

# TOPOCK REMEDIATION REVIEW

Fourth Quarter 2011 Newsletter

## Design for Groundwater Remedy in Progress

On November 18, 2011, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted the draft Basis of Design Report/Preliminary (30%) Design to Department of the Interior (DOI) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The preliminary design presents the preliminary design basis, design criteria, drawings, and list of specifications as well as other information required for implementing the groundwater remedy. This first step is intended to obtain input from agencies, tribes, and stakeholders at an early design stage (30% level of detail).

To facilitate stakeholder review of the design document, PG&E hosted a site visit on December 13-14, 2011, to Hinkley and Topock to view the full-scale in-situ remediation system at Hinkley

and the planned remedy components at Topock, respectively. Over 45 members from Tribes (Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Chemehuevi Tribe), Agencies (DTSC, DOI, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation), Metropolitan Water District, the Technical Review Committee (TRC), and PG&E attended the site walks. A follow-up meeting via teleconference was held on January 6, 2012, to continue the discussion on several technical topics not covered during the site walks. In addition, PG&E hosted a follow-up site visit on January 9, 2012, to discuss alternative well locations.

The timeline for submittal and review of the key design documents is below.



DOCUMENTS	TARGET SCHEDULE
<b>Preliminary (30%) Design</b>	<b>Submitted for Review/Comment</b> November 18, 2011 <b>Comments Submitted</b> January 27, 2012 <b>Comment Resolution</b> February 9 – March 23, 2012
<b>Intermediate (60%) Design</b>	<b>Submit for Review/Comment</b> May 22, 2012 <b>Comments Due</b> June 27, 2012 <b>Comment Resolution</b> July 13 – August 9, 2012
<b>Pre-Final (90%) Design</b>	<b>Submit for Review/Comment</b> October 8, 2012 <b>Comments Due</b> November 26, 2012 <b>Comment Resolution</b> November 27 – December 24, 2012

# Planning for Supplemental Soil Investigation

On May 6, 2011, PG&E published a Draft Soil Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation Work Plan. Tribes, stakeholders, and agencies have reviewed and provided comments on the Draft Work Plan. Beginning in August 2011, several meetings have been held to discuss and resolve comments, and additional meetings are planned to resolve the scope of sampling inside the Compressor Station. On December 15, 2011, a site meeting/ site walk was held to discuss planned sampling in selected areas.

After completion of comment resolution, PG&E will revise and submit the Work Plan for DTSC and DOI approval. Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC will review the environmental impacts associated with the proposed activities and file a determination along with the Department's approval of the Revised Work Plan. The timeline for the Soil RFI/RI is shown below.



A site walk was held on December 15, 2011 to discuss planned sampling in selected areas.

## SUPPLEMENTAL SOIL INVESTIGATION WORK PLAN TIMELINE

### Comment Resolution

August 2011 – February 2012

### Revised Work Plan

April 2012

### Agencies Review/Approve

May 2012 (target date)

### Field Implementation

Summer 2012

## SITEWIDE NEXT STEPS

### 2012

- Start Soil RFI/RI Report
- Start Soil Investigation
- Approve Soil RFI/RI Work Plan
- Obtain Approvals/Agreements to Implement the Groundwater Remedy
- Complete East Ravine–Topock Compressor Station Groundwater Investigation

### 2013

- Start Soil Risk Assessment
- Complete Soil RFI/RI Report
- Construct Groundwater Remedy
- Complete Remedial Design

## RECENT/UPCOMING REPORTS AND NEWSLETTERS

Project Fact Sheet—Target January 2012

Community Survey—Target January 2012

First Quarter 2012 Newsletter—April 2012

Intermediate (60%) Design—Target May 2012

Revised Soil RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation (RFI/RI) Work Plan—Target Spring 2012



## Outreach Activities, Opportunities for Involvement and Input

DTSC and DOI hosted a community meeting in Golden Shores on December 12, 2011. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Arizona Department of Health Services and Mohave County Department of Public Health were also present. To view the presentation, visit [www.dtsc-topock.com](http://www.dtsc-topock.com).

