

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 Thornton ~ City of Westminster ~ Town of Superior
League of Women Voters ~ Rocky Flats Cold War Museum ~ Rocky Flats Homesteaders

Monthly Status Report – May 2017

Board Meeting Summary

There was no meeting this month.

Legacy Management Monthly Site Activities Summary

DOE reports site personnel conducted the following activities in April.

Water Quality

- Measured quarterly water levels in groundwater monitoring wells, and started second quarter groundwater sampling.
- The first batch of 2017 Walnut Creek water samples (six surface water samples) was sent to the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) to determine the ratio of natural vs man-made uranium. Additional Walnut Creek surface water samples will be shipped to LBNL for analysis.

Groundwater Treatment Systems

- East Trenches Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the system, which now includes treating contaminated water that was previously treated by the Mound Site Plume Treatment System, is working as designed.
- Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the system is working as designed. Uranium microcell testing continues.

Landfills

- At the Original Landfill, personnel monitored groundwater levels and operated the new groundwater intercept system.

Ecology

- Conducted erosion control surveys.
- Established two new photo-points for soil revegetation north of the OLF.
- Began wetland water levels surveys for 2017 mitigation monitoring.
- Began spot spraying noxious weeds with herbicides on the 903 lip and hillside areas.
- Evaluated potential herbicide application locations for spring 2017.
- Inter-seeded volunteer collected grass seed at various locations.

Cook Case Settlement

From Denver CBA News 4: <http://denver.cbslocal.com/2017/05/02/rocky-flats-settlement/>

A 27-year-long legal fight with the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant has finally come to an end with a \$375 million settlement. The class action lawsuit was filed 27 years ago against Dow Chemical and Rockwell International. It's one of the longest running cases in the United States and many of the 15,000 people involved in the lawsuit have passed away.

Those entitled to a portion of the settlement must have owned property near the former site as of June 7, 1989. That's when the FBI raided the plant and found plutonium releases. The money is compensation for chemical and radioactive material produced at the plant that is said to have impacted property values in the area. Kathleen Genoff owned a condo in the impacted area. Of the total amount, Genoff believes her share could be as much as \$12,000. "I never expected to live long enough to see a settlement," said Genoff.

The lead attorney for the plaintiffs, Merrill Davidoff, said the individual settlements vary. The amounts are based on individual property values at the time of the raid in June 1989. Davidoff said the most any of the plaintiffs will be awarded is around \$20,000. The settlement does not include any compensation for health issues because there have not been any conclusive links.

Genoff hopes that will come later but for the time being, the settlement brings some satisfaction.

"I think the important thing is that the government finally acknowledges that they had an impact on the local community. I wish that they would acknowledge that there is a health impact, too. I'm more concerned about the long-term health ramifications of the plant out there," said Genoff.

Stewardship Council Update

Upcoming 2017 Board meetings: September 11, October 30