



October 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 October 27, 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 27, 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. Backfilling to grade has been completed.
  - Installation of the shoring/containment wall and liner was completed.
  - 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 decontaminated equipment and demobilized from the site.
  - The light plant was demobilized. Bird deterrent mylar and predator decoys were demobilized.

- Oil containment boom was removed from the river.
- Trains were loaded daily, except for Saturday, with material for transport to the off-site disposal facility. As trucks have not been available to ship material off-site, Wilder demobilized scaffolding that was used for lining containers and the dirt ramp used to load trucks was removed.
- Restoration
  - Completed installation of underground stormwater conveyance system.
  - The location of the Mitchell foundations was resolved and D. B. Davis initiated work on foundations. The Mitchell septic design is being revised to accommodate the new location of the houses.
  - BRH Surveyors marked the remaining property corners and surveyed the control points on the school foundation. The survey results indicate that the school foundation has not moved as a result of deep excavation, shoring wall construction and liner installation.
  - The Verizon design for restoration of telecommunications and joint utility trench is in process.
  - 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. Discussions were initiated with Ecology regarding phase out of air monitoring in the residential area since backfilling to grade has been completed.
  - 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 continued monitoring for turbidity four times daily and reporting results on a weekly basis. 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.
- Document Preparation and Reporting:

- EDR Modification No. 4 was submitted to Ecology. Ecology approved the modification.
- Dewatering and Water Treatment: A sump was installed in the shoring wall trench to allow pumping of groundwater in order to maintain water treatment plant operations. An informational permit application was submitted to Ecology to discharge industrial wastewater to ground water. Wilder initiated demobilization of one of the treatment trains.
- Meetings and Conference Calls
  - Weekly construction meeting in Skykomish between Wilder and RETEC, 10 am Tuesday, October 24
  - Weekly meeting in Skykomish with Ecology and RETEC, 11 am Tuesday, October 24

Activities scheduled for the week of October 30 include:

- Continue using all applicable BMPs consistent with WAC 173-201A-510(3) and RCW 90.48.080 to control non-point source water pollution. Discontinue water quality monitoring since upland compaction and backfilling work has been completed and water quality is less than 5 NTU above background.
- Continue water pumping, treatment and discharge as necessary to treat stormwater and maintain system.
- Continue transporting materials off-site for disposal as trains are available.
- Continue design for restoration of utilities. Continue to coordinate with Town on other restoration items including levee retaining wall.
- Continue construction of foundations.
- Routine Monitoring
  - Air and noise – discuss phase out plans with Ecology
  - Discontinue in-river water quality turbidity monitoring in accordance with the “Upland Construction, Excavation, and Grading Water Quality Monitoring Plan”.
  - NPDES discharge.

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## **Deviations**

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

## **Schedule**

Based on discussions with D. B. Davis, we anticipate that the temporarily relocated houses will not be ready for occupancy by December 1, 2006. Currently we anticipate a one to two week delay in this schedule due to the Mitchell request to relocate their houses and potential delays in obtaining King County approval of the revised septic system design. We will formally request an extension of the December 1, 2006 deadline specified 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  
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