

- Excavation/Backfilling, Soil Handling and Testing, Bird Control Measures and Oil Recovery:
 - Completed over-excavation work in cell 1 in area of oil droplets. Confirmation soil samples confirmed that river bottom satisfies cleanup levels. Ecology and RETEC field personnel believe source of oil droplets to be slough material from the excavation. Ecology approved backfilling of cell 1 except in the area of an active seep at the southeast corner near the bridge. Additional excavation was performed in this area, and seep conditions are being observed to determine whether or not seep volume is decreasing over time. Backfilling of cell 1 was initiated.
 - Excavation of cell 2 is nearly complete. The aquabarrier between cells 1 and 2 was removed and excavation was performed in this area.
 - NRC recovered oil from the excavation surface 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 - The light plant was operated from dusk to dawn.

- Screening of excavated materials continued. Excavated material and fines coming off of the screening operation continue to be transported off-site to Rabanco via rail, with daily change out of trains. A train derailment at the Rabanco facility may affect delivery of cars to Skykomish (Skykomish cars were not involved in the derailment).
- Test America continued on-site analysis of sediment/soil confirmation samples.
- RETEC posted soil/sediment sample results on the Quickplace website.
- A rock crusher was mobilized to the site.
- Backfill material was imported to the site.
- Excavation of trenches for pre-characterization of soils above the VDL north of the school.
- Riprap was moved from the railyard and placed in cell 1.
- Monitoring
 - Daily particulate monitoring was performed by RETEC, and Argus Pacific conducted twice weekly air monitoring for arsenic and lead, and weekly air monitoring for petroleum distillates, diesel exhaust and PAHs in accordance with the final Air and Noise Monitoring Plan. Air monitoring reports prepared by Argus Pacific for weeks 1- 4 of construction were submitted to Ecology.
 - Surface water quality sampling continued in accordance with the Water Quality Monitoring Plan. Water quality exceedances were reported to Ecology via email on August 9, 10 and 11. A slight sheen was observed on the north side of the cofferdam on Tuesday evening, August 9, and on Thursday, August 10. On Friday, August 11, a turbidity exceedance at the compliance point was reported.
 - NDPES discharge monitoring continued.
 - An archaeologist (NWAA) was on site Tuesday, August 8 to monitor excavation above VDL north of the school.
 - Installation of survey control points on the school's foundation as well as inspection and documentation of conditions of the school by a structural engineer and videographer are being scheduled prior to deep excavation adjacent to the school to address DAHP and King County concerns re: structural integrity of the school.
- Document Preparation and Reporting:

- Table 7-1 (Solid Waste Management Plan) of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) was revised and submitted to Ecology as an amendment to the plan.
- The DMR for July was drafted.
- Internal review of the annual groundwater monitoring report is in process.
- Ecology forwarded comments on Wilder's shoring technical memorandum to us via email.
- Shoring/recovery trench technical memorandum is currently being prepared.
- Dewatering and Water Treatment: Operation of the water treatment system continued.
- Restoration: Drawings of pre-move landscaping conditions for the relocated residences were mailed to residents for review. EnviroIssues will initiate contact with residents to schedule meetings to discuss landscape restoration.
- Meetings and Conference Calls
 - Weekly construction meeting in Skykomish between Wilder and RETEC, 10 am Tuesday, August 8
 - Weekly meeting in Skykomish with Ecology and RETEC, 11 am Tuesday, August 8
 - Conference call between Ecology and RETEC at 2 pm, Tuesday, August 8. Topics of discussion included shoring, recovery trench, and cofferdam removal.
 - Tom Bean with King County, Jim Green and Amy Klein (USACE) and Louise Bardy met on site on Wednesday, August 9.

Activities scheduled for the week of August 7 include:

- Finish backfilling cell 1; start backfilling cell 2
- Finish excavation in cell 2; start excavation in cell 3
- Remove aquabarrier between cells 2 and 3
- Continue water treatment and discharge.
- Continue to test and screen excavated material excavated using mobile lab.

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- Continue upland excavation where possible.
- Recover oil as needed
- Operate light plant from dusk until dawn
- Obtain BNSF's signature on DMR and submit to Ecology by August 15
- Routine Monitoring
 - Air and noise.
 - Surface water quality.
 - Archaeological/Cultural Resources.
 - In-water protection of fish.
 - NPDES discharge.

Deviations

There are no deviations from the Order and project plans to report.

Schedule

At this time, no deviations are anticipated from the schedule in Exhibit E of the Agreed Order.

Sincerely,

The RETEC Group, Inc.



Halah M. Voges, P.E.
Senior Program Manager

cc: Susan Lee - Ecology
Angie Thomson, Penny Mabie, Hillary Johnson - Enviroissues
Bruce Sheppard - BNSF
Chris Yates, Clint Stanovsky – Town of Skykomish
Craig Trueblood – PG&E

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Daryl Petrarca - AdaPT
David Carson – Bell & Ingram, P.S.
Desiree Gould – Skykomish School Superintendent
Gary West – Skykomish Resident
John Robinson – US Forest Service
Lorna Goebel, Michael Moore – Skykomish Environmental Coalition
Tom Bean – King County
Mike Byers, Sarah Albano, Steve Howard, Joyce Sheldon, Denell Warren, File BN050-19390 - RETEC