

Closure Activity Update: December 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. Focus was on draining fluids from all legacy equipment, removing the glycol from the shaft heat building and demolishing orphan utilities around the site, such as light poles and bollard structures. Construction of the cover system for the Waste Rock Pile was essentially completed. Final grading and channel work remained to be completed.

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

Winter weather conditions began affecting work efficiency and progress. Snow impeded work 2 days.

Activities

1) Ore Pile Removal

- Removal and transportation of the ore pile material continued.
- Approximately 1,543 tons of low-grade ore were hauled off site during the month.
 - To-date hauled: 35,268 tons.
 - Productivity was lower because of Holiday schedules and winter conditions.
- The transport contractor experienced several delay events:
 - Several mechanical failures.
 - A driver quit.

2) Disposal Cell and Waste Rock Pile (WRP)

- Existing WRP cover construction project:
 - Completed the clay cap on the lower slopes,
 - Completed placing 18 inches of growth media cover on the upper south, north and west slopes and
 - Completed placing 12 inches of growth media cover on the lower west slope.
- Work progress was slowed due to cold temperatures which prevented material compaction.
 - Ice and snow created severe safety risks to equipment working on the clay surface.
- Erosion blankets were delivered and will be placed on the slopes for erosion protection once all of the project is completed.

3) WP5 Well, MW6 Well and North Force Main

- 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):
 - The North Force Main pipeline passed all integrity testing; commissioning will follow.

- A final completion report of the integrity testing of the North Force Main pipeline was delivered to RGR from the Professional Engineer.

4) Diesel Release Investigation

- The diesel investigation consultant/contractor is sampling wells and analyzing data
 - A final report is being prepared for late February.

5) Closeout/Closure Activities

- Attempted to locate 2 remaining deep dewatering wells
 - Encountered pipe and electrical lines but could not locate the wells.
 - Wells are believed to lie under existing facilities.
 - RGR will attempt to locate the remaining wells once those facilities are demolished.
- A recycling contractor removed all of the glycol from the system lines of the shaft heat building.
- Site Electrical
 - RGR's electrical contractor continued de-energizing facility components in advance of removal tasks:
 - 1) 9 facility light poles,
 - 2) Generator pad,
 - 3) Chiller Bench buildings,
 - 4) Gate openers and
 - 5) Communication boxes.
- Continued removing and sorting debris and scrap from around the site.
 - Removed the fencing and porches from the trailer house.
 - Removed numerous bollards from around the site.
 - Removed all facility light poles (9) not in use.
 - Moved empty trailers to the material storage yard.
 - Moved several empty barrel racks to the material storage yard.
 - Continued removing piping from the glycol building once the glycol had been removed.
 - Removed the previously constructed South Force Main pipeline and backfilled the trench.
 - The South Force Main pipeline was constructed during Phase I but has now been removed because there is no intended future use during closure.
 - Removed a water delivery line by the old sewer plant that was not being used and had no further purpose.
 - This line was set up in 2018 to support contractor operations; it was intended to provide fresh water for earthwork but was never used.
 - Radiological characterization of debris and scrap materials continued.
- Completed draining oil from the following equipment:
 - BaCl building equipment,
 - Flocculant Building equipment,
 - Service Building equipment,
 - Car Shop and Yard equipment,
 - Chiller Building equipment,
 - Chiller Pump Building equipment,
 - Chlorine Building equipment,

- Hoist House equipment.
 - Constructed a fence around MWTU ponds 2 and 3 to reduce safety risks to people and wildlife.
- 6) Other
- RGR continued to experience mechanical failures of site equipment which impacted activities.
 - Loader transmission repairs are still not completed.
 - Mechanic sent equipment to another repair facility.
 - Water truck pump and cooling system continued to be problematic.
 - Conducted the annual radiation training session for all site personnel.
 - Contacted an Archeological consultant for upcoming work.

Forecasted Activities

- 1) Ore Pile Removal
- Estimating around 9 to 10 months to complete.
 - Work has slowed and will continue to slow with the winter season.
- 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 support buildings.
 - All of the above demolition projects are awaiting results from radiological characterization studies.

Critical Path Items

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