

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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

Monthly Status Report – November 2011

Board meeting summary

Approval of 2012 Work Plan

The Board approved the 2012 work plan. The plan largely follows the Stewardship Council's efforts in 2011. The Board will continue to focus on DOE management issues, worker issues, outreach, and communications. The plan can be found at:

http://www.rockyflatssc.org/work_plan.html

Approval of 2012 Budget

The Board approved the 2012 budget. This proposed budget reflects a net decrease of \$1,950 over the 2011 budget.

Member appointments

The Stewardship Council appointed the following groups and individual to serve on the Board of Directors for 2012-2013:

- League of Women Voters
- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum
- Rocky Flats Homesteaders
- Arthur "Murph" Widdowfield

These members currently serve on the board.

Continuation of Triennial Review and IGA Amendments

The Board reviewed the final triennial review determination and amendments to the IGA. (Both documents can be found in the November meeting packet: <http://rockyflatssc.org/agendas.html>.) The governments have begun adopting resolutions expressing their intent to remain a party to the IGA (the triennial review determination) and IGA amendments. All governments need to approve both documents by the end of January 2012.

DOE Quarterly Briefing

DOE discussed the quarterly report for the second quarter of 2011 (April - June). The report can be found at: http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats/Documents.aspx. The board packet memo (found at: <http://rockyflatssc.org/agendas.html>) provides an overview of the report.

Among others issues, and as discussed below, DOE reported on increased plutonium and americium levels at the GS10 water sampling site.

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE's October 2011 Rocky Flats activities included:

Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring

- Collected groundwater samples for uranium and nitrate analyses to support LANL investigations.
- Collected routine samples at the Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System (SPPTS).
- Collected quarterly groundwater samples.
- Completed routine maintenance at surface water locations.

Groundwater Treatment Systems

Routine inspections of the treatment systems were conducted as follows:

- East Trenches Plume Treatment System (ETPTS) – DOE reports the system is functioning normally.
- Mound Plume Treatment System (MPTS) – DOE reports the system is functioning normally.
- SPPTS – DOE reports optimization of the system is ongoing. DOE completed media sampling project in the original SPPTS concrete box treatment unit using a Geoprobe. Five boreholes, approximately 20 feet deep, were completed, and each borehole had four 5-foot cores. The cores were prepared for uranium and nitrate analysis in accordance with the sampling and analysis plan, resulting in 84 individual samples, including quality assurance samples.

Ecology

- Mapped (using GPS) the disturbance area at the new Woman Creek POC Flume Project location (WOMPOC).
- Evaluated the A-4 and B-5 pond bottoms for revegetation activities now that the water levels have dropped.
- Evaluated 903 hillside and Southern Interceptor Ditch (SID) erosion controls and vegetation establishment for SW027 area.
- Conducted routine Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse (PMJM) erosion control inspections.

Site Monitoring & Maintenance

- There were no significant changes to report at either landfill.

Site Document update

None at this time.

Summary of Americium (Am) reportable condition at surface water location GS10

DOE has notified CDPHE and EPA of a reportable condition for americium (Am-241). The samples were collected from 7/21/11 - 10/25/11 at automated surface water monitoring location GS10. GS10 is a point of evaluation (POE) in Walnut Creek (in the B-series ponds drainage).

Because the POE is not a regulatory-enforced point of compliance (POC), the exceedance is called a reportable condition. Whenever a surface water standard is exceeded at a POE, a series of actions are initiated.

The surface water standard for both Am and plutonium (Pu) is 0.15 pCi/l. The validated results for Am, based on a 12-month rolling average, were 0.21 pCi/l on 8/31/11 and 0.22 pCi/l on 9/30/11. While there have been several reportable conditions for uranium at GS10 since closure, this is the first time since closure that Am exceeded the standard.

The last time there was a reportable condition at GS10 for Am and Pu was February 2005. At that time, instead of 12-month rolling averages, 30-day moving averages were used. The results were: (1) Am ranged from 0.17 – 1.0 pCi/l; (2) Pu ranged from 0.17 – 0.56 pCi/l. Then, like this occurrence, there are no regulatory violations at the site boundary at the Indiana Street.

DOE also has reported that the composite sample collected from 9/29/11 – 10/25/11 had a Pu result of 0.658 pCi/l. However, because of very low Pu values over the last 12 months, the 12-month rolling average does not exceed 0.15 pCi/l.

Pursuant to RFLMA Attachment 2, Section 6.0, Action Determinations, DOE must:

- Submit a plan and schedule an evaluation to address the condition within 30 days of receiving the validated data for the reportable condition.
- Consult with CDPHE and EPA to determine if mitigating actions are necessary. The consultation will determine a course of action to address the reportable condition and to ensure the remedy remains protective.

Results of consultation will be documented in contact records and/or written correspondence.

While the parties consult, DOE has begun taking action. Their efforts include:

- Walking the drainage to see if there were any obvious conditions that caused soil erosion. Some thin vegetation spots were noted on the north side of the rip-rap upstream of GS10. Some reseeding/erosion matting could be applied in spots, and a map of the areas to be addressed will be prepared.
- Conducting additional sampling, including at several seeps. These samples are being analyzed for both Pu and Am.
- Reviewing historic Pu and Am well data from wells in the drainage. The review gave no indication that any additional well sampling would be informative at this stage.

Importantly, in September DOE also sampled water flowing through Pond B-5, the terminal pond on this drainage. Pu and Am results from the outlet of Pond B-5, the WALPOC monitoring location (Walnut Creek at the DOE boundary), and GS03 (Walnut Creek at Indiana St.) have been received. All results were below 0.01 pCi/L.

Stewardship Council update

Next meetings:

February 6, 2012

April 2, 2012 (?) (2012 meeting dates will be determined at February 6th meeting)