

Atlantic Richfield Company

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July 6, 2012

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: June 2012 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 June 2012 monthly report for RI/FS and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities at the Yerington Mine Site (Site).

June 2012 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continued routine Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities. Security cameras at various locations (e.g., Main and Arimetco gates, entrances to buildings) indicated no activity of concern.
- “Wind Dancers” were operated at the Slot Pond, the Pumpback Well System (PWS) Pond, and the Lined Evaporation Pond. Propane cannons were operated at the Arimetco Fluid Management System (FMS) ponds (with the exception of the VLT Pond, as directed by EPA). Locations of “Wind Dancers” and bird deterrent flags were rotated every two weeks, or as field observations dictated, to lessen the possibility of birds becoming habituated to these deterrents. The bird guard towers remained active due to water in the PWS Pond. Start/stop times on all cannons continued to be adjusted to reflect the changing timing of sunrise and sunset.
- Per the Bird Mitigation SOP: 1) bird guard towers ‘B’ and ‘C’ were turned off June 18, 2012 as a result of the evaporation of water in the middle and south cells of the Lined Evaporation Pond (LEP). Bird guard tower ‘A’ remains in service due to pumped groundwater from the aquifer test remaining in the South Cell of the PWS Evaporation Pond.
- Water levels in PWS Evaporation Pond cells: North Cell = 0.0 feet; Middle Cell = 0.0 feet; South Cell = 0.7 feet (water remaining from the November 2011 aquifer test).
- Arimetco FMS pond levels: Phase 1 Pond = 3.23 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond = 8.73 feet; VLT Pond = 3.96 feet; Slot 2 Pond = 7.22 feet. Approximately 606,019 gallons were transferred from the VLT Pond to the FMS Evaporation Pond. Approximately 145,374 gallons of solution were transferred from the VLT Pond to the FMS Evaporation Pond, and approximately 626,581 gallons of solution were pumped from the Slot Pond to the FMS Evaporation Pond. Approximately 33,323 gallons of solution were pumped from the leak detectors in June, bringing the cumulative 2012 total to 220,556 gallons. The VLT Pond leak detector continued to be inactive through June (see attached monitoring data).



June 2012 Activities - Continued

Site Security and O&M Activities - Continued

- The remaining freeboard in the FMS Evaporation Pond at the end of June was approximately 1.41 feet. Combined drain-down from all Arimetco heap leach pads (HLPs) averaged 10.9 gallons per minute (gpm) in June (see attached monitoring data).
- Per a request from Tom Dunkelman, on June 28, provided EPA's START contractor with background e-mail correspondence regarding the VLT Pond re-lining project.
- Transmitted the 2011 Annual Arimetco FMS O&M Report dated June 25, 2012.

Other Site Activities

- B.V. Nevada personnel continued with demolition and salvage activities.
- Continued the update to the Site-Wide Health and Safety Plan (HASP).

Site Characterization Activities

- Monthly groundwater elevation measurements were obtained June 25-27.
- A pit lake water elevation of 4228.33 feet above mean sea level (amsl) was recorded on June 25, 2012 from the pressure transducer, a decrease of 0.003 feet since May 29, 2012. The pit lake elevation has risen 2.841 feet since June 25, 2011.
- Continued meteorological monitoring at the AM-6 location including wind speed/direction, temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, precipitation and solar radiation.
- The owner of DW-167 requested to be removed from the domestic well sampling program.
- Transmitted the 2011 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report (GMR) dated June 22, 2012.
- Initiated modifications to the Groundwater Monitoring Plan (GMP) - Revision 2.
- Continued the compilation of data for the 1Q 2012 Domestic Well Monitoring Report (DWMR) and the 1Q 2012 GMR.
- Continued the compilation of field and laboratory data associated with the On-Site Monitor Well program, and the preparation of the Data Summary Report. Surveying of recently installed monitor wells by Tri-State.
- Continued the supervision of Hazen Laboratory in preparation for upcoming aquifer solids testing.
- Continued to prepare components of the revised Site-Wide Groundwater Operable Unit (OU-1) Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan including data quality objectives and appendices.
- Participated in a conference call on June 7 with EPA, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) and the Yerington Paiute Tribe (YPT) regarding groundwater flow modeling. Transmitted a letter dated June 25, 2012 and attachments that present: 1) a schedule for short-term activities and deliverables associated with flow modeling; and 2) a draft Table of Contents for a Groundwater Flow Model Work Plan.
- Received EPA comments dated June 14, 2012 on the Technical Memorandum - Revision 2: Process Areas (OU-3) Sub-Surface Utility and Dry Well Geophysical Investigation Results for Phase I Activities, Yerington Mine Site. Initiated responses to comments and figure modifications as requested by EPA.
- Routine database management activities and support of Site investigations and reports.

