

November 15, 2023

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

Re: October 2023 Monthly Progress Report
Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action
EPA Region 10 Docket No. CERCLA 10-2009-0255
Gasco Sediments Site Within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Young,

This monthly progress report provides information required by Section VIII, Paragraph 26, of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action for actions taken in October 2023 at the Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

1. Actions Taken in This Month and Problems Encountered

The following actions and correspondences occurred in this month:

- October 1 through 31 – The following actions were taken throughout this reporting month:
 - Anchor QEA continued development of the *Revised Sediment Remedy Basis of Design Report*.
 - NW Natural implemented the Field Pilot Study in accordance with the *Final Revised In Situ Stabilization and Solidification Field Pilot Study Work Plan* (FPSWP) and subsequent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved Field Change Request Forms (FCRs) #1 through #3. Field Pilot Study work was summarized in Field Pilot Study Weekly Summary Reports dated October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.
 - Anchor QEA continued laboratory analysis associated with the *Additional Revised In Situ Stabilization and Solidification Bench Scale Treatability Study Work Plan*.
- October 3 – NW Natural received findings from the 13th Coast Guard District Private Aids to Navigation (PATON) regarding NW Natural's submitted PATON Application (CG-2554) for the installation of six buoys at the Gasco Sediments Site Field Pilot Study footprint pursuant to the *Code of Federal Regulations* Title 33 Part 66.
- October 9 – Anchor QEA submitted FCR #3 to EPA.
- October 11 – Anchor QEA submitted a minor revision to FCR #3 to EPA.

- October 12 and 19 – NW Natural provided an in-person tour of the ongoing Field Pilot Study construction activities to EPA and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) personnel.
- October 13 – NW Natural received EPA approval of FCR #3.
- October 16 – Anchor QEA submitted to EPA the chemical analytical results for the clean sand cover to be placed over the footprint of the removed dolphin pilings.
- October 27 – Anchor QEA performed the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap.

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

The results of the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap are provided as Attachment A. The draft scanned daily field forms and received chemistry results for the water quality monitoring performed as part of the Field Pilot Study were submitted to EPA as noted above in Section 1 of this monthly progress report. The remainder of data and lessons learned from the Field Pilot Study will be reported to EPA in forthcoming remedial design deliverables.

3. Schedule of Activities for the Next Month

Anchor QEA anticipates the following activities to occur in the next month:

- Submit the November Gasco Sediments Site monthly progress report.
- Complete monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap area.
- Continue laboratory analysis associated with the *Additional Revised In Situ Stabilization and Solidification Bench Scale Treatability Study Work Plan*.
- Resubmit the FPSWP to incorporate a Field Sampling Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan for implementation of long-term sampling ports following completion of the Field Pilot Study.
- Respond to EPA comments on the *Additional Revised In Situ Stabilization and Solidification Bench Scale Treatability Study Work Plan*, and submit the associated *Final Revised In Situ Stabilization and Solidification Bench Scale Treatability Study Work Plan*.
- Continue development of the *Revised Sediment Remedy Basis of Design Report*.
- Complete the dredge material disposal suitability characterization for the Field Pilot Study, transport and dispose of the material to the selected landfill, and complete demobilization of all remaining Field Pilot Study construction equipment.
- Complete the lateral and vertical displacement surveying of the Siltronic outfall and riverbank, as well as the vibration monitoring in the three interior locations on the Siltronic property.

4. Anticipated Problems and Proposed Resolutions

As noted in Section 1 of this monthly progress report, Anchor QEA submitted FCR #3 to address necessary changes to the Field Pilot Study based on encountered conditions that were not addressed

in the FPSWP. Anchor QEA also notified EPA on October 5 and 22 that the laboratory performing the water quality monitoring chemical analysis was unable to achieve the EPA-requested 72-hour turnaround time, and EPA acknowledged and accepted the chemical results.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Barth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ryan" and last name "Barth" clearly distinguishable.

Ryan Barth, PE
Project Manager

cc:

Bob Wyatt, NW Natural
Patty Dost, Pearl Legal Group PC
Rob Ede, Hahn and Associates, Inc.
Mike Crystal, Severson Environmental Services, Inc.
Elizabeth Bingold, Siltronic Corporation
Traci Parker, Siltronic Corporation
David Rabbino, Jordan Ramis PC
Mike Murray, Maul Foster & Alongi, Inc.
Lance Peterson, CDM Smith
Sarah Greenfield, DEQ
Dan Hafley, DEQ
Wesley Thomas, DEQ

Attachment

Attachment A Monthly Visual Monitoring Report for Pilot Cap Vicinity

Visual Observations Log Form

October 27, 2023

Project: NW Natural – Gasco

Project Number: 000029-02.85, Task 5.1

Location: NW Natural “Gasco” Site

Monitoring Period: Monthly (Year 17) – October 2023

Observations Started: October 27, 2023 @ 11:00

Observations Concluded: October 27, 2023 @ 12:00

Photographs Taken: Yes: No:

Recorded by: Douglas Laffoon

Weather Conditions

Sunny, 47°F, light wind from the north.

Wave Action Observations

Medium wave action (0.3 – 0.5 foot in height)

Tidal Conditions

Willamette River level on 10/27/2023 ranged in elevation from 1.07 to 4.99 feet. The Willamette River level during the photos in this report is approximately 1.43 feet measured at 11:30 (River Level Elevation Datum: Morrison Gage Height).

Observations of Erosion/Deposition

No erosion or deposition was evident along the shoreline within the cap area. Naturally occurring algae blooms and floating woody debris were observed along the site shoreline.

Observations of Long-Term Controls (i.e., oil booms, organoclay mat, etc.)

During the observation, a barge was moored at the Centerline Logistics (Centerline) ship dock. The Centerline containment boom was staged along the dock. The three buoys identifying the cap area to mariners were in place as installed. The positions of the warning buoys are shown in Photo 1.

All exposed organoclay mat material segments were visible and exposed above the waterline (Photo 2). The visible, exposed segments of organoclay mat were in visually good condition.

Other Comments

Photo 3 shows the water surface and shoreline immediately downriver of the sediment cap. No sheen was observed within the cap area.

Fish advisory signage is present, readable, and in acceptable condition.

Photos

Photo 1
Three Mariner Warning Buoys at Pilot Cap Area (10/27/2023)



Photo 2
Organoclay Mat Material at the Upriver Extent of the Cap Area (10/27/2023)



Photo 3
Conditions Immediately Downriver of Cap Area Looking Downriver (10/27/2023)