The PG&E Topock Environmental Investigation Update Fact Sheet was published in January 2012. The fact sheet included the community survey. Please pass it onto your community constituents. Respondents have 30 days to submit their completed survey online or via hard copy. The responses will be used to help

improve the Topock community outreach program. To view the fact sheet or take the survey, visit [www.dtsc-topock.com](http://www.dtsc-topock.com).

The Community Outreach Plan is currently being updated and is expected to be completed in September 2012. The purpose of the Community Outreach Plan is to keep the community informed in a timely fashion, to formally document community perspectives regarding the environmental investigation and remediation at the Station, and to identify specific community outreach activities to be conducted to ensure community involvement in the agency decision making process.

### TOPOCK PROJECT ACTIVITY RECAP

1. The **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT** (BLM) issued the Tribal Access Plan on November 26, 2011, as required by the Programmatic Agreement. The Access Plan ensures Tribal access to areas within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for traditional, cultural, or spiritual purposes.
2. Tribal/PG&E monthly conference calls were initiated on November 22, 2011. These calls were established to enhance project related communication and are scheduled for the 4th Thursday of every month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Pacific Standard Time. Please contact Glenn Caruso of PG&E at 925-301-6954 for more information.
3. Progress made on several Environmental Impact Report (EIR) mitigation measures:
  - Another round of floristic surveys is planned for spring, 2012. A survey was previously performed in November 2011. The exact timing will be determined by a qualified botanist.
  - PG&E has been working on an outline of the Cultural Impact Mitigation Program (CIMP). Applied Earthwork is the cultural resources consultant hired by PG&E to prepare the CIMP.
  - A draft paleontological management plan has been prepared and is under review by PG&E (CUL-3). Results from the investigation will be used to determine whether a pre-construction survey and/or construction monitoring is required.
4. Technical Work Group (TWG) meetings were held on October 18, 2011, in Yuma, Arizona and on January 19, 2012 in Boulder City, Nevada to continue the discussion of the groundwater modeling effort in support of the remedy design.
5. Consultative Work Group (CWG) meetings were held on October 19, 2011, in Yuma Arizona and January 18, 2012, in Boulder City, Nevada. Vice Chairman Phillips and Ms. McCormick of the Cocopah Indian Tribe gave a presentation at the Yuma meeting, and President Jones of the Yavapai-Prescott Indian tribe provided a presentation in Boulder City's CWG meeting.
6. A kick-off meeting for the Technical Review Committee (TRC) was held on October 20, 2011, at the Topock Compressor Station. Participants included new TRC representatives, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Hualapai Indian Tribe, HDR Engineering (who manages the TRC), DTSC and PG&E.
7. The CWG Disturbed Soil Subgroup members held a conference call on December 9, 2011, to discuss disturbed soil management topics including the draft Policy for Handling and Disposition of Disturbed Site Soils prepared by Dr. Leo Leonhart, technical consultant to the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe.

# TOPOCK REMEDIATION REVIEW



The **Topock Remediation Review** is a quarterly technical update on the Topock Compressor Station cleanup project. It is published by the Topock Clearinghouse Task Force, a group of stakeholders comprised of state, regional, and federal agencies, Native American Tribes and PG&E representatives. The Review is dedicated to enhancing stakeholder understanding of technical and regulatory information, encouraging participation in decision making forums, and fostering timely and effective project management and decisions for the Topock Compressor Station project final remedy.

You may view past issues of the newsletter in the Document Library on the project's website ([www.dtsc-topock.com](http://www.dtsc-topock.com)). Once there navigate to the "Public Outreach" page and its "Other Outreach Documents" category.

## FOR MORE INFO:

Visit DTSC's Topock Project Website:  
[www.dtsc-topock.com](http://www.dtsc-topock.com)

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### RECENT/UPCOMING MEETINGS

- January 17/February 21/March 20—Clearinghouse Task Force Meeting, Henderson, Nevada
- January 18—Consultative Work Group Meeting, Boulder City, Nevada
- January 19—Technical Work Group (TWG) Meeting, Boulder City, Nevada
- January 26/February 23/March 22—Tribal Topock Project Monthly Updates, Teleconference
- March 3—Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Establishment Day, Blue Water Resort and Casino (for additional information, contact CRIT Tourism Bureau Manager at (928) 669-7037)