ANCHOR QEA

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October 14, 2011

Sean Sheldrake
Project Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S ECL-111
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: September 2011 Monthly Progress Report
Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action
U.S. EPA Region 10 Docket No. CERCLA 10-2009-0255
Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Project Number: 000029-02.28

Dear Mr. Sheldrake:

This monthly progress report provides information required by Section VIII, Paragraph 26, of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action (Order) for actions take in September 2011 at the Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

1. ACTIONS TAKEN IN THIS MONTH AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The following actions and correspondences occurred in this month:

- **September 1-30 –** Continued completion of laboratory analysis and data validation on the samples collected during completion of the re-sampling addendum. *Final Project AIR and Data Gaps QAPP.* Anchor QEA communicated with the US. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), DEQ, Tribes and other stakeholders regarding scheduling the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) technical briefing required in the Statement of Work.
- **August 14 –** Anchor QEA submitted the Gasco Sediments Site monthly progress report to EPA.

- **August 15** – NW Natural received directed comments from EPA to conduct extractable petroleum hydrocarbon (EPH) analyses on archived soil and sediment samples collected as part of the *Final Project AIR and Data Gaps QAPP* sampling.
- **August 19** – NW Natural directed the laboratory to conduct the EPA-directed EPH analyses.
- **August 20** – NW Natural and Siltronic Corporation met with EPA regarding the results and evaluations of the *Final Project AIR and Data Gaps QAPP* sampling in preparation for the EE/CA technical briefing. NW Natural provided EPA with verbal agreement to complete the directed EPH analyses.
- **August 21** – Anchor QEA submitted the bioassay reports for the Phase I Amphipod Bioassays and the Phase II Midge Bioassays to EPA.

2. RESULTS OF SAMPLING, TESTS, AND OTHER DATA RECEIVED

The results of the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap are provided as Attachment A. The field sampling results obtained during completion of the EPA-approved *Final Project AIR and Data Gaps QAPP* and subsequent EPA-approved addendum will be reported in the *Draft EE/CA and Data Report*.

3. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT MONTH

Anchor QEA anticipates the following activities to occur in the next month:

- Submittal of the October monthly progress report.
- Completion of monthly visual monitoring of the pilot cap area.
- Completion of laboratory analyses of EPA-directed EPH analyses.
- Technical briefing between NW Natural, Siltronic Corporation, EPA, DEQ, Tribes and other stakeholders to present the proposed alternatives to be carried through the *Draft EE/CA and Data Report* on October 19.

4. ANTICIPATED PROBLEMS AND PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

No problems or unforeseen conditions were encountered.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Ryan Barth, P.E.
Assistant Project Manager

Carl Stivers, Partner
Project Manager

Attachments:

Attachment A Monthly Visual Monitoring Report for Pilot Cap Vicinity

Cc:
Bob Wyatt, NW Natural
Patty Dost, Pearl Legal Group PC
Tom McCue, Siltronic Corporation
Alan Gladstone and Hanne Eastwood, Davis Rothwell Earle and Xochihua
James Peale, Maul Foster Alongi, Inc.
Lance Peterson, Camp Dresser McKee
Matt McClincy, DEQ
Dana Bayuk, DEQ

Visual Observations Log Form

Date	September 13, 2011	**Project Number:**	000029-02 BG-28 Task 3c
Location:	NW Natural "Gasco" Site		
Project Name:	NW Natural – Gasco		
Monitoring Period:	Monthly (Year 5)—September 2011		
Time Observations Started:	September 13, 2011 @ 15:30	**Time Observation Concluded:**	September 13, 2011 @ 16:30
Weather Conditions:	Overcast, 70 degrees Fahrenheit, winds 0-5 knots from the northwest.		
Wave Action Observations:	Light wave action (0.2 – 0.4 feet in height)		
Photographs Taken:	(Yes) No		

Tidal Conditions:	Willamette River level on 09/13/2011 ranged in elevation from 1.73 to 5.19 feet. The Willamette River level during photos was approximately 1.91 feet measured at 16:00 (River Level Elevation Datum: Morrison Gage Height).
Observations of Erosion/Deposition:	No erosion/deposition is evident along the shoreline. Four organoclay mat material segments are exposed and visible. One section of organoclay mat 20 feet in length is visible at the upriver extent of the cap area. Near the midpoint of the cap area shoreline, two segments 4-foot and 1-foot in width are exposed approximately 10 feet from the water's edge. A 30-foot section of mat material is exposed near the downriver extent of the cap (Photo 1).
Observations of Long-term Controls (i.e., oil booms, organo-clay mat, etc.)	During the observation, the Fuel and Marine Marketing (FAMM) containment boom was placed around a fuel barge moored at the ship dock. Buoys that identify the cap area to mariners are in place as installed. The position of the FAMM oil boom, warning buoys, and a general overview of the site shoreline is shown in Photo 2.
Other Comments:	No sheen is evident in or around the cap area. Photo 3 shows the water surface and shoreline immediately downriver of the sediment cap.
Recorded by:	**Douglas Laffoon**

Photo 1—*exposed section of organoclay mat, along shoreline near downriver extent of cap (09/13/11):*

Photo 2 — *FAMM oil boom shown around fuel barge and mariner warning buoys in place across pilot cap area. (09/13/11):*

Photo 3 — *Conditions immediately downriver of cap area (09/13/11):*