

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 Thornton -- City of Westminster -- Town of Superior
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders
Arthur Widdowfield

Monthly Status Report – December 2013

Board meeting summary

There was no meeting this month.

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE reports on the following site activities for November. In addition to routine maintenance and surveillance activities, site personal conducted the following activities:

Groundwater Treatment Systems

- East Trenches Plume Treatment System (ETPTS): Installed two replacement pumps (operating in parallel) and a new, larger spray nozzle at the influent air stripper in an effort to help mitigate scale buildup which had hampered previous treatment.
- Mound Site Plume Treatment System (MTPTS): DOE reports the system is functioning normally.
- Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System (SPPTS): DOE reports the system is functioning normally.

Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring

- Finished 4th quarter 2013 groundwater sampling. Sampled wells in the vicinity of the SPPTS, ETPTS, Original Landfill (OLF) and Present Landfill.
- Collected samples from the former Building 995 seeps and Functional Channel 4 in support of the investigation into elevated levels of actinides at surface water monitoring location GS-10.

Ecology

- Completed installing wildlife fencing around plains cottonwoods and chokecherry that were planted in 2012. Fencing will prevent browsing deer and elk from eating the young plants.
- Received approximately 14 pounds each of native grass and forb (wildflower) seed collected by volunteers this year. It will be sown in the revegetation areas at several locations later this winter.
- Collected 4-wing saltbush seed from near the former Pond B3, where it has established in the dam breach revegetation areas. Will plant the seed at areas near the SPPTS hillside.

Site Monitoring & Maintenance

Landfills

- Downloaded data from the seven inclinometers at the OLF. Performed weekly inspections at the OLF to assess repairs made after damage from the September flooding.

Site Roads Flood Repairs

- Repaired portions of the roads impacted by the September flooding.

Worker health benefits update

In a letter dated December 16, 2013, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced it was approving expansion of Special Cohort Status for former Rocky Flats workers who worked at the site from April 1, 1952, through December 31, 1983. Under the requirements of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), HHS is required to notify Congress, and if no action is taken, then the agency can publish a final notice in the *Federal Register*.

Senator Mark Udall and Representative Perlmutter issued a joint press release praising HHS' decision. (See http://www.markudall.senate.gov/?p=press_release&id=3934)

Udall: “Thousands of patriots at Rocky Flats helped our nation win the Cold War. Today's decision ensures that these heroes will be able to more easily access the care and compensation they deserve. I am proud the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services quickly responded to our call — and those of Colorado's Cold War patriots — to act. This is a significant victory for Colorado's nuclear workers.”

Perlmutter: “This is welcome news for all the workers who risked their lives to protect our nation and helped end the Cold War. For years, Rocky Flats workers fought for the healthcare and compensation they earned during their service working in dangerous conditions on behalf of our nation. I'm glad we've been able to work with the Obama Administration to make sure these workers and their beneficiaries receive the health care and benefits they earned for their unselfish sacrifice to our country.”

Stewardship Council update

Next meetings:

February 3, 2014

April 7, 2014