

# 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 – September 2011

### Board meeting summary

#### *Initial Review of 2012 Work Plan*

The board conducted the initial review of the 2012 work plan. No substantive changes were offered. The plan will be adopted at the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### *Initial Review of the 2012 Budget*

The draft 2012 budget tracks closely the 2011 budget. No substantive changes were offered at the meeting. The budget will be adopted at the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### *Triennial Review*

The board voted in support of the City of Thornton's request to join the Stewardship Council in February 2012 following adoption of amendments to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). The board also voted in support of making the cities of Golden and Northglenn permanent members under the IGA. Both changes will become effective following all governments approving the IGA amendments.

#### *DOE CERCLA Five-Year Review*

DOE briefed on the scope of the CERCLA Five-Year Review. As discussed at the meeting and in the August update, the review will examine the remedies to ensure that they continue to protect human health and the environment. The review must be finalized and approved by the EPA by September 2012.

#### *DOE Quarterly Update*

- No evidence of violations of institutional or physical controls was observed.
- The Environmental Covenant for the COU remains in the administrative record and on file with the Jefferson County land records.
- No adverse biological conditions were noted during the inspection.
- The most significant finding of this annual inspection was the discovery of a deep sinkhole approximately 5 feet wide by 10 feet long by 25 feet deep located on the southwest side of the former Building 881 (the only building explosively demolished during cleanup). The area was remediated.
- No significant problems were observed at the Present Landfill.

- At the Mound Site Plume Treatment System (MSPTS), routine maintenance activities continued. Media within the two treatment cells was replaced and repairs to the subsurface effluent discharge gallery, which had become partially clogged, were made. In addition, minor upgrades to the plumbing within each treatment cell were made to support potential future upgrades that would reduce long-term maintenance costs.
- Routine maintenance activities continued at the Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System. Activities included weekly inspections of the solar/battery systems that power the pumps, the operation of the pumps, and influent and effluent flow conditions.
- Elevated levels of plutonium-239,240 were measured at SW027. Since SW027 has seen very little flow since April 2010, no additional composite samples have been collected. Thus, no new analytical data are available to include in the 12-month rolling average levels. All other analyte concentrations at SW027 remained below reporting levels during the quarter.

*LeRoy Moore*

Mr. Moore briefed on his perspective on the cleanup of Rocky Flats and ongoing management needs. His basic contention is that while remediation activities greatly reduced the risk, he believes that the remaining risks are too great and that the general public should not be allowed at the site (including the still-closed national wildlife refuge).

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE's August 2011 Rocky Flats activities included:

*Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring*

- Conducted maintenance at groundwater wells
- Collected and processed two automated surface water sample suites
- Conducted 3rd quarter groundwater sampling; all 10 RFLMA-required wells were sampled
- Conducted routine Solar Pond Plume Treatment System (SPPTS) sampling
- Collected influent and effluent samples associated with the Mound Site Plume Treatment System (MSPTS) air stripper
- Collected and processed automated surface water sample suites
- Collected Walnut Creek ambient grab samples

*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
- MSPTS – DOE reports the system is functioning normally
- SPPTS – DOE reports that optimization of the system is ongoing

*Ecology*

- Continued Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse (PMJM) vegetation monitoring at mitigation locations
- Completed Present Landfill (PLF) and Original Landfill (OLF) vegetation surveys
- Evaluated forb nursery areas

- Completed diffuse knapweed mapping in the Central Operable Unit (COU)
- Completed the August wetland weed surveys
- Completed PMJM photo point monitoring at the OLF
- Interseeded selected locations at the A-pond and B-pond dam breach locations to increase the amount of vegetation cover
- Began wetland mitigation monitoring for 2011
- Began photo point monitoring for revegetation locations

#### *Site Monitoring & Maintenance*

- There were no significant changes to report at either landfill.
- At the OLF, DOE added soil to various portions of the berms to maintain the minimum required heights and to regrade portions of the berm channels to maintain flow lines in accordance with the OLF M&M Plan requirements. DOE also installed erosion controls and reseeded areas.
- The POC flumes project continued. Excavation, concrete forming, pouring, and backfilling were completed at the Walnut Creek and Woman Creek locations. The flume was installed at the Walnut POC location.
- DOE completed the PMJM erosion control inspections.

### CAD/ROD and RFLMA – Approval of Changes to Institutional Controls

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, DOE, EPA and CDPHE approved changes to the CAD/ROD, a key regulatory document that the agencies signed in 2006. The CAD/ROD codifies response actions under CERCLA and RCRA, and establishes legal controls necessary to ensure long-term protection of human health and the environment.

As the board discussed at the June 2011 meeting, the CAD/ROD amendments:

1. Clarify the description of certain ICs and provides a regulatory review and approval process to implement ICs.
2. Require amending the current environmental covenant or issuance of a restrictive notice to incorporate the CAD/ROD amendment ICs clarifications.
3. Provide that any future modification or termination of ICs follow regulations and guidance in effect at that time.

Since excavations under these changes would not be limited to “remedy-related purposes,” these changes could include breaching of the terminal pond dams. Additionally, the proposed changes incorporate changes to the state environmental covenant law to allow for the issuance of restrictive notices.

The changes to the RFLMA mirror changes to the CAD/ROD.

### Stewardship Council update

Next meetings:

November 14 (second Monday)

February 6, 2012