

Closure Activity Update: September 2020

Work effort for the month continued with cleaning debris and scrap from around the facility and in buildings. Characterization studies were conducted for buildings and to assist with sorting clean debris from contaminated materials. Work and planning priorities were modified to focus on the continued cleanup of the facility as RGR awaited approval of the mine permit modification request. The superstructure of the Water Treatment Building (Not IX Plant) on the compressor bench was demolished.

The COVID virus continued to impact work. No site personnel were infected, but contractor availability and access, as well as supply chains, continued to be moderately impacted.

Activities

- 1) MWTU Pond No. 2
  - Pond 2 is commissioned and ready for use and will remain idled until needed.
- 2) MWTU Ponds 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
  - Final Status Survey (FSS) reports have now been completed for all of the MWTU Ponds.
- 3) Ore Pile Removal
  - Removal and transportation of the ore pile material continued.
  - Approximately 1,350 tons of low-grade ore were hauled off site during the month.
    - To-date hauled: 28,997 tons.
  - Numerous operational delays contributed to a lower than normal amount of ore being hauled away during the month.
    - The mill experienced high winds and had to stop truck shipments.
    - The truck contractor experienced mechanical failures on several trucks over the course of the month.
- 4) Disposal Cell and Waste Rock Pile (WRP)
  - Existing WRP clay cap construction project.
    - An earthmoving contractor was selected for the bid.
    - Project to start by mid-October.
  - Still awaiting approval to construct the expansion segment of the disposal cell.
- 5) 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.
- 6) Diesel Release Investigation
  - NMED gave approval of the diesel investigation proposal.
  - The diesel investigation drilling program is still scheduled to begin October 5

## 7) Closeout/Closure Activities

- Demolished the superstructure of the Water Treatment Building (Not IX Plant) on the compressor bench.
  - Demolition was moved forward to facilitate the diesel investigation.
  - The concrete slab was radiologically scanned and found to be uncontaminated.
- Prepared the Carpenter Shop for demolition.
  - Received approval to demolish the building from MMD.
  - Demolition is being moved forward to facilitate the diesel investigation.
- Removed all materials, scrap and debris and prepared the following buildings for radiological characterization studies:
  - Glycol building
    - Completed initial characterization survey.
  - Several unused storage trailers.
- Removed more rail and ties
  - Approx. 1,300 lineal feet removed so far
- Removed piping from behind the Water Treatment Building and Compressor Building to facilitate the upcoming diesel investigation drilling.
- Performed radiological characterization on the following:
  - Core Shed
  - IX Plant
    - First disinfected with Clorox to minimize exposure to Hanta virus
  - Barium Chloride Building
    - Cleaned with Clorox solution to minimize risk of Hanta virus exposure.
    - Completed initial characterization survey.
- Continued sorting debris and scrap for future burial.
  - Cleaned all debris from compressor bench in anticipation of diesel investigation drilling.
  - A vendor visited the site to arrange for the recycling of several unused compressed gas cylinders (for welding and fire-fighting).

## 8) Other

- RGR mechanical breakdowns which impact site activities:
  - Loader transmission, repairs still in progress.
  - Water truck radiator; fixed.
- Continental Divide (Site Power Provider) replaced a pole-mounted transformer that was damaged in a storm earlier in the summer.
- Sent a letter to MMD requesting that the Electrical Building be added to the list of buildings to be retained for the PMLU.
  - The status of this building was inadvertently left as “demolish” in the permit modification request (Mod 20-1) submitted in May.

Forecasted Activities

- 1) Disposal Cell.
  - Anticipate starting construction of the clay cap in mid-October.
- 2) Ore Pile Removal.
  - Anticipating around 10 months to complete.
    - Work will slow in coming months due to winter conditions.
    - Remaining ore is currently estimated to be a little less than one-half the original volume.
- 3) Diesel Release Investigation
  - Drilling will commence in early October.
- 4) Closure Activities
  - Anticipating starting demolition of:
    - Storage shed (small wood-framed shed by the Carpenter Shop),
    - Discharge pipeline,
    - Cooling Towers,
    - Glycol Building,
    - Portable Building,
    - Chlorine Building,
    - Sewage Plant,
    - MWTU Pond Hydraulic structures.
  - Anticipating conducting the Vegetation reference area study in October.

Critical Path Items

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