

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17670
Boulder, CO 80308-0670
www.rockyflatssc.org

(303) 412-1200
(303) 600-7773 (f)

Jefferson County -- Boulder County -- City and County of Broomfield -- City of Arvada -- City of Boulder
City of Golden -- City of Northglenn -- City of Thornton -- City of Westminster -- Town of Superior
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders
Steven Franks

Monthly Status Report – January 2016

Board meeting summary

There was no meeting this month.

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE reports that in addition to routine monitoring and maintenance activities, site personnel conducted the following activities in December.

Surface water and groundwater monitoring

- Finished 4th Quarter groundwater sampling.
- Sampled Woman Creek surface water location SW10200 as part of the response to the reportable condition at Area of Concern (AOC) well 10304, located downgradient from the 903 Pad/Ryan's Pit. An elevated level of TCE, a volatile organic compound/solvent, was detected in the groundwater sample from the well. Results from this surface water sample at SW10200 met all corresponding RFLMA standards for TCE. (More on this topic below)
- Collected samples to support the geochemistry evaluation

Groundwater Treatment Systems

- Flows at all three treatment systems remain above average.
- East Trenches Plume Treatment System (ETPTS): Cold, snow, and clouds during the month resulted in reduced treatment volumes at times; otherwise the system is performing well.
- Mound Site Plume Treatment System (MSPTS): Continued reconfiguration project planning.
- Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System (SPPTS): Continued reconfiguration project planning. The big box continues to experience clogging and flow problems. The subcontracted power evaluation was completed and determined that no additional power is needed, but new electrical hardware must be installed to slightly reconfigure the existing system.

Ecology

- Spread eight bales of woodstraw on the bottom area of the Original Landfill (OLF) where elk and wind have torn and blown the erosion matting around. Re-staking no longer works, so DOE is using the woodstraw as the replacement erosion control.

WCRA Letter about Contact Record 2015-10

The December update included information about the reportable condition at AOC well 10304. In response, the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority (WCRA) wrote DOE in early January 2016 expressing concern and asking DOE to address two issues. WCRA's letter and DOE's response are attached to this update.

Stewardship Council Update

2016 Board meetings:

April 4

June 6

September 12

October 31



Woman Creek Reservoir Authority

12301 Claude Court
Northglenn, Colorado 80241
(303) 450-4070 phone

Mr. Scott Surovchak
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
Rocky Flats Site
11025 Dover Street, Suite 1000
Westminster, CO 80021

January 6, 2016

Re: Contact Record 2015-10: Area of Concern Well Reportable Condition

Dear Mr. Surovchak,

I am writing on behalf of Woman Creek Reservoir Authority (the “Authority”), a political subdivision and public corporation of the State of Colorado created under C.R.S. 29-2-204.2. The Authority is the owner and operator of Woman Creek Reservoir generally located at the intersection of Woman Creek and Indiana Street, immediately adjacent to the historical boundaries of what has been formerly known as the Rocky Flats Plant Buffer Zone. The Reservoir physically separates Standley Lake, the drinking water source for the Cities of Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster, from surface water leaving the former Rocky Flats site. I am writing to provide comment and request additional clarification on the recent posting of Department of Energy, Office of Legacy Management (DOE) Contact Record 2015-10 Area of Concern (AOC) Well Reportable Condition.

As explained in the Contact Record, two consecutive semi-annual RFLMA samples from AOC well 10304 have exceeded the RFLMA water quality standard for trichloroethylene (TCE). This well is downgradient of the groundwater plume of Ryan’s Pit, and just upgradient of Woman Creek. Per consultation, DOE will be collecting grab samples in surface water in Woman Creek in the vicinity of and downgradient from well 10304. The Contact Record indicates that further consultation will follow review of those results. The Authority appreciates the information provided in the subject Contact Record, but requests additional information on two key items:

Item #1: What is the proposed schedule for sampling of surface water in Woman Creek?

The Contact Record does not indicate when the first round of sampling will occur in Woman Creek. As managers of water immediately downstream of the site, the Authority requests that the sampling occur as soon as possible. Further, the Contact Record indicates that sampling of surface water will occur with sampling of well 10304. Does this mean sampling of surface water will be semi-annual, or is there an increased sampling frequency that has been temporarily designated by this consultation? While less frequent sampling may be appropriate for groundwater transport timeframes, surface water conditions are more transient and variable due to varying amounts of dilution. The Authority feels that this calls for a greater frequency of sampling to better characterize the range of conditions in the surface water. This recommendation also considers that VOCs are not routinely sampled in surface water anywhere downstream of this near-stream well.

