

**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 28, 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 1025 hrs

Weather – T~3<sup>0</sup>F, WC -17<sup>0</sup>F, partly cloudy, wind WSW @ 19 mph

Job Progress Meeting #21

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

H&S – no issues, concern with the cold

CAMP – No issues, no excavation work yesterday and today. Probably no work tomorrow

SWPP – Site frozen, Glynn Geotechnical continuing to inspect erosion control facilities on a weekly basis. Last Inspection Wednesday Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Site Security – no issues

Hauler permits – SES still undecided on how they plan to do the wetland work. May now use sub-contractors

Work Completed – Refer summary notes

Upcoming Work – Refer summary notes

National Grid – Atlantic Testing to be on site on Wednesday 1/29 to conduct geo-technical investigations for tower replacement project. SES may not be working but staff will be on hand to provide the Site safety orientation.

CCMA (OU#1) – SES following up on request for access through OU#1 to get at the wetlands south of OU#1. No response from CCMA yet

Unanticipated Conditions - none. SES may shut down for the winter in late February due to cold and not being able to work soil in cold temperatures.

NYPA – Permit Amendment to address additional slag has been sent to SES. SES has signed permit. Restriction on work with in 20' for tower

Next meeting February 4<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 28, 2014

## **Minutes of Construction Progress Meeting 21**

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

The twenty-first construction progress meeting was conducted on January 28, 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** –Jack Brueckl, Dave Leising, Dana Tipton and Mike Welch on-site, and Jerry Castiglione via telephone  
**CB&I** - Michael Donegan via telephone  
**NYSDEC** – Michael Hinton on-site  
**NYPA** – Julius Fuks via telephone

A copy of the meeting agenda is attached.

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

There were no comments to the minutes of progress meeting 20.

#### **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 is conducted on site while intrusive activities are underway. On January 27<sup>th</sup> there was no work or monitoring performed on site due to weather. Intrusive activities and monitoring will resume once the weather allows.

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

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

Surface water on site is frozen but Glynn Geotechnical continues to conduct weekly inspections of the stormwater controls.

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

No site security issues.

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

Sevenson is continuing its communication with Mr. Joiner, the plant manager for CC Metals and Alloys, and his representatives in an effort to obtain an access approval that would allow Sevenson to utilize an existing construction road on the Operable Unit 1 (OU1) site to access the area of sediment removal on the OU3 site south of OU1. The OU1 site access would be for the transit of trucks and equipment only.

As an alternative, Severson is also considering the possibility of transporting material from the OU3 sediment area south of OU1 to the main gate for the OU3 site by transit on a section of Witmer Road. Severson has only two 25-ton trucks available for use that are permitted, so Mr. Welch said they might need to subcontract this task since using their smaller permitted trucks may not be economically feasible to them to use. Mr. Welch asked Mr. Hinton during the meeting how quickly additional truck permits could be issued if any are required. Mr. Hinton replied that the permits could be issued within a day of request.

Mr. Welch also reported that ATL, the contractor installing the geotechnical soil borings for National Grid as part of the separate project for the future replacement of towers 12c and 14c, may be on site as soon as Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> depending on the weather. Mr. Welch said that Severson's health and safety and project management staff would be on site as normally scheduled, but other Severson personnel may not be present depending on weather and Severson's determination regarding whether or not to conduct OU3 Remedial Action fieldwork that day.

**7. WORK COMPLETED DURING PREVIOUS WEEK**

Severson 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**

Severson distributed the attached two-week projection of work.

**10. OTHER ITEMS**

NYPA prepared a Permit Amendment to allow removal of slag from its right-of-way in accordance with the December 16, 2013 letter from the NYSDEC. Mr. Farrell said that Severson has signed and returned the required number of copies to O'Brien & Gere, and O'Brien & Gere will coordinate with NYPA and Mr. Davis to obtain the necessary approvals to proceed. The amendment says that work may not be conducted within 20 ft of the NYPA towers, but the field team indicates that the slag may extend within that limit. Mr. Farrell added that Mr. Fuks recommended signing the amendment as written, and if access within 20 ft is required he [Mr. Fuks] could later grant a variance to allow work within the 20 ft limit.

Mr. Fuks responded and said that the 20 ft limit was applicable for excavation of slag using excavators and other mechanical means, same as the original permit. If work is required below tower NS01 1/8 it would need to be performed similar to before. Mr. Brueckl asked if the footer and grounding details for NYPA tower NS01 1/8 are the same as NYPA tower NS02 1-8. Mr. Fuks replied that grounding details and record drawings of the foundation are not available.

At this time the meeting was opened to questions and comments. Mr. Welch inquired about the status of RFI-011 and Mr. Farrell responded that a copy of it with a figure proposing modification of the berm grades was provided to NYSDEC to prevent burying the tower footers. Mr. Hinton said he would review RFI-011 when back at his office.

**11. NYSDEC COMMENTS**

Mr. Hinton had no comments.

12. NEXT PROGRESS MEETING

Progress Meeting 22 is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4 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

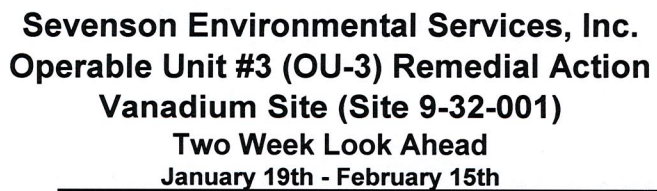
**WORK COMPLETED 1/21/14 – 1/28/14**

- 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 slag grading operations in Area 3.
- Continued to perform winterization procedures on site equipment.
- Continued the delivery and stockpiling of topsoil.
- Continued the removal of the berm in the northern sediment area.
- Initiated slag removal from Area 5.

**UPCOMING WORK SCHEDULED**

- Continue to perform CAMP activities.
- Continue to implement the health and safety plan.
- Continue to perform daily surveying activities.
- Continue water management as needed.
- Complete the removal of slag in Area 5.
- Initiate the removal of sediment from the southwestern sediment area.
- Initiate the restoration of the wetland areas south of OU1.
- Continue grading slag subgrade in Slag Area 3.
- Shut down for winter.



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