From: Gorin, Jonathan
To: DiPippo, Gary
Cc: John M. Hoffman
Subject: RE: Another hopefully "quick" question
Date: Monday, November 18, 2013 2:06:00 PM

I asked Doug he said they didn't get anything back from Stablex so it wasn't Ventron. Ventron sent a lot of soil there, more than we have, but only a tiny fraction had visible mercury, and it sounds like what they called "visible mercury" was far less an issue than at Linden.

From: DiPippo, Gary [mailto:Gary.DiPippo@Cornerstoneeg.com]
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 2:00 PM
To: Gorin, Jonathan
Cc: John M. Hoffman
Subject: RE: Another hopefully "quick" question

Well Jon, you are getting the same kind of answer we have historically gotten. Perhaps that site was Ventron Velsicol? Although when we looked at what data we could from that site, it did not appear the much visible elemental went there, if any from V/V.

Gary

From: Gorin, Jonathan [mailto:Gorin.Jonathan@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 1:23 PM
To: DiPippo, Gary
Cc: John M. Hoffman
Subject: FW: Another hopefully "quick" question

Gary, I just spoke with Stablex, again, no good answer. They said if the beads are mixed in with the soil it's "usually" not a problem, but it depends on the amount of visible mercury and how it appears. That was about as far as he'd go. I asked him what happens if there's a small pool of mercury in the containers - he said when that happens they vacuum it up and reclaim it.

He said a few years ago an American site (he wouldn't say which) sent soil that had some low levels of visible mercury and they had to vacuum some of it up from the truck, which they then shipped back to the originating party (i.e., the site).

jon

From: Gorin, Jonathan
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 12:55 PM
To: 'DiPippo, Gary'
Cc: John M. Hoffman
Subject: RE: Another hopefully "quick" question

Thanks Gary, I forgot about the 0.7 number, you presented it several times and I think it's in the FS. That's useful, I'm going to round it to 1.

Anyway, it sounds like there's no good way to guess how much will settle by the time we get there.

So here's my bad way – 20lbs of mercury per truck load. Less than a pound would settle out.

I have a call into Stablex asking (again) that one specific question: "Will you take soil containing visible mercury?" I want a "oui" or a "no" not a "peut-etre."

From: DiPippo, Gary [mailto:Gary.DiPippo@Cornerstoneeg.com]
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 12:42 PM
To: Gorin, Jonathan
Cc: John M. Hoffman
Subject: RE: Another hopefully "quick" question

Jon,

The short answer is there is no accurate way to do this calculation because with the exception of 1 or 2 samples (cannot remember exactly) from the RI, when visible mercury was noted analytical work was not performed on the sample.

At one time we had looked at some numbers. For instance, if we were to take the total mercury mass calculated by the concentrations from samples in the areas of the PTW, and assume that 25% of the mass is elemental mercury (arbitrary number), the result is 0.7 lbs of Hg/CY of soil.

At LCP Bridge Street the soil washing resulted in 2.2 lbs of Hg/CY of soil.

As to how much might end up at the bottom of a bin at Stablex, another level of guessing since the process is proprietary and despite our best efforts we were never able to confirm Stablex had ever actually accepted material with free, elemental mercury.

Not sure how helpful this is, as there is not a technical basis for any of the numbers if you are actually trying to predict how much elemental mercury exists or would be present at the end of the process.

Please let me know if there is anything we can do to help.

Gary

From: Gorin, Jonathan [mailto:Gorin.Jonathan@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 11:26 AM
To: DiPippo, Gary
Cc: John M. Hoffman
Subject: Another hopefully "quick" question

Maybe two questions. I'm trying to estimate at how much elemental mercury could end up at the bottom of a container of shipped soil to Canada.

By weight, how much of a ton of the PTW soil is mercury? I can't even figure out a way to estimate it, maybe double or quadruple the highest measured concentration?

Any ideas on how to do this?

Thanks, jon

Ps, John do not read anything into this question!