



October 2, 2006

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

**RE: Weekly Progress Report for Week Ending September 29, 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 September 29, 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:
 - Uplands excavation continued.
 - Backfilling, grading and compaction activities continued. Rip-rap placement was completed except at the water treatment plant and the levee has been reconstructed to the final subgrade elevation. Top soil will be placed on the upper foot of the levee.
 - A pump test was performed in a trench box near the bridge in preparation for installation of the shoring/containment wall.
 - 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 stabilization material and structural fill continued.

- NRC recovered oil as necessary.
- The light plant was operated from dusk to dawn. Bird deterrent mylar remains in place.
- Test America continued on-site analysis of soil confirmation samples.
- RETEC posted soil sample results on the Quickplace website.
- Restoration
 - Continued installation of stormwater conveyance system (pipes and catch basins).
 - Internal review of foundation designs for the relocated houses was completed.
- 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. The Air and Noise Monitoring Report for Week 13 of construction was submitted to Ecology. The third particulate meter was installed and operated at the bridge.
 - 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. The sampling location was also changed from 300 feet downstream to the project area, also in response to Ecology 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.
 - An archaeologist from NWAA was on-site during uplands excavation. Monitoring is complete. A glass bottle cache was found on the Moore property.
 - NPDES discharge monitoring continued.
- Document Preparation and Reporting:
 - Internal review of the annual groundwater monitoring report is in process.
 - RETEC submitted EDR Modification No. 3 to Ecology for approval. The modification addresses the change in shoring and containment methods detailed in RETEC's September 19, 2006 technical memorandum.

- BNSF is currently preparing an “Upland Construction, Excavation and Grading Water Quality Monitoring Plan” to document BNSF’s monitoring of and reporting on turbidity.
- Dewatering and Water Treatment: Water treatment plant operations continued. The granular activated carbon (GAC) was backflushed. One treatment train is currently running through the bag filters.
- Meetings and Conference Calls
 - Weekly construction meeting in Skykomish between Wilder and RETEC, 10 am Tuesday, September 26
 - Weekly meeting in Skykomish with Ecology and RETEC, 11 am Tuesday, September 26.
 - Meeting between Ecology and BNSF on Thursday, Sept. 28 to discuss plans for additional remedial actions for the site.

Activities scheduled for the week of October 2 include:

- Complete uplands excavation. Begin 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 to test excavated material. Mobile lab will be decommissioned. Continue transporting materials off-site for disposal as trains and/or trucks are available.
- Continue stormsewer installation.
- Decontamination of equipment used in the excavation.
- Continue to import stabilization and structural materials.
- Recover oil as needed.
- Operate light plant from dusk until dawn.
- Routine Monitoring
 - Air and noise.

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- Continue in-river water quality turbidity monitoring and reporting requested by Ecology.
- 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
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
Tom Bean – King County
Mike Byers, Sarah Albano, Steve Howard, Dan Berlin, Joyce Sheldon, Denell Warren,
File BN050-19390 - RETEC