

The RETEC Group, Inc.
1011 SW Klickitat Way
Suite 207
Seattle, WA 98134-1162



(206) 624-9349 Phone
(206) 624-2839 Fax
www.retec.com

July 24, 2006

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

**RE: Weekly Progress Report for Week Ending July 21, 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 July 21, 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

- House Moving:
 - Moving of the Teacherage and Moore house has been delayed due to the large amount of dry rot found in the Teacherage. Cribbing was installed to support the upper level of the Teacherage, and both houses were raised in preparation for moving. Moving is scheduled for July 25.
- Cofferdam installation/fish removal
 - In-river work continued with the ongoing construction of the coffer dams. The eastern and central cells were closed off with installation of the intermediate cofferdams. Bill Mavros of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) visited the site on Thursday, July 20. He agreed that the fish biologist from Grette Associates is not required to be on site conducting oversight during cofferdam installation, however he needs to be present when the cofferdam is connected to the shore. Seining of fish from the easternmost cell was performed on July 18; however, Bill Mavros determined that seining was not sufficient to remove fish from inside the cofferdam, and also required electroshocking of the eastern cell.

Because water from the eastern cell was already being pumped out, he agreed that electroshocking could be performed while pumping. Mr. Mavros also agreed that electroshocking is not necessary for the central and western cells. Seining of the central cell is scheduled for July 24. The fish counts from the eastern cell are:

July 18	(6 seine passes) 89 coho salmon 7 chinook salmon 1 sculpin
July 20	8:15 pm (electroshocker) 22 coho salmon (2 dead) 13 sculpin 1 sucker
July 21	5:30 am (electroshocker) 53 coho salmon (4 dead) 1 chinook salmon

Fish kills were reported to Ecology and DFW.

- Excavation, Soil Handling and Testing:
 - Initiated in-river excavation in eastern cell.
 - Four sets of rail cars (24 boxes) have been loaded with levee overburden materials for transport to Rabanco.
 - Test America mobilized the on-site lab.
 - RETEC posted stockpile soil data on the Quickplace website.
- 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.
 - An archaeological monitor was scheduled to be on site during levee excavation and pending upland excavation.
 - Surface water quality sampling continued in accordance with the Water Quality Monitoring Plan. Three turbidity measurement thus far have exceeded the

turbidity criterion; results are being reported daily to Ecology in accordance with the Agreed Order and Water Quality Monitoring Plan. Each exceedence was an isolated event the day it occurred and corrective measures were taken to prevent continued exceedences.

- NDPES discharge monitoring was initiated.
- Document Preparation and Reporting:
 - The Final Draft Technical Execution Plan prepared by Wilder Construction was submitted to Ecology.
 - Revisions to the Release Control Plan and Chapter 11 of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) are in preparation in response to Ecology comments.
 - Internal review of the annual groundwater monitoring report is in process.
 - Preparation of shoring and recovery trench design is in process.
 - Preparation of a work plan to pre-characterize uplands overburden soils (above the vertical delineation limit or VDL) is in process.
 - Received email from Charlie Sundberg with King County and letter from Washington DAHP re: Effects & Mitigation Technical Memorandum for historical resources.
- Dewatering and Water Treatment: The carbon units were replumbed to achieve total system flow rates near 1,000 gpm. Wilder completed installation of the treatment system outfall. Noise-reducing cabinets were installed to enclose components of the water treatment system. Discharge from the water treatment system was initiated.
- Meetings and Conference Calls
 - Weekly construction meeting in Skykomish, 10 am Tuesday, July 18
 - On-site meeting with Bill Mavros, DFW, Thursday, July 27 at 4 pm
 - RETEC, Wilder and Ecology participated in a meeting Friday, July 21 at 10 am at the Community Center to discuss schedule concerns and ideas for recovering lost time, as well as RETEC's proposed recovery trench downgradient of the school. Ecology is evaluating use of an in situ thermal technology for use beneath the school, and a recovery trench may be compatible with that. Further discussions between RETEC and CDM will take place to follow up. RETEC agreed to prepare a work plan for pre-characterizing upland vadose zone soils prior to excavation to minimize material handling as one way to recover lost time in the

schedule. Other ideas for recovering lost time included postponing road completion and levee enhancements until Spring.

Activities scheduled for the week of July 17 include:

- Dewatering and excavation in eastern cell.
- Remove fish from central cell using seine netting on July 24. Bill Mavros with DFW will be on site.
- Continue water treatment and discharge.
- Continue to test and screen material excavated from above the VDL using mobile lab.
- The Moore House and Teacherage will be moved to the staging area outside the excavation zone.
- Continue upland excavation where possible.
- Meeting in Skykomish with Bill Mavros (DFW) and Tom Bean (King County) Wednesday, July 26 to discuss scour zone rip-rap thickness requirements.
- Complete revisions to SWPPP and Release Control Plan.
- Submit a CD-ROM with an electronic copy of the Water Treatment O&M Manual to Ecology.
- Routine Monitoring
 - Air and noise.
 - Surface water quality.
 - Archaeological/Cultural Resources.
 - In-water protection of fish.
 - NPDES discharge.

Deviations

As described in previous weeks, moving of houses is behind schedule. The Teacherage and Moore house movement is now scheduled for July 25.

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Schedule

RETEC is in the process of preparing a plan to pre-characterize upland overburden soils to minimize material handling steps and recover time in the schedule. Other measures for recovering time in the schedule may be considered once the production rate of the in-river excavation has been determined. 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 - 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
Lorna Goebel, Michael Moore – Skykomish Environmental Coalition
Mike Byers, Sarah Albano, Steve Howard, Joyce Sheldon, Denell Warren, File BN050-19390