

Closure Activity Update: November 2020

Work priorities were focused on continued demolition of the service and support facilities as RGR awaits approval of the mine permit modification request and disposal cell expansion. Characterization studies of facility structures were continued and several dewatering wells were located and prepared for access. Larger projects included continued construction of the cover system for the Waste Rock Pile and the demolition of numerous concrete foundations.

The COVID virus continued to impact work. Contractor availability and access, as well as supply chains, continued to be impacted. Work crews were experiencing reduced manpower due to COVID concerns.

Winter weather conditions began affecting work efficiency and progress.

Activities

- 1) MWTU Ponds 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
  - Final Status Survey (FSS) reports are complete for all of the MWTU Ponds.
  
- 2) Ore Pile Removal
  - Removal and transportation of the ore pile material continued.
  - Approximately 2,225 tons of low-grade ore were hauled off site during the month.
    - To-date hauled: 33,750 tons.
  - The transport contractor experienced several delay events:
    - Several mechanical failures,
    - Icy conditions slowed loading operations and travel,
    - Driver illnesses possibly due to Covid-19.
  
- 3) Disposal Cell and Waste Rock Pile (WRP)
  - Existing WRP clay cover construction project:
    - Completed the clay cap on the upper slopes,
    - Completed the majority of the clay cap on the lower slopes,
    - Covered the east slope with clay,
      - This is a temporary cover placed until a decision is made about the disposal cell expansion,
    - Began placing loam soil on the upper slopes.
  - Work progress was slowed due to cold temperatures which prevented material compaction.
  - Erosion blankets were ordered for eventual coverage of the loam soil once placed.
  
- 4) WP5 Well, MW6 Well and North and South Force Mains
  - The WP5 well continued to pump on a fully automatic cycle.
  - The MW6 well continued to be pumped on a fully automatic cycle.
  - North Force Main (NFM):
    - Completed the integrity test of the NFM HDPE pipe section,
    - Report is being prepared.

5) Diesel Release Investigation

- Drilling was completed at the end of October.
- The drilling company demobilized from the site in early November.
- The consultant began developing the wells.
- The consultant began baseline water sampling of the wells.

6) Closeout/Closure Activities

- Demolished the foundation of the Carpenter Shop on the compressor bench.
- Demolished the foundation of the Water Treatment Building (not IX Plant).
  - Also demolished concrete compressor pad in front of building.
- Demolished a portion of the concrete pad between the Electrical building and Compressor building.
  - Equipment remaining on the pad prevented completion of the project.
- Demolished approximately 70% of the generator pad (by substation).
  - Equipment remaining on the pad prevented completion of the demolition.
- Demolished the concrete pedestals of the previously removed Above-Ground-Storage-Tanks.
- Demolished the Fire Extinguisher storage shed by the Fuel Pump House.
  - Also Demolished the concrete foundation below it.
- Demolished 3 other small concrete pads no longer in use around the site,
- Demolished the lube Shed (near the Trailer House).
- Located 5 previously covered dewatering wells.
  - Excavated all 5 wells and placed riser extensions on them for future access.
- A contractor was selected to remove the fluid from the glycol shaft heat system.
  - Scheduled to be removed in December.
- Continued removing and sorting debris and scrap from around the site.
  - Radiological characterization of debris and scrap materials continued.
- Site Electrical
  - RGR's electrical contractor continued de-energizing facility components in advance of removal tasks.
- Vendors visited the site to discuss draining and removing oils from the various transformers.

7) Other

- RGR continued to experience mechanical failures of site equipment which impacted activities:
  - Loader transmission repairs are still not completed, issue is being disputed with the vendor,
  - Water truck pump and cooling system continued to be problematic.
- A vendor visited the site to discuss potential salvage options.
- A 1-day work slow-down occurred due to snow and icy conditions.

Forecasted Activities

- 1) Ore Pile Removal.
  - Estimating around 9 to 10 months to complete.
    - Work has slowed and will continue to slow with the onset of winter conditions.
- 2) Closure Activities
  - Anticipating demolition of:
    - Emergency Hoist/Quonset Hut Building,
    - Shaft Heat Building,
    - Chiller Pump Building,
    - Chiller Building,
    - Fuel Pump Building,
    - Discharge pipeline,
    - Cooling Towers,
    - Chlorine Building,
    - Sewage Plant,
    - MWTU Pond Hydraulic structures and related buildings.

Critical Path Items

- 1) Approval of eastward expansion of the disposal cell.
  - Anticipating early to mid-2021.