



October 16, 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 October 13, 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 October 13, 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:
  - Backfilling, grading and compaction activities continued.
  - Installation of the shoring/containment wall continued.
  - All applicable BMPs are being utilized to control non-point source water pollution consistent with WAC 173-201A-510(3) and RCW 90.48.080.
  - Import of structural fill continued.
  - NRC recovered oil as necessary.
  - The light plant was operated from dusk to dawn. Bird deterrent mylar remains in place.

- Trains were loaded daily with material for transport to the off-site disposal facility.
- Restoration
  - Continued installation of stormwater conveyance system (pipes and catch basins).
  - Revisions to the foundation designs for the relocated houses are in process.
  - The Verizon design for restoration of telecommunications is in process.
  - Received Potelco's design for restoration of electrical service.
  - D.B. Davis continued minor repair work on relocated houses that must be completed prior to moving houses.
  - Levee retaining wall design is in progress.
- 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 revised Air and Noise Monitoring Plan. The air and noise monitoring report for the fourteenth week of construction was submitted to Ecology.
  - In-river work as defined in the Agreed Order was completed on September 15 and in-river water quality monitoring and reporting is no longer required by Exhibit H.1. of the Order. At Ecology request, BNSF is currently monitoring for turbidity four times daily and reporting results on a weekly basis. Monitoring for pH was also conducted for two days at Ecology's request. All applicable BMPs are being utilized to control non-point source water pollution consistent with WAC 173-201A-510(3) and RCW 90.48.080.
  - NPDES discharge monitoring continued.
  - Surveying of control points on school foundation was conducted and the results indicated that no movement of the school foundation has occurred in conjunction with the nearby excavation work.
- Document Preparation and Reporting:
  - The annual groundwater monitoring report is being finalized.

- Ecology approved EDR Modification No. 3 and requested a fourth modification to address use of concrete instead of ecology blocks for shoring wall construction adjacent to the Teacherage.
- BNSF submitted the “Upland Construction, Excavation and Grading Water Quality Monitoring Plan” to Ecology to document BNSF’s monitoring of and reporting on turbidity and pH.
- DMR for September was submitted to Ecology.
- Submitted summary of BNSF’s technical concerns with Ecology’s plans for cleanup of the overall site as discussed at the September 28 meeting.
- Dewatering and Water Treatment: Water treatment plant operations continued. RETEC continued discussions with Ecology to investigate the substantive requirements for a permit to discharge industrial wastewater to ground water.
- Meetings and Conference Calls
  - Weekly construction meeting in Skykomish between Wilder and RETEC, 10 am Tuesday, October 10
  - Weekly meeting in Skykomish with Ecology and RETEC, 11 am Tuesday, October 10.

Activities scheduled for the week of October 16 include:

- Continue installation of shoring wall/liner and continue backfilling, grading and compaction. Continue using all applicable BMPs consistent with WAC 173-201A-510(3) and RCW 90.48.080 to control non-point source water pollution.
- Continue water treatment and discharge.
- Continue transporting materials off-site for disposal as trains and/or trucks are available.
- Continue storm sewer installation.
- Continue design for restoration of utilities. Finalize house foundation designs. Continue to coordinate with Town on other restoration items including levee retaining wall.
- Continue to import structural material.
- Initiate work on house foundations.

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- Recover oil as needed.
- Operate light plant from dusk until dawn as long as an open excavation containing water and oil is present on site.
- Prepare and submit EDR Modification No. 4 to document changes in shoring wall.
- Submit annual groundwater monitoring report to Ecology.
- RETEC will continue to work with Wilder and Ecology to evaluate the feasibility of treating and discharging stormwater on the railyard, rather than continued operation of the water treatment system.
- Routine Monitoring
  - Air and noise.
  - Continue in-river water quality turbidity monitoring and reporting requested by Ecology in accordance with the “Upland Construction, Excavation, and Grading Water Quality Monitoring Plan”.
  - 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

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Bill Mavros – Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
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, Sarah Albano, Steve Howard, Dan Berlin, Joyce Sheldon, Denell Warren,  
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