Item #2. How will surface water quality results be reported in the event that they exceed relevant standards?

The contact record indicates that results will be reported in routine quarterly and annual reports. In the event that surface water grab samples exceed standards, the Authority asks to be informed within 15 days of receipt of validated results, in accordance with other RFLMA reporting requirements. The Authority also requests to be informed in a timely manner of the results of the post-surface water sampling consultation discussions laid out in CR-2015-10. If a subsequent Contact Record is planned / required to report those discussions, it should serve this purpose. We are hopeful that those consultation discussions will consider surface water flow rates at the time of that sampling and whether TCE concentrations are continuing to increase in well 10304.

Thank you for your time. A response is requested by January 20, 2016.

Sincerely,



Tamara Moon
President
Woman Creek Reservoir Authority

cc: Carl Spreng, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Vera Mortiz, EPA
David Abelson, Rocky Flats Stewardship Council
Josh Nims, Woman Creek Reservoir Authority
James Boswell, Woman Creek Reservoir Authority
Lee Johnson, Attorney for Woman Creek Reservoir Authority



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 21, 2016

Ms. Tamara Moon
12301 Claude Court
Northglenn, CO 80241

Subject: Correspondence regarding Contact Record 2015-10: Area of Concern Well Reportable Condition

Dear Ms. Moon:

We received your letter of January 6, 2016, regarding Contact Record 2015-10, which addresses the subject of a reportable condition at Area of Concern (AOC) well 10304 at the Rocky Flats, Colorado, Site. Thank you for your interest and your questions. Your summary of this Contact Record is accurate. The text below provides additional information and explanation as requested in your letter.

Item #1: In your letter you ask a number of questions under the heading; “What is the proposed schedule for sampling of surface water in Woman Creek?”

Woman Creek location SW10200 was sampled on December 10, 2015. Validated laboratory results were received on December 28, 2015. Trichloroethene (TCE) was not detected in the surface water sample. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) was notified of the results via email on December 28, 2015. After reviewing the results to verify the expectation that there has not been an impact to surface-water quality, CDPHE concurred that no further consultation was necessary at that time.

Based on the above consultation, no further action is warranted other than as described in CR 2015-10, which states the surface water in Woman Creek will be sampled on a semiannual frequency concurrently with groundwater well 10304. While surface water conditions are more dynamic, as you noted in your letter, the Woman Creek sampling is intended to detect changes in surface-water quality directly resulting from groundwater contributions. Since any resulting changes would be proportional to the less dynamic changes expected in groundwater flows and constituent concentrations, sampling surface water at a semiannual frequency is appropriate at this time.

Item #2: In your letter you ask, “How will surface water quality results be reported in the event that they exceed relevant standards?”

As validated analytical results from the surface-water sampling become available, they will be routinely shared with CDPHE and reported in the corresponding Rocky Flats Legacy Management Agreement (RFLMA) quarterly report. Should future results indicate an impact to surface water, additional consultation would ensue. This consultation would develop a plan and schedule for actions to address the impacts to surface water, including but not limited to increased sampling and



Ms. Tamara Moon

-2-

January 21, 2016

any necessary mitigating actions. Subsequent to any formal consultation, a Contact Record would be generated and distributed in accordance with RFLMA reporting requirements. The RFLMA process will be followed throughout this process.

Please contact me at (720) 377-9682 or at scott.surovchak@lm.doe.gov if you have any questions or require additional information. Please send any correspondence to:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
11025 Dover Street, Suite 1000
Westminster, CO 80021

Sincerely,



Scott R. Surovchak
LM Site Manager

JAB/abm

cc (electronic):

Carl Spreng, CDPHE

Vera Moritz, EPA

David Abelson, Rocky Flats Stewardship Council

James Boswell, Woman Creek Reservoir Authority

Josh Nims, Woman Creek Reservoir Authority

Lee Johnson, Attorney for Woman Creek Reservoir Authority

Linda Kaiser, Navarro

David Ward, Navarro

rc-westminster

File Code: RFS 0025.02