

TOPOCK REMEDIATION REVIEW

Fourth Quarter 2012 Newsletter

Update on Groundwater Remedy Design

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) continues to develop the Intermediate (60%) Design for the Topock groundwater remedy. In the Preliminary (30%) Design, PG&E presented a plan to obtain freshwater from a well on the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (HNWR)—well HNWR-1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (RWQCB) has indicated that the HNWR-1 water would need to be treated to remove naturally occurring arsenic prior to injection.

With the RWQCB's consent, PG&E has opened discussions regarding the need for arsenic treatment with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board). As the State Board has not yet made a decision, PG&E continues to evaluate other options for freshwater supply in an effort to find location(s) for new well(s) that could supply an adequate quantity of water and not require treatment prior to use for remedy operation.

On November 20, 2012, PG&E submitted the Implementation Plan (Plan) for Evaluation of Alternative Freshwater Sources in the Topock Remediation Project Area to the agencies for review; it is anticipated that the review and approval will be completed by mid-January 2013. The Plan proposes testing of potential new water supply wells.

On November 30, 2012, PG&E submitted a second request for an extension of the Intermediate Design to evaluate options for alternative freshwater supply and to incorporate the results from the evaluation into the design. On December 31, 2012, DTSC responded by directing PG&E to separate the submission of the freshwater source details from the rest of the 60% Design. Additionally, DTSC directed PG&E to eliminate consideration of the freshwater source in California, and focus on the potential sources in Arizona. The new submission deadline for 60% Design is April 5, 2013.



January 2013

Mark Your Calendar

Groundwater Design Schedule

Intermediate (60%) Design	Submit for Review / Comment April 2013
	Comments Due June 2013
	Response to Comments / Comments Resolution Late June to Early October 2013
EIR Addendum	Ongoing by DTSC
Intermediate (60%) Design Addendum	Within 45 days of completion of the Plan
Pre-Final (90%) Design	Submit for Review/Comment November 2013
	Comments Due Mid February 2014
	Response to Comments / Comments Resolution Mid February 2014 to mid March 2014

Revised Soil Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation (RFI/RI) Work Plan

Submitted for Agency Approval	September 17, 2012
Soil CEQA Review	Ongoing by DTSC
Anticipated Agency Approval	August 18, 2013 concurrent with certification of the EIR

Recent Meetings and Events

October 16, 2012	Clearinghouse Task Force (CTF) Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Yuma, AZ
October 17, 2012	Consultative Work Group (CWG) Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Yuma, AZ
October 18, 2012	Technical Work Group (TWG) Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Yuma, AZ
October 24, 2012	Tribal/PG&E Topock Project Monthly Update, conference call
November 13-14, 2012	Inter-tribal Event, Lake Havasu City, AZ
November 14, 2012	Cultural and Historic Properties Management Plan (CHPMP) Meeting, Lake Havasu, NV
December 4, 2012	CTF Meeting, Henderson, NV Tribal/PG&E Topock Project Monthly Update, Henderson, NV
December 11-13, 2012	Soil EIR Public Meetings, Golden Shores, AZ; Needles, CA; Yuma, AZ
December 19, 2012	Tribal/PG&E Topock Project Monthly Update, conference call
January 9, 2013	CHPMP Meeting, Lake Havasu, AZ
January 15, 2013	CTF Meeting, Henderson, NV Tribal Monthly Update (TMU), Henderson, NV
January 16, 2013	CWG Meeting, Henderson, NV
January 17, 2013	TWG Meeting, Henderson, NV

Note: Dates subject to change



Start of Environmental Review of Soil RFI/RI Work Plan

The Revised Soil Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation (RFI/RI) Work Plan was submitted to the agencies for approval on September 17, 2012. The agencies are reviewing the document and DTSC is beginning the process of preparing a focused Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the Revised Soil RFI/RI Work Plan.

