

Atlantic Richfield Company

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October 7, 2013

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Jere Johnson
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-9-1
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: September 2013 Monthly Report, Yerington Mine Site, Lyon County, Nevada: Administrative Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), CERCLA Docket No. 9-2007-0005; Administrative Order on Consent, CERCLA Docket No. 09-2009-0010

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Pursuant to the above referenced orders issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 9 (EPA), Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) has prepared this September 2013 monthly report for RI/FS and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities at the Yerington Mine Site (Site).

September 2013 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continued Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities. Cameras at various locations (e.g., Main and Arimetco gates, entrances to buildings) indicated no activity of concern.
- With the exception of the Pumpback Well System (PWS) Evaporation Pond, all wind dancers were in operation, including the unit located at the Slot Pond. Propane cannons were operated at the Arimetco Fluid Management System (FMS) ponds with the exception of the FMS Evaporation Pond, which was shut down on September 17 due to the construction of two new evaporation ponds adjacent to the FMS Evaporation Pond. Bird Gard towers 'A', 'B' and 'C' around the PWS and LEP continued to operate. ARC resumed bird mitigation activities at the VLT Pond.
- Water levels in the Pumpback Well System (PWS) Evaporation Pond at the end of September were as follows: North Cell = 0.0 feet; Middle Cell = 0.0 feet; South Cell = 0.0 feet.
- Arimetco FMS pond levels: Phase 1 Pond = 3.68 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond = 8.88 feet; VLT Pond = 11.57 feet; Slot 2 Pond = 12.08 feet. See attached monitoring data.
- Approximately 29,325 gallons of solution were pumped from the leak detectors including 11,900 gallons from SD2 near the Slot Pond and approximately 14,870 gallons from VLTD1 at the VLT Pond. A total of approximately 1,259,229 gallons of solution have been pumped from the leak detectors since January 1. See attached monitoring data.
- A valve on the solution pipeline located at the Slot Pond was replaced.

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September 2013 Activities - Continued

Site Security and O&M Activities - Continued

- Broadbent Engineering, Fawcett Electric and Desert Engineering initiated construction activities for two new evaporation ponds located adjacent to the FMS Evaporation Pond on September 16.
- Transmitted the 2012 Annual FMS O&M Report on September 25.

Site Characterization Activities

- The on-Site meteorological station located at AM-6 was calibrated on September 5. Monthly groundwater elevation measurements were obtained September 24-26.
- A pit lake water elevation of 4,230.03 feet amsl was recorded on September 24, 2013 from the pressure transducer, a decrease of approximately 0.1 feet since August 24, 2013. The pit lake elevation has risen approximately 1.70 feet since September 24, 2012.
- One residence (DW-199) qualified for the Bottled Water Program but has yet to respond. A new residence (DW-141) did not qualify for the Bottled Water Program.
- Signed access agreements for domestic well sampling were received from the owner of new well DW-201 and from the new owner of well DW-141.
- Transmitted the 2Q 2013 Groundwater Monitoring Report (GMR) on September 9.
- Performed the 3Q 2013 domestic well monitoring event on September 9-12. TetraTech collected split samples from 15 domestic wells.
- Initiated the compilation of 3Q 2013 groundwater monitoring and domestic well monitoring data.
- Drilling activities for the Additional Monitor Well Installation Work Plan started on September 18 with health and safety orientation for both crews. Monitor wells were constructed at HLP-01, HLP-02, and HLP-07 in bedrock. No saturated alluvium was encountered at these locations. Zonal samples were collected at HLP-08.
- Continued modifications to the Revised Groundwater (OU-1) RI Work Plan, and associated appendices and attachments, based on EPA comments.
- Continued groundwater flow modeling activities.
- Continued to compile and evaluate analytical data from standing water samples that were collected from various locations on the Site after the July 4 precipitation event.
- Collected zonal water samples from former Anaconda well WW-10 on September 12 for chemical analyses using previously deployed HydraSleeve™ passive samplers.
- Met with EPA's contractor (CH2M Hill) to discuss the status of the OU-3 sub-surface utility and dry well investigation. Field work continued during the periods of September 10-13 and 19-20 for the investigation, which included pipeline excavations and soil sampling.
- Continued work on the DSR for the OU-3 sub-surface utility and dry well investigations.
- Completed responses to EPA comments on the draft OU-3 Field Sampling and Analysis Plan (FSAP), and transmitted the responses and revised FSAP on September 23. Staked out final boring locations in the field with CH2M Hill on September 26.
- Prepared a bid package for prospective drilling contractors, and a site tour was conducted on September 24 for interested drilling contractors to provide context for their bids with respect to drilling conditions in the Process Areas, as required under the revised FSAP. Initiated the review of contractor bids on September 30.
- Attended a public meeting hosted by EPA to describe the status of Site RI activities.
- Routine database management activities and support of Site investigations and reports.

