

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

**Division of Environmental Remediation, Region 9**

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Joe Martens  
Commissioner

## **INSPECTION REPORT**

**Site Number:** 932110

**Date:** January 7, 2014

**Site Name:** Vanadium Corporation of America

**Location:** 4201 Witmer Rd, Town of Niagara, Niagara County

**Project Manager:** Michael Hinton

**Project Engineer:** Obrien and Gere – Al Farrell/ Jim Bryck

**Contractor:** Severson Environmental Services

**Job Phone:** NA

**HEALTH & SAFETY:** Level C in work zone

### **DESCRIPTION OF WORK PERFORMED:**

MJH on site at 1020 hrs

Weather – T~2<sup>0</sup>F, Wind Chill ~-25<sup>0</sup>F, partly cloudy, wind west to south west @ 35 mph with gusts to 45, Very cold

SES is unable to do any work today. Equipment is frozen and will not start. They are attempting to thaw out the equipment. No work for tomorrow as they will continue to work on equipment. Will restart work on Thursday Jan 10.

Job Progress Meeting #18

Refer to Meeting summary by OB&G for attendees and discussions.

H&S – very cold concerned with cold stress and frost bite. Sending most of the workers home due to the weather and equipment problems

CAMP – No issues, Air monitors not deployed.

OU-1 Airco, access granted. OB&G requests notifications to all parties when SES sets up monitors on OU2 and notification when complete and access no longer needed.

Site Security – no issues over the holiday break.

Work Completed – Refer summary notes

Upcoming work – refer summary notes

NYPA – Additional excavation area under review by NYPA. Advised OB&G to let us know if NYPA delays responding to the additional work request. NYPA as a property owner is considered a PRP.

Nat Grid – Water/Ice around bases of towers is not a concern to Grid. They will have their drill rig on site the week of Jan 13 to do the geotechnical work for the replacement tower design.

Next meeting Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 2014

MJH left site at 1100 hrs.

**Attachments:** meeting summary

**Inspector's Name (Print):** Michael J Hinton

**Inspector's Signature:**

**Date:** January 7, 2014

## **Minutes of Construction Progress Meeting 18**

### **Vanadium Site OU-3 Remedial Action Town of Niagara, New York**

The eighteenth construction progress meeting was conducted on January 7, 2014 for the Vanadium Site Operable Unit 3 (OU3) Remedial Action (RA) in the Town of Niagara, New York (Site #9-32-001). The meeting was attended by the following representatives:

**O'Brien & Gere** – Jim Bryk and Brian Garrett on-site, and Al Farrell via telephone  
**Sevenson** – Dana Tipton, Rick Kopolinski, and Mike Welch on-site  
**CB&I** - Michael Donegan via telephone  
**NYSDEC** – Michael Hinton

A copy of the meeting agenda is attached.

#### **1. MINUTES OF PRIOR PROGRESS MEETING**

There were no comments to the minutes of progress meeting 17.

#### **2. HEALTH & SAFETY**

There have been no accidents or injuries. Safety topics continue to include working in the winter weather and preventing cold stress.

#### **3. COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING**

Community air monitoring continues on site. Sevenson received an executed Agreement for access to the Operable Unit 2 site for purpose of setting a temporary air monitoring station there near the fence between OU2 and OU3. Prior to accessing the OU2 property, Mr. Farrell requested that Sevenson provide notice to O'Brien & Gere of when it plans to initiate access on to the OU2 property, and requested that notice also be provided when Sevenson no longer requires access to OU2. Sevenson will be installing a lock onto the OU2 gate daisy chained to the lock used by Greenstar Environmental.

Sevenson is preparing community air monitoring program (CAMP) reports that are being forwarded to NYSDEC and NYSDOH as received.

#### **4. STORMWATER POLLUTION CONTROLS**

Glynn Geotechnical continues to conduct weekly inspections and Sevenson is making minor repairs where necessary on an on-going basis. At present the temperatures are below 32 F and surface water is frozen.

#### **5. SITE SECURITY**

There were no site security issues during the two week holiday shutdown. Sevenson continues to remove unnecessary equipment from the site.

#### **6. COMMUNITY/REGULATORY INTERACTIONS**

No community interactions during the week.

7. WORK COMPLETED DURING PREVIOUS WEEK

Sevenson prepared the attached summary of the work completed since the last progress meeting.

8. UNANTICIPATED CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED (if any)

None

9. WORK SCHEDULED FOR UPCOMING WEEK

Sevenson distributed the attached two-week projection of work.

At this time the meeting was opened to questions and comments.

10. NYSDEC COMMENTS

Mr. Hinton asked if there is any continued concern about the frozen surface water at the tower bases. Mr. Farrell indicated that National Grid has made a determination that there is no concern at present.

Mr. Hinton also said that a vendor (Mr. Bataglia of Ensol) having a paper production byproduct inquired with the NYSDEC about their waste material and suggested it might have a beneficial use on site. Mr. Hinton said that the NYSDEC is not opposed to the concept, but has not been advised of the intended use or approached about making a beneficial use determination. For any use to be considered, a complete submittal would need to be made by Sevenson demonstrating compliance with the Contract Documents, and a beneficial use determination would need to be made by the NYSDEC.

