



June 30, 2006

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 June 30, 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 June 30, 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 continued 5 days per week.
- Asbestos abatement of the Teacherage and Moore house was performed by RMCAT. House moving preparation is in progress.
- Internal review of the annual groundwater monitoring report is in process.
- Ecology blocks were placed around stockpile areas for containment. A lime silo and lime were delivered to the site for soil stabilization prior to shipping off site.
- 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 awaiting receipt of two continuous noise monitoring instruments.
- RETEC submitted a response to Ecology comments on the SWPPP as well as a revised SWPPP together with an NPDES Discharge Monitoring Plan and Release Control Plan in the same binder.

- RETEC submitted Wilder's draft Technical Execution Plan to Ecology concurrent with our review.
- Completed excavation of levee material above the elevation of W. River Road. Material was stockpiled on the railyard and sampled as a stockpile per the Sampling Analysis Plan in the Engineering Design Report (RETEC, May 2006).
- Additional comments were received from Ecology's Water Quality Division on the draft Water Quality Monitoring Plan (required by Exhibit H.1 of the Agreed Order). Preparation of a response to comments and document revision is in progress.
- Electrical connections for the water treatment system were installed and carbon vessels were filled with carbon.
- Wilder and the Town are reaching an agreement for use of the burn dump for storage of clean overburden that will be used as fill. Additional storage area was procured from BNSF Operations near the "Y" on the railyard and will be used to store clean riprap for reuse.
- Exclusion zone and perimeter fencing installation is 95% complete. Silt fencing was installed in accordance with SWPPP and contractor plans and specifications.
- HPA and COE permits were received.
- RETEC provided to Ecology analytical results for fill material proposed for use as riverbed backfill. Both Ecology and the Department of Fish and Wildlife approved the material for use.
- RETEC set up a website on which laboratory data can be posted for Ecology review.
- 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.
- A conference call was held 10:00 am Monday, June 26 between Ecology's TCP and WQ representatives, RETEC and Wilder to discuss compliance with the NPDES permit and Exhibit H.1 Water Quality Requirements of the Agreed Order. The weekly conference call between BNSF, Ecology, EnviroIssues and RETEC has been cancelled for the near future and has been replaced with Wilder's weekly construction meetings on site, 10 am on Tuesdays.
- We received an HPA addendum to allow withdrawal of water from the river for leak testing of the water treatment system. We also submitted a Water Rights permit application to Ecology's Water Resources group and received that emergency approval.
- We received Ecology's comments on the Release Control Plan.
- Scheduling of an archaeological monitor to be on site during levee excavation per the COE permit is in progress.

- Field activities scheduled for the week of July 3 include:
  - ▶ Air monitoring
  - ▶ Begin in-river work Wednesday July 5 with installation of silt curtain and deflectors
  - ▶ Emergency response drill with Wave Trek and Ecology Thursday, July 6
  - ▶ The Mackner and Mitchell rental houses will be moved onto 6<sup>th</sup> Street to provide more room to begin in-river work

### **Deviations**


As described last week, moving of houses is behind schedule. The Mackner and Mitchell houses are scheduled for moving on July 11. 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.



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

cc: Angie Thomson – 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 – RETEC