

# ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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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 – August 2010

### Board meeting summary

#### *Roundtable Discussion on Changes to RFLMA Point of Compliances and Dam Breach EA*

The sole focus of this meeting was to discuss proposed changes to the Rocky Flats Legacy Management Agreement (RFLMA) Points of Compliance, and to the Dam Breach Environmental Assessment (EA). DOE's plan is to move the surface water and groundwater points of compliance (POCs) from Indiana Street to the eastern boundary of the DOE-managed lands (known as the Central Operating Unit or COU). Because DOE will manage ponds A-4, B-5 and C-2 in a flow-through configuration and later breach them, DOE is also proposing to eliminate the batch and release protocols and replace them with flow-paced sampling. These plans have drawn great public scrutiny and opposition.

Since its initial proposal, DOE has made the following modifications:

1. Operate C-2 in a flow-through configuration for the next 7-10 years (that aligns C-2 with A-4 and B-5, which will also be managed in a flow-through configuration). Initially, C-2 was to be breached in 2010-2011.
2. Push back the timeline for breaching dams A-4, B-5 and C-2 to 2017-2020. DOE had planned to breach A-4 and B-5 in 2015-2018, and C-2 in 2010-2011. This new date is important as the next CERCLA five-year review is in 2012, followed by another in 2017.
3. During the time that DOE manages the ponds in a flow-through configuration, continue sampling water at Indiana Street. These monitoring points would not be regulatory monitoring points, but would be data points DOE would use to help determine the impacts of breaching the three terminal ponds.

The Stewardship Council did not adopt a position on DOE's proposal. Instead, Broomfield, Westminster and Northglenn will continue working with DOE on trying to resolve their differences.

### Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

July 2010 Rocky Flats activities included:

#### *Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring*

- Collected samples from the Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System (SPPTS).
- Collected and processed automated surface water sample suites.

- Collected automated sequential suites to support the study addressing high flows in Woman Creek.
- Completed measuring 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter water levels (100 wells total).
- Collected ambient grab samples from Walnut Creek.
- Collected quarterly grab samples at the Present Landfill (PLF).
- Conducted general surface water station maintenance.

### *Groundwater Treatment Systems*

Inspections of the treatment systems were conducted as follows:

- East Trenches Plume Treatment System (ETPTS) – DOE reports that the system is functioning normally. Collected additional evaluation samples at effluent and POM2.
- Mound Site Plume Treatment System (MSPTS) – DOE reports that the system is functioning normally, but staff is preparing for routine media replacement and upgrades. Collected additional samples at effluent and GS10.
- SPPTS – Optimization of the system is ongoing. Routine weekly samples were collected from the system and the groundwater batch additions were conducted.

### *Ecology*

- Staff attended a meeting with USFWS and DOE in Lakewood to discuss the proposed critical Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse (PMJM) habitat ruling and how it might affect the site and Refuge.
- Photographed PMJM photopoints in Walnut and Woman Creeks.
- Conducted PMJM inspections.
- Conducted a weed survey of the POU areas that are still under DOE control.
- Cut weeds at locations along Woman Creek to control tall perennial mustard and Canada thistle.
- Conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter PLF and Original Landfill (OLF) vegetation surveys.
- Completed revegetation monitoring.

### *Site Monitoring & Maintenance*

- Landfills: There were no significant changes to report.
- The monthly OLF inspection was completed.
- Completed the OLF soil sampling project. Samples were collected using a geoprobe and the final group of samples was shipped. There was no detectable radioactive contamination and only trace VOC/SVOC levels detected during field monitoring of the sampling work.
- CDPHE approved hand-potholing 1-2 feet deep at two locations on the OLF cover to observe whether and how much water is flowing in the northwestern and north-central part of the Seep 7 extension rock drain. No flow was found in this part of the drain extension. Additional potholing along the southern end of the drain extension is planned.

## Rocky Flats Workers

In late August, Senators Udall and Bennet, and Representatives DeGette, Polis, Perlmutter, Markey and Salazar, wrote the Secretaries of Labor and Human Health, asking them to take steps to improve the current worker energy program. These members of Colorado's Congressional

delegation are sponsors of a bill to amend the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA). Their bill, the Charlie Wolf Nuclear Workers Compensation Act, would amend the EEOICPA to remove many of the hurdles former nuclear face in securing compensation under the EEOICPA. However, because the EEOICPA is not moving, the members of the delegation are asking the relevant federal agencies to remedy the problems administratively.

### Site Document Update

There were none this month.

### Stewardship Council update:

Next meetings:

November 8<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday)