

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: June 24, 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~78°F, mostly cloudy, wind SW @ 15 mph with gusts to 35 mph

Job Progress Meeting #38

Refer meeting summary prepared by OB&G for attendees and summary

Meeting 37 notes OK

H&S – SES cited by Nat Grid for working to close to low hanging power lines along the north side of the site. Grid to evaluate lines

CAMP – meters deployed daily, no issues, No action level exceedences. On June 19th air monitors were placed on OU2 due to work location

SWWP – no problem, Glynn continuing weekly inspections

Security – continued ATV activity? SES to contact local police to monitor on weekends

Work Completed – Refer summary notes

Problems –low hanging wires

Upcoming Work – Refer summary notes

Borrow Pit – all soil excavated from borrow pit. Area graded and most is covered with topsoil.

NYPA – No schedule for work in NYPA ROW. SES would like to use this area as a rainy day project. Julius Fuchs will be on site on Friday June 27th.

RFI-18 approved access road realignment. SES and OB&G will for the most part field fit the new alignment.

RFI 20 – SES stated compaction criteria being met

Low Wires – existing condition along north line requires Grid to evaluate solution. May need to raise poles or de-energize line or both. Grid may not have solution by end of project. Grid may have to complete grading in this area. Advised cannot issue CoC until all aspects are complete.

Wetland South of OU1 – Grid needs to evaluate towers after area is de-watered. If towers are bad and replacement is needed may be more than a year before work is done. Requested additional sediment samples after area is dewatered to evaluate soil conditions

Grid – to provide plans for low wires and wetland area through OB&G by mid July 2014.

Toured site – took photo's.

Water in ditch along west line with OU2 has high pH ~13. Pipe discharge south of OU2 has high pH ~13. Wetland water has a pH of ~7. Advised OB&G that high pH water is leaving site.

MJH left site at 1230 hrs.

Attachments: meeting summary, photo's

Inspector's Name (Print): Michael J Hinton

Inspector's Signature:

Date: June 25, 2014







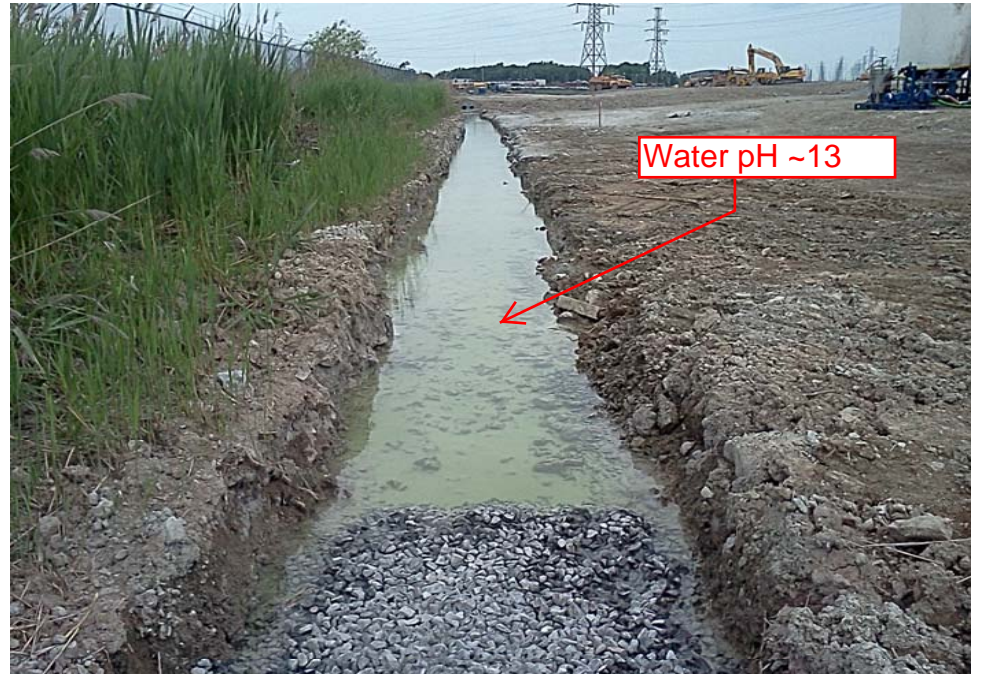
















Minutes of Construction Progress Meeting 38

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

The thirty-eighth construction progress meeting was conducted on June 24, 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 Alan Rhodes on-site, and Al Farrell via telephone
Sevenson – Mike Welch, Jack Brueckel, Dana Tipton and David Leising on-site
National Grid – Bill Jones and Bob Lucciano on site
NYSDEC – Michael Hinton on-site
CB&I – Michael Donegan on-site

A copy of the meeting agenda is attached.

1. MINUTES OF PRIOR PROGRESS MEETING

There were no comments to the minutes of Progress Meeting 37.

2. HEALTH & SAFETY

On 6/10/14 Sevenson was observed operating a piece of heavy equipment within 10 ft of an energized line on the north side of Area 1. While no injury occurred, this was noted as a work safety violation and line clearance infraction and corrective action is required.

The incident occurred on the north side of Area 1 where electric service serves the Cerrone property. These lines in locations along the berm do not have sufficient clearance to allow the OU3 RA construction to be completed within allowable distance. At present National Grid and Sevenson are reviewing options which may include the following:

- Temporary de-energizing of the line to allow the OU3 RA work to be completed.
- Suspending the OU3 RA work in the area, with an appropriate off-set from the lines, until a future time after National Grid raises the lines to provide required clearance above the ground surface.

