

Date: August 17, 2016

To: file

From: Bob Schwarz, Project Manager
Eastern Region Cleanup Program

Subject: Mosier spill, ECSI # 6115; status report

Groundwater monitoring. Four monitoring wells were installed north of the railroad tracks in mid-June and have been sampled weekly beginning June 24. Contamination was found in one of the wells.

Groundwater treatment. A groundwater treatment system is being constructed in the vicinity of the contaminated groundwater monitoring well. This process, called biosparging, involves using an air compressor to pump air into the groundwater through five injection wells. The oxygen in the air stimulates naturally occurring organisms in the ground that consume oil, thereby speeding up this process. Construction of this system will be completed by the end of this week.

Columbia River water testing. Water in the Columbia continues to be tested. We recently reduced sampling frequency to once every two weeks. Data from approximately 25 rounds of sampling does not show significant contamination in the Columbia River. NOAA has requested a more sophisticated type of surface water sampling using passive diffusion bags that are placed in the water for two or more weeks. Oregon State University (OSU) has already collected one round of samples at the site for their own research. Union Pacific, OSU and NOAA are in discussions about obtaining this data, and possibly conducting additional sampling of this type.

Status of issues of concern to the City:

- **Testing groundwater for chemicals in the fire suppression foam.** Although only approximately ten gallons of fire suppression foam was used to put out the fire, the City has requested that the chemicals in this foam be included in some of the groundwater testing. DEQ has relayed this request to UPRR's consultant. UPRR is looking into doing this.
- **Testing City well No. 2.** This well is 1,000 feet from the derailment location, and water from this well is not used for drinking. It is, however, used to water the

lawn at the school. UPRR has agreed to sample this well. We do not yet have a date for this sampling.

- **Modeling to confirm the assumption that the City's wells are not impacted by groundwater.** Based on my discussion with City Manager Kathy Fitzpatrick, UPRR has agreed to pay for the City's consultant to do this work.
- **Nearby neighbor's well.** The City has requested that a nearby neighbor's well be tested. DEQ relayed this request to UPRR's consultant and they have agreed to test the well. We do not yet have a date for this sampling.
- **Restoration plan.** DEQ worked with the City to prepare a plan identifying numerous items that need to be repaired or replaced to restore the impacted area to its previous condition, or better. DEQ submitted this draft plan to UPRR for its review on July 29.