

MEMORANDUM FOR PROJECT FILE

SUBJECT: Trip report on LOOW.

1. Drew Rak, Gordy Porter, Sandy Staigerwald, Brenda Herman and myself attended the LOOW RAB on 20 September. We visited the LOOW site prior to the RAB, with particular attention to the abandoned utilities on the Somerset property. We also got pictures of the "frog kill area". We also visited area 2 which has now been cleaned up, rubble removed, and 6" of topsoil removed. Photos attached. The site still has a lot of loose rubble, rebar, and blackened soil from the flare stacks. It was decided we would not backfill with topsoil per the SOW, but rather just grade, and spread seed and straw. That will save a little money on a future mod.
2. We also met with Harold Leggett (Construction Division) for an update on the status of the chem waste and TNT pipeline removal. The chem waste line and sewage lift stations have all been removed from CWM property. There were a few laterals found, and the contractor (Sevenson) will be providing a map. We discussed the closure report prepared by Radian on the work done last year on Syms property. It is not clear from the closure report what was done. Harold reported that they had properly cleaned all the lines and then plugged them and abandoned them per the EE/CA and design. They removed the lines on the CWM property because they found that to be easier than cleaning them. Harold is going to ask Sevenson to resurvey what was done last year and include better information in their closure report.
3. At the RAB, Judy Leithner briefed on FUSRAP, and Bill Kowaliski briefed on LOOW. Ray Pilon did not attend and we now assume that Mary O'Mara has assumed duties as the PM. However, Mary will be out next month (her honeymoon!). Copies of the slides are attached. There were a few typical questions, but nothing major came up. 20-30 people showed up in addition to the RAB members. There were several questions again on cancer clusters, with residents claiming there were x cases of cancer on a block, etc. One individual (we don't know who) showed up dressed in chemical protective gear and stood in the back of the room. He didn't say anything, but we found out later that his father had worked as a guard at LOOW and died of cancer, so this individual was there to protest. There was a question about possible RAD sites on LOOW vice NFSS and were we looking for them. Open issue. There was a suggestion that we look into using dogs to find TNT.
4. Dr. John Vena from Buffalo University then gave a general information presentation on Health Studies. His handout is attached. Dr. Vena had participated in a cancer study on LOOW several years ago. There is a fact sheet on that study attached as well.

5. Kent Johnson from NYDEC attended the RAB, and I had a chance for a good discussion with him. His main complaint was that he had not heard any information on the status of the RI. Mary is trying to find the addendums to the work plans, and the Phase I RI analytical QA report and forward it to him. Kent is also looking forward to a separate meeting on LOOW in early November (tentatively set for 8 November, the week prior to the next RAB). I asked Kent what his thoughts were on the clean-up standards on the EE/CA for the Drum Trench and trash pit. Predictable response. He says we can clean-up to anything we want for the interim removal action but he is never going to accept EPA Region 9 on the final clearance; we are not even in Region 9, etc. I advised him we were still working on the response to his letter and the two letters from Mr. Syms lawyers.

3. On 21 October Gordy Porter, Sandy Staigerwald, Brenda Herman, the new Project Manger Mary K O'Mara, Bill Kowalewski, Fred Boglione, and myself met at the District. The following items were discussed:

- a. Closure report on the TNT Pipeline and Chemical Waste Sewer lines from last year. Severson will update as part of their closure report.
- b. Details of chemical line relese described by Mr. Syms in his lawyer's letter. We will respond that we are unaware and believe he is confusing two different incidents and will request further information on the event.
- c. Possibility of additional monitoring wells in Area 3 due to discovery of RDX last year. EA will move one of the wells from a different area that did not yield water into Area 3. They will addend the work plans.
- d. Action plan to further investigate the underground utilities. We agree that these require further investigation but have not decided how to proceed. We will wait until the results of the current Interim Removal Action are received.
- e. Status of responses on PRP table. EA is going to make some adjustments to the table as requested by Buffalo.
- f. Additional funds for modification. Buffalo is sending us additional funds for a modification to cover additional costs for analytical. This will be completed this FY.
- g. Split Samples with Mr. Syms. Mr. Syms now says he doesn't want to split soil samples but does want to split monitoring well samples. We will give him keys to the wells when the RI is completed.
- h. Weston Contract. Buffalo believes they have sufficient information, but we need to inventory and make sure they have everything. *NOTE: I spoke with Dave Pohl on 22 September on this issue. He believes that since they still owe us a final design, he will*

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revise the design to reflect EPA Region 9 standards and forward us the final documents. That will close out the contract. If needed at another time, we can award them a D.O. on their new contract to "finish" the design. This will be on hold for a while since we are going to re-publish the EE/CA.

i. Public affairs. We still want to coordinate a public affairs "field day" for the press. We decided this should not be in conjunction with a RAB site visit. Mary will coordinate with PAO in Buffalo.

j. Amendments to the work plans. Mary will make distribution.

k. Split samples for RAD testing. This is being coordinated.

l. ROE status. EA want's approval to be able to approach property owners on their own to get signed ROEs. Buffalo agrees and will look at some documents that EA is sending them.

m. Letters to Kent Johnson and Mr. Syms lawyers. Chuck will revise and forward for review/comment.

Charles E. Basham, P.E.
Design Team Leader

UPDATE: I received a call from Gordy on 25 Sept, advising me that the field crew had accidentally stumbled across RAD contamination in an area not currently being investigated. It was relatively hot! Copy attached. Buffalo's HP is visiting today. This potentially has huge implications that I won't go into here, to include that Buffalo may decide to handle under FUDS vice FUSREP. I have asked Nancy Hammond if Hans Honerlah can be assigned to the team as the HP as it appears we will need one big time!

Per discussion with Mary on 26 September, we all (Buffalo, Baltimore, EA, Construction Contractors, NYDEC) need to work harder on maintaining awareness/managing the entire LOOW project as one team, vice looking at multiple projects (NFSS - LOOW - Construction - NFSS vicinity sites). This will be a challenge for Mary.