On November 28, 2012, DTSC submitted a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of its intent to prepare an EIR for the soil investigation project. The purpose of the NOP is to solicit input from the public and the agencies on the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. DTSC conducted three public Scoping Meetings in mid-December (Needles, CA; Golden Shores, AZ; and, Yuma, AZ) to provide the opportunity for the public to learn about the project and share any comments. Additional scoping meetings were also held by request for tribal governments.

The 45-day public comment period ends on January 14, 2013. Agency approvals are anticipated on August 18, 2013, concurrent with certification of the EIR. After the agencies have approved the Revised Soil RFI/RI Work Plan, the field implementation will commence.

East Ravine/Compressor Station Groundwater Investigation Activities

The East Ravine/Topock Compressor Station (ER-TCS) Groundwater Investigation activities are now complete. Field work for the ER-TCS Groundwater Investigation began in March 2011 and ended in July 2012. Results from the investigation are being incorporated into the Intermediate Design of the groundwater remedy. The wells have been incorporated into the site-wide monitoring program.

Green Highlight - Topock Truck

Recently, a new and innovative vehicle was added to the Topock onsite fleet: The Topock Truck. The Topock Truck was designed from scratch by the IM3 field team to perfectly fit their needs and to reduce waste in performing the IM3 and groundwater monitoring activities. The Topock Truck was built by a local welder and metal fabricator as a way to minimize greenhouse gas emission by eliminating up to 1,000 miles a week of mobilization driving by southern California offsite sub-contractors.

The Topock Truck isn't just a truck – it was designed to adapt to the needs of the Topock project. It has a custom made flatbed with a separate skid (pallet) designed for conducting sampling work. The benefit of the flatbed and skid approach is that one onsite truck can serve multiple purposes. The Topock Truck is modular and can be altered for multiple uses in the future. For example, a skid can be built to perform well rehabilitation or pipeline repair in the future. The modular system easily adapts to the specific requirements of Topock project.



Topock Truck

Spotlight: Technical Review Committee

The Technical Review Committee (TRC) was established to convene and retain a multidisciplinary panel of independent scientific and engineering experts. The TRC is made up of multidisciplinary experts who will review project-related documents, participate in project-related meetings, and advise interested tribal members on technical matters relating to the final design and remedy.



Eric Rosenblum, Ph.D. DABT
Environmental Toxicologist /
Risk Assessor

Eric S. Rosenblum, Ph.D., DABT joined the TRC at its formation in October 2011. His work focuses on the understanding how site remediation and Topock specific risk assessments can follow regulatory guidance while at the same time appropriately incorporating respect for the sacredness and spiritual history of land.

Throughout his career Dr. Rosenblum has focused his environmental practice on environmental toxicology and human and ecological

risk assessments and has extensive experience in the evaluation and remediation of impacted groundwater, soil, and surface water issues associated with the mining, and oil and gas industries. Most recently Dr. Rosenblum has written an ecological risk assessment which evaluated the wildlife impacts associated with the global distribution of polyfluorinated compounds (PFCs), and has worked on an assessment evaluating the potential impacts associated with the Snake River sockeye hatchery

program. Eric's work has also includes evaluating the toxicity associated with chemicals in consumer products and is the lead toxicologist for Clean Production Actions. In this work Eric applies knowledge of toxicology to help manufactures develop products that are less harmful to humans and the environment.

Eric graduated with a PhD from University of California Davis in 2005 and now lives in the Indian Peaks mountain range in Colorado.