Mr. Hinton of NYSDEC said that a certificate of completion could not be issued for the project until such time that all the required OU3 RA work was complete, as advise in connection with the second option above.

3. COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING

Community air monitoring is continuing and there were no action level exceedances. On June 19th Sevenson started to deploy air monitoring equipment on the OU2 site as part of the community air monitoring program while work occurs on OU3 along and near the fence. Mr. Farrell asked that Sevenson provide notice when setting up CAMP equipment on OU2 is no longer necessary.

Weekly CAMP summaries are provided to the NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

4. STORMWATER POLLUTION CONTROLS

Glynn Geotechnical is conducting weekly inspection and the stormwater pollution controls are in good condition. Sevenson will be setting up controls in the location for the compaction test pad.

5. SITE SECURITY

Mr. Welch said there are no security issues to report.

6. COMMUNITY/REGULATORY INTERACTIONS

Mr. Welch called the Town of Niagara regarding requirements, if any, for continuing the temporary connection to the water hydrant with water meter.

7. WORK COMPLETED DURING PREVIOUS WEEK

Mr. Welch presented the attached summary report of the work completed during the week.

8. UNANTICIPATED CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED (if any)

The low hanging electric lines along the property line north of Area 1 present difficulty and prevent the OU3 RA work in portions of the area between poles P23 and P25. As described above, National Grid is presently reviewing the situation and will present options for consideration to allow the OU3 RA work to proceed.

9. WORK SCHEDULED FOR UPCOMING WEEK

Sevenson distributed the attached two-week projection of work. At present installation of the GCL continues to be the focus. Sevenson is not certain when they will resume slag excavation on the New York Power Authority (NYPA) right of way, but Mr. Welch said they would like permission from NYPA to perform work in the ROW away from any towers on rain-days with little or no notice. Mr. Bryk advised that Mr. Fuks would be visiting the site on Friday morning and perhaps the request could be discussed then.

Also, Mr. Brueckel said that Sevenson has exhausted the supply of common fill from the on-site borrow pit and is presently removing and making use of the common fill it used to construct the temporary haul road. Future common fill used for the construction will be imported to the site.

10. OTHER ITEMS

- Mr. Farrell asked that Sevenson provide notice to the project team and Mr. Fuks of NYPA once Sevenson has an anticipated start date for the work on the NYPA ROW.
- National Grid is preparing a work plan for the National Grid towers in the wetland south of OU1, where some of the tower foundations are below as much as 5 ft of water which is an impediment to their inspection. Further updates will be provided as they become available regarding National Grid's plan for this area and the towers.
- Mr. Farrell said that RFI-018 regarding the re-route of the access road was approved last week with conditions. Mr. Brueckel said that the surveyor will check grades in the field and Sevenson might need to make field cuts or adjustments to comply with the required slopes and allow for ease of equipment movement later by National Grid.
- Request for information RFI-020 in which Sevenson requests variance to allow compaction of the 6-inch bedding layer to be reduced from 95% to 90% SMDD continues to be held but may not require response. Mr. Welch reiterated that an improvement in the weather and dewatering the tower pad area has helped the compaction, although there is an area near tower 12 that remains wet. As the issue may be resolved and since there is frequent testing of the compaction, there presently is no action on RFI-020 but it will remain open.

- Change Order 1 for the radiological survey required by the NYSDEC was executed last week.

11. NYSDEC COMMENTS

In addition to the comments summarized above, Mr. Hinton asked if Severson expects to complete construction in September 2014, and Mr. Welch replied that the work should be substantially complete by Labor Day. Mr. Welch said that some planting will occur later in the fall when the season for planting is more favorable, as required by the specifications.

12. NEXT PROGRESS MEETING

Progress Meeting 39 is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1 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

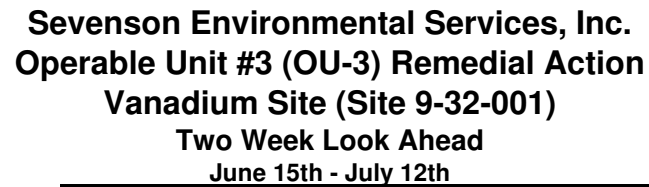
WORK COMPLETED 6/17/14 –6/24/14

- Continued to prepare and submit contract submittals.
- Continued to implement the health and safety plan.
- Continued site security operations.
- Continued CAMP activities.
- Continued to perform soil erosion and sediment control inspections and maintenance.
- Continued to dewater various areas and manage water onsite.
- Continued to final grade subgrade with the D65 GPS bulldozers.
- Completed the mobilization and setup of the temporary WWTP.
- Continued the installation of common borrow in Area 3 from the onsite borrow pit.
- Continued the installation of the imported common borrow
- Continued the installation of the GCL and drainage geocomposite

UPCOMING WORK SCHEDULED

- Continue to prepare and submit contract submittals.
- Continue to implement the health and safety plan.
- Continue to implement CAMP activities.
- Continue to grade final subgrade with the D65 GPS bulldozer.
- Continue site survey activities.
- Continue to perform soil erosion and sediment control inspections and maintenance.
- Continue to perform site security operations.
- Continue dewatering and water management activities (as needed).
- Complete the installation of common borrow from the onsite common borrow pit.

- Continue importing offsite common borrow for installation into the soil cap.
- Initiate the installation of the tower 13 crane pad.
- Initiate the installation of the pull pads.
- Complete receiving GCL shipments.
- Complete the installation of the GCL and Drainage Geocomposite.
- Continue the installation of the GCL.
- Continued the placement of topsoil in the soil cap.

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