



January 8, 2007

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

**RE: Weekly Progress Report for Week Ending January 5, 2007  
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 January 5, 2007 and provides:

- A list of activities that have taken place during the week
- Detailed descriptions of any deviations from the Order and project plans
- Descriptions 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**

- Soil Handling:
  - Trains were received and loaded with excavated materials for off-site disposal five out of seven days; however, incomplete sets of cars were delivered 2 of the 5 days. Therefore, approximately 3.5 train loads of material were hauled out.
- Restoration:
  - Pouring of concrete curb and gutter was initiated. Snow hampered ability to pour concrete aprons and delayed completion of curb and gutter.
  - Heaters and dehumidifiers were operated in the houses 24-hours a day.
  - Electrical power is still not connected. Potelco and PSE are currently scheduled to connect power on Thursday, January 11.
  - Verizon will be scheduled to establish phone service as soon as possible.

- A walk through inspection of the Mitchell houses was conducted with the Mitchell's on January 5.
- Washington L&I inspected all houses except the Mitchell east house; the 4 houses passed the inspections.
- King County inspection and pressure testing of septic systems were performed.
- Document Preparation and Reporting:
  - Weekly progress report submitted to Ecology on January 2.
  - A contingency plan was submitted to Ecology for transporting material off-site for disposal by March 30, 2007.
  - BNSF requested an extension of the January 6 and 12 deadlines<sup>1</sup> to have "Temporarily relocated homes ready for occupancy" and to "Complete moving residents back into houses" until January 31, 2007. Due to adverse weather conditions in December 2006 and related power outages, PSE/Potelco was not able to connect power to the houses in time to meet the January 6 and 12 deadlines.
  - Continued work on revisions to site-wide Groundwater Monitoring Plan due January 15.
- Dewatering and Water Treatment:
  - No water was discharged or treated by the water treatment plan on the railyard.
- Meetings and Conference Calls
  - A DCAP discussion meeting was held on January 4 at Ecology's NWRO and was attended by Ecology, BNSF and Town representatives.

Activities scheduled for the week of January 8 include the following items:

- The remaining Washington L&I inspection of electrical systems at the Mitchell east house is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10.
- Continue loading and transporting materials off-site for disposal as trains are available.

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<sup>1</sup> Deadlines specified in Ecology's letter to BNSF dated December 21, 2006.

- Electrical hook-ups are scheduled to be installed on Thursday, January 11, but this schedule is dependent on weather conditions and PSE/Poteleco. Telephone hook-ups will be scheduled as soon as possible.
- Schedule final inspection of septic systems by King County.
- Levee retaining wall design will be prepared by early January. If the Town, RETEC and the designers determine there are too many design hurdles remaining (e.g., appearance of stairs), then wall construction can not begin soon and we will schedule additional fill to be placed so that the levee width is increased for the winter.
- Curb, gutter and concrete apron construction scheduled for completion week of January 8 (weather permitting).
- Complete Mitchell west slab and basement slab, Moore garage slab, and Mackner garage slab (weather permitting).
- Continue operating heaters and dehumidifiers in the temporarily relocated houses.
- Continue discharge monitoring required by Exhibit J to the Agreed Order. Prepare NDPES DMR and DMR for stockpile stormwater discharge for submittal to Ecology on January 15.
- Weekly construction meeting between RETEC and Wilder – January 10.
- Meeting with Ecology – January 9.
- Complete draft revisions to Groundwater Monitoring Plan due to Ecology January 15.

### **Deviations**

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

### **Schedule**

BNSF requested an extension of the January 6 and 12 deadlines to have “Temporarily relocated homes ready for occupancy” and to “Complete moving residents back into houses” until January 31, 2007. Unfortunately, due to adverse weather and related power outages PSE/Potelco was not able to install electrical connections in time to meet the specified deadlines. PSE/Potelco is currently scheduled to install electrical hook-ups on Thursday, January 11 and we hope to move residents back shortly thereafter.

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