

December 15, 2020

Hunter Young
Project Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S ECL-111
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: Quarterly Progress Report for September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020
Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action
EPA Region 10 Docket No. CERCLA 10-2009-0255
Amendment No. 2 for Remedial Design at B1 Navigation Channel Project Area and
US Moorings Project Area

Dear Mr. Young,

This quarterly progress report provides information required by Section 4, Paragraph 4.1, of Appendix C of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action (Order) Amendment No. 2 for actions taken from September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020, at the US Moorings Project Area within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

1. Actions and Correspondences That Occurred in This Quarter

The following actions and correspondences occurred in this quarter:

- September 3 – Anchor QEA submitted the *Revised Final Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan* and associated responses to meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) conditional approval requirements.
- September 8 – NW Natural received EPA's approval of the *Revised Final Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan*.
- September 9 – NW Natural received the *Access Agreement Authorization 62865-RAAA* for sediment sampling in the US Moorings Project Area from the Oregon State Department of State Licensing (DSL) for completion of the EPA-approved pre-design investigation sampling within the US Moorings Project Area.
- September 21 – Anchor QEA submitted a request for a 60-day extension for submittal of the *Final Sufficiency Assessment* and associated response to EPA's comments on the *Sufficiency Assessment* dated August 14, 2020, to allow sufficient time for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to provide NW Natural site-specific information necessary to respond to the EPA comments.
- September 22 – EPA approved NW Natural's request for a 60-day extension for submittal of the *Final Sufficiency Assessment*.

- October 7 through November 16 – Anchor QEA performed pre-remedial design investigation field activities in accordance with the EPA-approved *Revised Pre-Remedial Design Data Gaps Work Plan*.
- November 5 – NW Natural received the executed access agreement from USACE to perform in-water and upland pre-design investigation sampling activities on and directly adjacent to land owned or leased by USACE.
- November 17 – Anchor QEA attended a call with USACE representatives to obtain requested information to support responses to EPA's comments on the *Sufficiency Assessment* and develop the *Final Sufficiency Assessment*.

2. Results of Sampling, Tests, and Other Data Received

No results of sampling, tests, or other data were received during this quarter.

3. Schedule of Activities for the Next Quarter

The following activities are scheduled to occur in the next quarter:

- Submit responses to EPA comments on the *Sufficiency Assessment* and the associated *Final Sufficiency Assessment*.
- Continue efforts to gain access to Advanced American Construction necessary to complete the remainder of the EPA-required pre-remedial design investigation sampling activities.
- Initiate evaluation of the pre-remedial design investigation sampling results and determine the next steps necessary to facilitate remedial design.

4. Challenges and Proposed Resolutions

Anchor QEA pre-remedial design investigation field staff had to stop work from October 21 through 25 based upon threatened legal action by Advanced American Construction. It appears that there is some disagreement between Advanced American Construction and the Oregon Department of State Lands concerning ownership of submerged lands in this area. NW Natural is continuing to seek access to the riverbanks at Advanced American Construction to complete remaining pre-remedial design investigations. As of the date of this report, Advanced American Construction has failed to respond to multiple requests by NW Natural during November and December to discuss the riverbank sampling. Because the riverbank sampling would optimally be performed in January 2021, NW Natural will need to discuss next steps with EPA if we are unable to get a response from Advanced American Construction by December 31.

5. Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules

Anchor QEA submitted Field Change Request Form 1 on November 2 and received EPA's approval on November 5. No modifications are anticipated in the next quarter.

6. Activities in Support of Community Involvement Plan

EPA has not requested any community involvement plan support from NW Natural.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ryan Barth".

Ryan Barth, PE
Project Manager

cc:

Bob Wyatt, NW Natural
Patty Dost, Pearl Legal Group PC
Lance Peterson, CDM Smith