

# ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17670  
Boulder, CO 80308-0670  
www.rockyflatssc.org

(303) 412-1200  
(303) 600-7773 (f)

Jefferson County -- Boulder County -- City and County of Broomfield -- City of Arvada -- City of Boulder  
City of Golden -- City of Northglenn -- City of Westminster -- Town of Superior  
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders  
Arthur Widdowfield

## Monthly Status Report – May 2011

### Board meeting summary

There was no board meeting this month.

### Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE's April 2011 Rocky Flats activities included:

#### *Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring*

- Installed new sentinel well 33711 to replace well 33703 south of former Building 371 area, as the old well was badly kinked
- Installed a protective steel casing and a concrete pad at existing well 00203
- Installed a dedicated sampling pump in well P416989
- Collected groundwater samples for 15 locations in the Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System (SPPTS) area
- Conducted quarterly groundwater sampling at 10 locations and collected 24 samples. Quarterly sampling is 56% complete
- Collected and processed six automated surface water sample suites
- Ponds A-4 and B-5 discharge was completed

#### *Groundwater Treatment Systems*

Routine inspections of the treatment systems were conducted as follows:

- East Trenches Plume Treatment System (ETPTS) – DOE reports the system is functioning normally.
- Mound Plume Treatment System (MSPTS) – DOE reports the system is functioning normally. Air stripper is currently pumping on a 12-hour cycle.
- SPPTS – DOE reports optimization of the system is ongoing.

#### *Ecology*

- Interseeded the East Shooting Range Project area along Woman Creek by spreading volunteer-collected grasses into areas with sparse vegetation to increase vegetation cover.

#### *Site Monitoring & Maintenance*

- There were no significant changes to report at either landfill.
- Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse erosion control inspections were completed.

## Site Document Update

In May DOE issued four documents, including revisions to the RFLMA (to address water monitoring points at Indiana Street) and revisions to the public involvement plan.

### Dam Breach Environmental Assessment (EA)

As has been discussed extensively over the past 16 months, DOE is planning to breach five site dams, including dams on the terminal ponds on Walnut Creek and Woman Creek. As expected, DOE issued the environmental assessment (EA), a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. The EA in short concludes that all potential impacts can be mitigated and that no impacts are considered significant. DOE has therefore concluded that it does not need to conduct a more thorough environmental impact statement (EIS), and thus issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). DOE now has the legal authority necessary to breach the terminal ponds.

The EA and FONSI can be found at: [http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky\\_Flats\\_NEPA.pdf](http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats_NEPA.pdf)

### Adaptive Management Plan (AMP)

DOE also issued the adaptive management plan (AMP) for the terminal pond breach. The AMP provides additional detail regarding how DOE will manage the ponds, wetlands and streams until such time that it breaches the ponds. Under the AMP, DOE will not breach the three terminal ponds until 2018 – 2020. Until such time DOE will operate the ponds in what they are calling a “flow-through condition.” That in short means that the existing outlet valves will be opened to allow for a more natural stream flow, and would be closed if conditions identified in the AMP are met (e.g., exceedance of water quality standards).

The AMP can be found at: [http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky\\_Flats\\_AMP.pdf](http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats_AMP.pdf)

### Surface Water Monitoring Points

As part of the changes to the site water containment systems, DOE also changed surface water monitoring points. Specifically, the existing regulatory compliance points along Indiana Street were moved west to near the outflow of the terminal ponds on Walnut Creek and Woman Creek. Moving the points of compliance (POCs) requires DOE, CDPHE, and EPA to amend the Rocky Flats Legacy Management Agreement (RFLMA), the site regulatory document. In moving the POCs, DOE agreed to (1) maintain existing regulatory POCs at Indiana Street for the next two years, and (2) following the two year period, continue to sample water along Indiana Street until it breaches the terminal ponds on Walnut Creek and Woman Creek.

The changes to the RFLMA can be found at:  
[http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky\\_Flats/Sites.aspx?view=5](http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats/Sites.aspx?view=5)

### Public Involvement Plan

DOE made minor changes to the public involvement plan (PIP). Those changes are limited to changes in points of contacts and removal of provisions that applied to site closure.

The new PIP can be found at: [http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky\\_Flats/Sites.aspx?view=5](http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats/Sites.aspx?view=5)

## Stewardship Council update

Next meetings:

September 12 (second Monday)

November 14 (second Monday)