Planned July/August 2012 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continue routine Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities.
- As necessary, transfer fluids from the VLT Pond to the FMS Evaporation Pond to reduce or eliminate leak detector activity associated with the VLT Pond.
- As necessary, continue discussions with EPA, NDEP and SPS regarding FMS repairs.
- Ship approximately 10 cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soils to the US Ecology landfill in Beatty NV as non-hazardous, non-DOT regulated solid waste resulting from implementation of the VLT Transformer soil cleanup activity and the sub-surface utility and dry well investigation in the Process Areas.

Planned July/August 2012 Activities - Continued

Site Characterization Activities

- Continue groundwater elevation and pit lake level measurements, and meteorological monitoring.
- Continue the Bottled Water Program.
- Recalibrate the meteorological station and the pit lake pressure transducer.
- Transmit the Groundwater Monitoring Plan (GMP) - Revision 2 to EPA.
- Prepare for, and conduct, the 3Q 2012 groundwater monitoring event in August.
- Transmit aquifer solids testing procedures to EPA for approval ahead of lab testing.
- Discuss with EPA the preliminary responses to EPA comments on the 2010 Monitor Well and Ag Fields Data Summary Report (DSR).
- As appropriate, conduct further discussions with EPA regarding the Background Groundwater Quality Assessment and the Initial Bedrock Characterization documents, and the tech memo that describes publicly available surface and groundwater information north of the Site.
- Continue to compile data for the on-Site Monitor Well DSR.
- Continue the compilation of information for inclusion in the revised Groundwater RI Work Plan.
- Meet with EPA and other project stakeholders on July 17 to discuss groundwater conditions at the Site, and discuss the revised Groundwater RI and Groundwater Flow Model Work Plans.
- Initiate development of the Groundwater Flow Model Work Plan.
- Transmit responses to EPA comments dated June 14, 2012 on the Process Areas Sub-Surface Utility and Dry Well Geophysical Investigation Tech Memo and requested figure modifications.
- When available, review EPA's draft Process Areas (OU-3) RI Work Plan and data quality objectives for the Wabuska Drain (OU-7) RI Work Plan.
- Discuss the project database with EPA, NDEP and YPT.

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 June 2012 monthly report.

Sincerely,



Jack Oman
Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Dave Seter, EPA – via electronic mail
Roberta Blank, EPA – via electronic mail
Andrew Helmlinger, EPA – via electronic mail
Tom Dunkelman, EPA – via electronic mail
Greg Lovato, 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
Richard Faber, Lyon County Facilities Engineering – via electronic mail
Tom Grady, Nevada State Assembly – via electronic mail
Jim Sanford, MVEC – via electronic mail
Lauryne Wright, 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
Jim Chatham, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
Rich Curley, Curley and Associates, LLC – via electronic mail
Bill Duffy, Davis Graham & Stubbs – via electronic mail
Tom Patton, Singatse Peak Services, LLP – via electronic mail
Steve Dischler, Singatse Peak Services, LLP – via electronic mail
Trey Harbert, Singatse Peak Services, LLP – via electronic mail
George Eliopoulos, Singatse Peak Services, LLP – via electronic mail
Taurus Massey, Singatse Peak Services, LLP – via electronic mail
David Peri, Peri and Sons – via electronic mail
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
Lyon County Library System Central