

# Atlantic Richfield Company

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## **CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Jim Sickles  
Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-8-2  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Subject: December 2006 Monthly Report, Yerington Mine Site, Lyon County, Nevada:  
Unilateral Administrative Order for Initial Response Activities, EPA Docket No. 9-  
2005-0011**

Dear Mr. Sickles:

Pursuant to the above referenced order, please note the following monthly status report for Atlantic Richfield Company activities at the Yerington Mine Site during December 2006.

### Operations, Maintenance and Site Security

- Pumpback well system averaged approximately 62.0 gpm; all 11 wells operated 24/7 with minor downtime for preventative maintenance (wells PW-4, PW-7 and PW-11) and one-half day for pipeline repair.
- Arimetco heap leach fluid management system (FMS) operations continued. Total estimated gallons transferred to Evaporation Pond from VLT Pond = 522,000 gal. SSP to VLT Pond = 0 gal; SSP to Evaporation Pond = 0; Plant Feed to Evaporation Pond = 0 gal. Repaired leak in Arimetco pipeline to Plant Feed Pond December 11 (leakage contained in temporary lined pond).
- Found break in EPA's new FMS 16" dia. pipeline to new evaporation pond and immediately reported break to EPA's On-Scene Coordinator - December 11; pipeline repaired by EPA contractor December 18-19.
- Site Security Fencing Activities: Repaired security existing fence breached by trespassers at three locations. Installation of new non-climb fence 95 percent complete December 29.

### Groundwater Monitoring

- Continued third quarter site-wide groundwater sample analysis QA/QC review process.
- Conducted fourth quarter site-wide groundwater sampling event December 4-9.
- Site-wide monthly groundwater elevation measurements completed December 29.

### Site Characterization

- Met with EPA on December 18 to discuss the Scope of Work for the RI/FS.
- Continued work on the draft Interim Work Plan for the Anaconda Evaporation Ponds.
- Implemented changes in the field for the air quality monitoring program with the purchase and installation of new equipment.

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Site Characterization -- Continued

- Received authorization on December 22, 2006 from BLM to conduct Background Soils sampling on BLM property west of the mine site, pending archeological clearance activities.
- Continued development of the procedures for a screening-level inhalation risk evaluation to be submitted to EPA.

Other Site Activities

- RAM OPPS/Western Utah Copper Co. representatives inspected EW/SX plant December 4.
- Doug Herlocker (Tetra Tech) weather station inspection December 28-29.

**Planned January 2007 Activities**

- Continue O&M, site security activities.
- Complete new security fence installation activities.
- Continue December 2006 groundwater sampling event data management activities.
- Compilation of data for 2006 pumpback well system and groundwater monitoring annual report.
- Submit the draft Interim Work Plan for the Anaconda Evaporation Ponds for EPA review.
- Complete field construction of new equipment for the revised air quality monitoring program.
- Implement archeological clearance activities with BLM for the Background Soils sampling on BLM property west of the mine site.
- Complete the technical memorandum on Procedures for Screening Level Inhalation Risk Evaluation for submittal to EPA end of January or early February.
- Participate in Stakeholder and Technical meetings.
- Develop wildlife sighting log per EPA recommendation.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (661) 287-3855 or via e-mail at [thunril@bp.com](mailto:thunril@bp.com).

Sincerely,



Roy Thun  
Environmental Business Manager

cc: Joe Sawyer, NDEP – via electronic mail  
Pat Plumb, BLM – via electronic mail  
Dan Newell, City of Yerington – via electronic mail  
Phyllis Hunewill, Lyon County Commissioner – via electronic mail  
Chris Winsor, Atlantic Richfield Company - via electronic mail  
Todd Normane, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail  
Chuck Zimmerman, Brown and Caldwell  
Ed Schneider, Norwest Applied Hydrology – via electronic mail  
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