FIELD INVESTIGATION REPORT

Site Name: Tonawanda Coke, property is located adjacent to Niagara River on River Rd.

Date of Visit: September 8, 2016

Site Contact Name and Title: Kevin Lynch, GHD, Innovative Technology Group

NYSDEC Staff: Kenneth Martin - Environmental Radiation Specialist 1
Ben McPherson - Environmental Engineer 1

Purpose/history:

Site is not presently being utilized. 26 acre site is mostly over grown with 3 above ground storage tanks, a coal conveyer belt, and a few rusted structures. See site map. A contractor is currently performing an initial characterization of site with DEC oversight. Slag like material was observed at the surface and in test pits. The DEC site monitor requested a scoping radiological survey be performed to determine if the slag was TENORM.

Survey Meter Utilized:

Ludlum Meter 2241 with a 2 x 2 Sodium Iodide Probe 44-10 & 44-9
Calibration Date: 2/01/16
Instrument response checks were performed before leaving office. Meter response was within control chart tolerances.

Site Visit Details:

Arrived at site at 1:30 PM. Temperature 80 F and sunny.

NYSDEC personnel performed a gamma walkover only at the areas marked on the attached map. Readings were taken of excavated materials. Four pieces of slag were bagged and brought back to the office to determine their off-site count rate. Pictures were taken.
All the Slag observed contained vesicles.

Results: **See attached map with locations and photos.**

Location	**Results in Counts per Minute (CPM)**
Background: On property near River Rd. (Course gravel, road fill)	8,400 (1min static count, on contact)
Test Pit # 15:	
Walking up to pit:	8,000 to 11,000
Yellow bricks:	14,000
Pile of excavated material from pit:	20,000
Side walls of pit:	30,000
Dirt area around pit:	11,000
Test Pit # 3:	
Ground Surface next to pit:	10,500 (1min static count, on contact)
Side walls of pit:	23,000
Pile of excavated material from pit:	14,000
Exposed surface under coal conveyer:	17,000
Test pit #2 (scraped area):	
Black slag:	10,000 to 14,000
White slag:	16,400 (1min static count, on contact)
Test pit # 4:	
No slag seen surface reading only: (Heavy coal tar smell in and around pit) Pit partially filled with water	5,600
Exposed slag on surface near utility poles:	10,000 to 14,000

Test pit # 5:

Pit partially filled with water.	5,000 to 6,000
No slag observed	
Side of pit with rock/brick layer?	12,000 to 14,000

Original Test pit # 5

Refusal at surface, area scraped, lots of bricks:	6,000 to 7,000

****** Slag material counted at office******

Background at office:	5,500
Four pieces of slag together:	5,500 (no difference from bkgd)

44-9 Pancake probe open window:

Background at office:	35 COUNTS PER MINUTE
Four pieces of slag:	35-100 COUNTS PER MINUTE

Anomalies

The slag ***on site*** showed gamma count above background.

Conclusions:

The slag on site showed elevated counts above the one minute scaler surface and background readings. While the side walls of the pit and the piles were higher, this could be explained by the geometry in the field. The slag counted at the office with the 44-10 probe showed the counts to be at background for the office area. The pancake probe showed elevated counts. In the field the slag samples were elevated above background.

Complete file folder with SITE MAP and all photos are on the drive under the Rad Site Section File- Contamination site – Region 9

Lead ERS: Kenneth Martin Date of Report: 09/16/16

Reviewer: Thomas Papura Date of Approval: 09/16/16

Attachments (4):