Topock Project Activity Recap

- On October 11, 2012, the Topock Orientation Pilot Program took place at the Compressor Station. More than 30 individuals were in attendance, including TRC members, project consultants, Tribal representatives, regulatory officials and PG&E representatives. Survey forms collected from the participants showed the experience was positive for most participants, and provided important feedback for tailoring future Orientation sessions. The Orientation Program has been a long-term objective of the CTF: providing a method for educating newcomers about the project. The Pilot Program was planned and organized through the efforts of the CTF Orientation Sub-Committee with significant input and direction from the CTF. The Orientation Program will serve as a fundamental aspect of Topock project and will continue to be updated periodically and serve newcomers as directed by the CTF.
- Responses to the community survey mailed to local residents and stakeholders in January 2012 are being reviewed and will be included in DTSC's forthcoming update of the Community Outreach Plan.
- Following the finalization of the Cultural and Historic Properties Management Plan (CHPMP) by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which occurred in the first quarter of 2012, agencies, Tribes, and stakeholders continue to meet every other month to discuss the plan. CHPMP meetings recently held or upcoming are: Jan. 9th and April 10th at the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office. For further information, contact Pam Innis, DOI.
- Several of the mitigation measures stemming from the FEIR for Groundwater are in progress:
 - The Third Quarter 2012 EIR Mitigation Measures Compliance Report was completed at the end of October 2012 and is available on the DTSC Topock project website.
 - PG&E has been conducting and will continue to conduct outreach with Tribes regarding Topock project activities based on the project EIR, section (CUL-1a-8a). Monthly Tribal/PG&E conference calls are often scheduled for the same day as the CTF meetings. The purpose of the monthly calls is to provide up-to-date information on planned and ongoing studies, field activities, measures that are being taken to mitigate project impacts in accordance with the project EIR, and/or other project-related activities of interest to Tribes.
- The Cultural Impact Minimization Plan (CIMP) (CUL-1a-8) is under preparation. The CIMP will be submitted with the final design. PG&E is conducting outreach with Tribes on several parts of the CIMP, including, but not limited to the following:
 - The CIMP outline was discussed with interested Tribes on February 23, 2012, and March 22, 2012. PG&E is continuing the discussion with interested Tribes on various mitigation measures under the CIMP. A draft CIMP will be provided to interested Tribes for review prior to submittal to DTSC for review and approval.
 - Draft protocols for review of cultural resource documents were included in the Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI) Work Plan (Section 4.8), and will also be included in the CIMP.
 - The plan for the decommissioning and removal of the IM-3 Facility and Site Restoration will be included as an appendix to the CIMP.
 - Locations requiring specific protective devices, such as temporary fencing, flagging, or other type of demarcation during construction will be included in the CIMP.
- Field surveys:
 - Biological and Cultural Resources surveys at potential exploratory boring sites began on October 2, 2012.
 - Opportunistic Soil Sampling Related to Topock Compressor Station Scrubber Removal occurred on October 4 and 5, 2012.
 - Salinity profiling of Key Wells and CMP Wells occurred from October 15 to 18, 2012.

TOPOCK REMEDICATION REVIEW



DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC
SUBSTANCES CONTROL



The **Topock Remediation Review** is a quarterly technical update on the Topock Compressor Station cleanup project. It is published by the Topock Clearinghouse Task Force, a group of stakeholders comprised of state, regional, and federal agencies; tribal governments; and PG&E representatives. The **Topock Remediation Review** is dedicated to enhancing stakeholder understanding of technical and regulatory information, encouraging participation in decision making forums, and fostering timely and effective project management and decisions for the Topock Compressor Station project final remedy.

You may view past issues of the newsletter in the Document Library on the project's website (www.dtsc-topock.com). Once there navigate to the "Public Outreach" page and its "Other Outreach Documents" category.

For More Information

Visit DTSC's Topock Project Website: www.dtsc-topock.com

Questions regarding this newsletter or the Topock Project should be directed to:

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Upcoming Meetings

February 19, 2013	CTF Meeting, location TBD TMU, location TBD
February 20, 2013	TWG Meeting, location TBD CHPMP Meeting, location TBD
March 13, 2013	CHPMP Meeting, location TBD
March 19, 2013	CTF Meeting, location TBD TMU, location TBD
March 20, 2013	TWG Meeting, location TBD CHPMP Meeting, location TBD

Note: Dates subject to change