Mr. Welch said that the same vendor had reached out to Sevenson, and said that Sevenson has not made decision whether or not to propose use of the material on site. Mr. Farrell asked Mr. Welch to make sure a submittal with complete information and identifying the intended use is provided for consideration if Sevenson does which to propose this or other source of material for import to the site.

11. OTHER ITEMS

O'Brien & Gere forwarded the NYSDEC letter dated December 16, 2013 to the New York Power Authority (NYPA) with request that they modify the existing NYPA permit to allow Sevenson to remove the slag from the area identified in the NYPA right-of-way. Mr. Hinton asked that we let the NYSDEC know if NYPA does not cooperate and allow the work to proceed relatively soon.

Next, Mr. Farrell indicated that in the design drawings for the Vanadium OU3 site there is a discrepancy between drawing C-07 (plan view) and Section M-M on drawing C-19 as identified in the Request for Information (RFI) #10 provided on January 6, 2014 by Sevenson. In this case, there does not appear to be reason for the geocomposite clay liner (GCL) in the ditch south of OU2 as shown in Section M-M on drawing C-19. Slag and impacted sediment in this location is being removed and consolidated on the mound before backfill and restoration of the drainage swale. Also, the area is sampled following excavation to confirm achievement of the site cleanup objectives. The GCL appears to serve no purpose in this location and O'Brien & Gere recommends that the construction in this location be completed as shown on drawing C-07 without GCL. Mr. Farrell asked that Mr. Hinton review the RFI and let us know if the NYSDEC concurs.

Also, Mr. Bryk advised that National Grid would be having ATL drill two borings on site during the week of January 13<sup>th</sup> within the slag mound area near towers 12c and 14c. The borings should be complete in

a couple of days and not impact OU3 remedial actions. A coordination meeting occurred January 6, 2014 with representatives of National Grid, Severson and ATL.

12. NEXT PROGRESS MEETING

Progress Meeting 19 is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14 at 10:30 AM.

**AGENDA**  
**WEEKLY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS MEETING**

**VANADIUM SITE OPERABLE UNIT 3 REMEDIAL ACTION**  
**TOWN OF NIAGARA, NEW YORK**

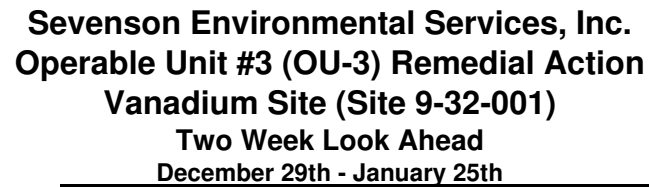
1. INTRODUCTIONS
2. PRIOR MEETING MINUTES (acceptance/comments)
3. HEALTH & SAFETY
  - a. Safety moment to highlight task associated risks
  - b. Monitoring performed
  - c. Compliance with Action Levels
  - d. PPE response/corrective actions (if necessary)
  - e. Accidents/injuries (if any)
4. COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING
  - a. Monitoring performed
  - b. Compliance with Action Levels
  - c. Corrective actions (if necessary)
5. SITE SECURITY
6. STORMWATER POLLUTION CONTROLS
7. COMMUNITY/REGULATORY INTERACTIONS
  - a. NYSDEC
  - b. NYSDOH
  - c. Others (if any)
8. WORK COMPLETED DURING PREVIOUS WEEK
  - a. Excavation & consolidation of slag/soil
  - b. Construction quality control tests performed
  - c. Number of samples collected for analyses
  - d. Laboratory results received
  - e. Construction water management
9. UNANTICIPATED CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED (if any)
10. WORK SCHEDULED FOR UPCOMING WEEK
  - a. Project tasks to be completed
  - b. Anticipated labor/equipment needs
  - c. Potential hazards/special considerations for toolbox safety meetings
11. NYSDEC COMMENTS

**WORK COMPLETED 12/17/13 – 1/7/14**

- Continued to prepare and submit contract submittals.
- Continued to perform CAMP activities.
- Continued to implement the health and safety plan.
- Continued to perform daily surveying activities.
- Continued to perform soil erosion and sediment control inspections and maintenance.
- Continued the compaction of subgrade in Slag Area 3.
- Continued slag grading operations in Area 3.
- Continued to perform winterization procedures on site equipment.
- Continued decon and demobe of unessential equipment.
- Continued the slag removal in Area 1.
- Observed Christmas and New Year Holidays

**UPCOMING WORK SCHEDULED**

- Continue to perform CAMP activities.
- Continue to implement the health and safety plan.
- Continue to perform daily surveying activities.
- Continue grading slag subgrade in Slag Area 3.
- Continue water management as needed.
- Complete the cut / fill operations of slag in Area 1.
- Complete relocation of the CRZ west of Area 1.
- Initiate the removal of slag in Area 5.
- Initiate the removal of sediment from the southwestern sediment area.

[illegible]