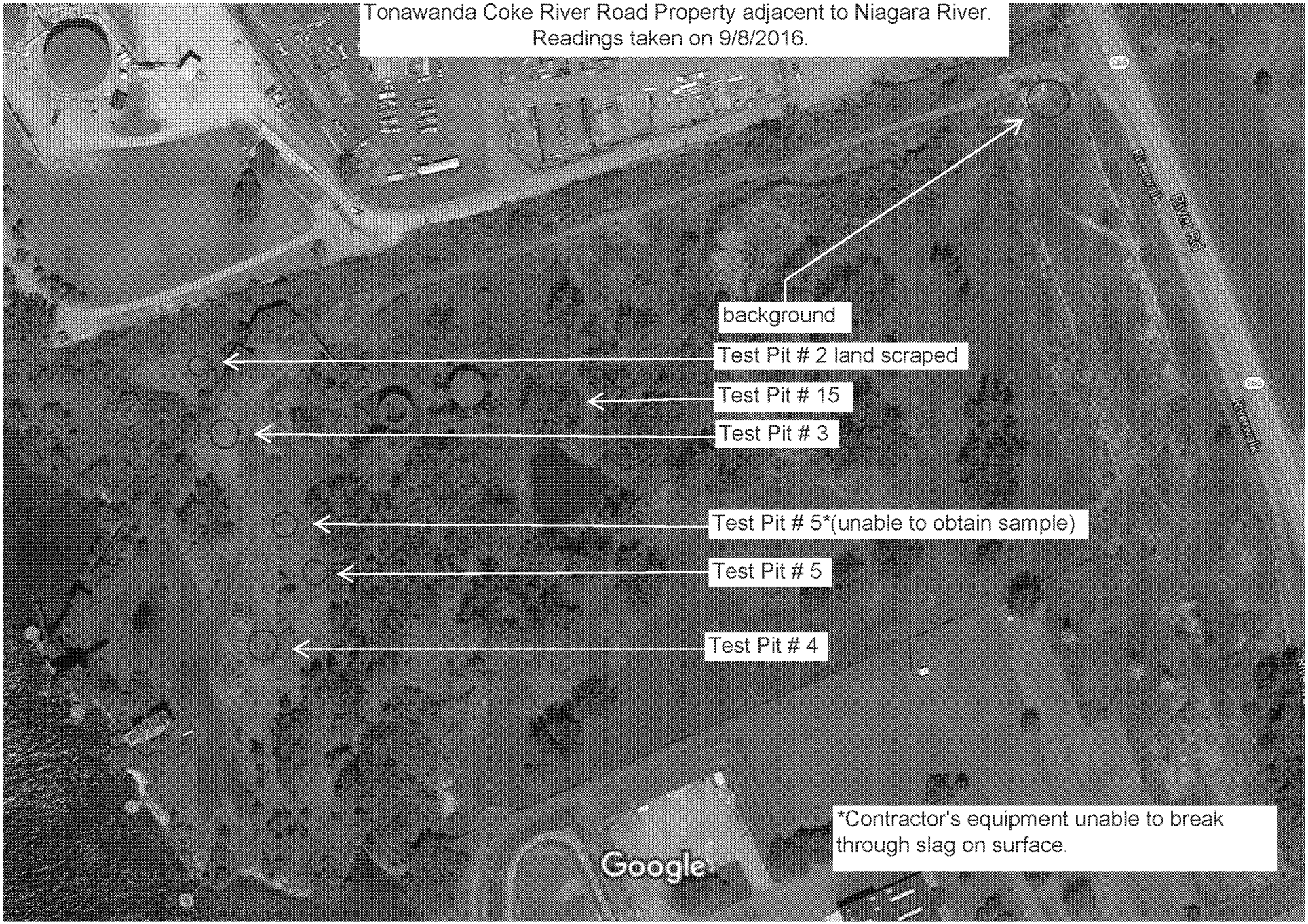
Background:

Test Pit # 15:

Test Pit # 15 Excavated Material:

Surface Reading of exposed material:

Slag material back at office:


Tonawanda Coke River Road Property adjacent to Niagara River.
Readings taken on 9/8/2016.
background
Test Pit # 2 land scraped
Test Pit # 15
Test Pit # 3
Test Pit # 5*(unable to obtain sample)
Test Pit # 5
Test Pit # 4
*Contractor's equipment unable to break through slag on surface.
Google
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100 ft

Mcpherson, Benjamin J (DEC)

From: Martin, Kenneth G (DEC)
Sent: Friday, September 16, 2016 2:26 PM
To: Mcpherson, Benjamin J (DEC)
Subject: Tonawanda Coke field report for 9/8/16
Attachments: FIELD INVESTIGATION REPORT Tonawada Coke River Rd Property -TRP signed.docx; Tonawanda Coke map (002).pdf

Categories: DDocs

Ben,

Please find attached the above filed report and site map.
The slag on site is not a concern.
Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Kenneth Martin
Environmental Radiation Specialist 1, Division of Environmental Remediation

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