Planned October/November 2013 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continue routine Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities.
- As needed, assist EPA and NDEP with FMS capacity information.

Planned October/November 2013 Activities

Site Characterization Activities

- Continue groundwater elevation and pit lake level measurements, and meteorological monitoring.
- Continue the Bottled Water Program.
- Transmit the 3Q 2013 Domestic Well Monitoring Report (DWMR). Continue to compile data for inclusion in the 3Q 2013 GMR.
- Perform the 4Q 2013 groundwater monitoring event and 4Q 2013 domestic well monitoring event in October and November, respectively.
- Transmit the Preliminary Bedrock Well Investigation Data Summary Report (DSR).
- Transmit the revised Site-Wide Groundwater (OU-1) RI Work Plan and responses to comments.
- Transmit the revised Additional Monitor Well Work Plan and responses to comments.
- Transmit the Draft YPT Well DW-5 Aquifer Test Work Plan.
- Continue field work associated with the Additional Monitor Well Work Plan and mobilize a third sonic core rig to the Site.
- Continue aquifer solids testing activities in support of future fate and transport analysis, including the development of a Draft Chemical Extraction Test Work Plan.
- Transmit a draft work plan for supplemental characterization activities for the Evaporation Ponds and the northern portion of the Calcine Ditch.
- Continue to compile the data and transmit the DSR for the Phase II geophysical and soil investigations associated with sub-surface utilities in the Process Areas.
- Discuss any outstanding issues regarding the revised FSAP and implement the field activities in accordance with the revised Process Areas (OU-3) RI Work Plan.
- Review data quality objectives for the Wabuska Drain (OU-7) RI Work Plan when received.

Please contact me at (714) 228-6774 or via e-mail at jack.oman@bp.com if you have any questions or comments about the September 2013 monthly report.

Sincerely,



Jack Oman
Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Dave Seter, EPA – via electronic mail
Harry Ball, EPA – via electronic mail
Andrew Helmlinger, EPA – via electronic mail
Tom Dunkelman, EPA – via electronic mail
Greg Lovato, NDEP – via electronic mail
Jeryl Gardner, NDEP – via electronic mail
Tom Olsen, BLM – via electronic mail
Dan Newell, City of Yerington – via electronic mail
Phyllis Hunewill – via electronic mail
Virgil Arellano, Lyon County Commissioner – via electronic mail
Rob Loveberg, Lyon County Planning Department – via electronic mail
Tom Grady, Nevada State Assembly – via electronic mail

Deborah Dunn, YPT – via electronic mail
Chairwoman Howard, YPT – via electronic mail
Dietrick McGinnis, McGinnis and Associates – via electronic mail
Tom Bowden, Ridolfi, Inc. – via electronic mail
Chairwoman McFalls, WRPT – via electronic mail
Tad Williams, WRPT – via electronic mail
Ron Halsey, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
James Lucari, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
Marc Ferries, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
Brian Johnson, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
John Batchelder, EnviroSolve – via electronic mail
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Ken Greene, CH2M Hill – via electronic mail
Victor Early, Tetra Tech – via electronic mail
Colin Lee, Tetra Tech – via electronic mail
Peggy Pauly, YCAG – via electronic mail
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