



July 7, 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 7, 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 7, 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

- Boom maintenance by Pacific Industrial Resources, Inc. was discontinued in anticipation of in-river construction activities. Booms were deployed and maintained by Wilder Environmental.
- House moving preparation is in progress.
- Internal review of the annual groundwater monitoring report is in process.
- 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. We are still awaiting delivery of two continuous noise monitoring instruments.
- Conducted excavation of levee material above ordinary high water mark (OHWM). Material was stockpiled on the railyard and sampled as a stockpile per the Sampling Analysis Plan in the Engineering Design Report (RETEC, May 2006). Subsequently, the

material was screened: clean overburden material was staged at the 'burn dump', and the remainder was stockpiled on the railyard.

- The Water Quality Monitoring Plan was revised in response to Ecology comments; the revised Monitoring Plan was sent to Ecology on July 6, 2006.
- Exclusion zone and perimeter fencing installation is complete. Silt fencing was installed in accordance with SWPPP and contractor plans and specifications.
- RETEC posted stockpile soil data on the Quickplace website that RETEC has set-up to facilitate data sharing.
- Revisions to the O&M Manual are in progress. Wilder is assembling a sequence of operations based on mapping of the system in the field.
- An emergency response drill was performed on July 6, 2006, during which a line of booms were deployed across the Skykomish River; Ecology was present at the drill.
- Ecology visited Skykomish on July 5, 2006, to inspect the water treatment system.
- Revisions to the Release Control Plan and Chapter 11 of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) are in preparation in response to Ecology comments.
- An archaeological monitor was onsite for a portion of the levee excavation and will be onsite during the initial upland excavation that will commence on July 11, 2006.
- In-river work began on July 5, with the installation of deflectors and a silt curtain. Also, Wilder started to fill the coffer dam FIBCs. A fish biologist was onsite during all in-river work.
- Surface water quality sampling commenced in accordance with the Water Quality Monitoring Plan.
- RETEC received, and forwarded to Ecology, a proposal from Wilder to replace the previously planned sheet pile wall with concrete block shoring. We are currently evaluating the design and suitability of this proposal.
- Activities scheduled for the week of July 10 include:
 - Air and noise monitoring.
 - Archaeological/Cultural Resources monitoring.

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- Mobile laboratory will be mobilized to the site, and will commence operations on July 17.
- Commence coffer dam emplacement.
- Meeting in Skykomish with Ecology on July 11, to discuss the concrete block shoring wall proposal and the Technical Execution Plan.
- The Mackner House and Mitchell rental houses will be moved to the staging area outside the excavation zone on July 11, 2006.
- Upland excavation will commence as soon as the houses have been moved.
- Submit NPDES Permit Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR).
- Complete revisions to SWPPP and Release Control Plan.

Deviations

As described in previous weeks, moving of houses is behind schedule. The Teacherage and Moore house are expected to be moved by July 18. Project plans are being modified such that characterization of relatively clean overburden will take place on the railyard rather than at the excavation site where houses are currently located; soils that satisfy the clean up level will be moved to an off-site storage area (i.e., burn dump) pending use as backfill. Also, Wilder's Technical Execution Plan will describe other methods to allow in-river work to progress on an accelerated schedule by use of intermediate cofferdams.

Schedule

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

Sincerely,

The RETEC Group, Inc.



Stephen Howard
Senior Hydrogeologist

cc: Angie Thomson, Penny Mabie - Enviroissues
Bruce Sheppard - BNSF
Chris Yates, Clint Stanovsky – Town of Skykomish

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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