

# TOPOCK REMEDIATION REVIEW

First Quarter 2012 Newsletter

## Stakeholder Comments Provided on Groundwater Design

Between February 3 and 17, 2012, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) received stakeholder comments on the most recent plan for groundwater cleanup near the Topock Compressor Station. This plan, called the Basis of Design Report/Preliminary (30%) Design, outlines the design criteria, drawings, and other information required for implementing the groundwater remedy. More than 300 comments were received from the tribes, the Technical Review Committee (TRC) on behalf of the tribes and regulatory agencies.

PG&E is currently in the process of drafting a Response to Comments that will describe how this feedback will be considered and incorporated into the Intermediate (60%) Design. The Response to Comments document is expected to be completed in April 2012 and will be discussed during a Technical Work Group (TWG) meeting with agencies, tribes and stakeholders, scheduled for April 19, 2012.



PG&E crews install a pump near the Topock Compressor Station

### Mark Your Calendar

#### Groundwater Design Schedule

<b>Preliminary (30%) Design</b>	<b>Response to Comments</b> February to April, 2012
<b>Intermediate (60%) Design</b>	<b>Submit for Review/Comment</b> August 2012 <b>Comments Due</b> November 2012 <b>Response to Comments</b> November to December, 2012
<b>Pre-Final (90%) Design</b>	<b>Submit for Review/Comment</b> February 2013 <b>Comments Due</b> April to May, 2013 <b>Response to Comments</b> May 2013

#### Revised Soil Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation (RFI/RI)

<b>Work Plan</b>	Target Summer 2012
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#### Recent Meetings and Events

<b>January 17/ February 21/ March 20/April 17</b>	<b>Clearinghouse Task Force (CTF) meetings</b> , Henderson/Bullhead City, NV
<b>January 18/ April 18</b>	<b>Consultative Work Group (CWG) meetings</b> , Boulder City/Henderson, NV
<b>January 19/ April 19</b>	<b>Technical Work Group (TWG) Meeting</b> , Boulder City/Henderson, NV
<b>January 26/ February 23/ March 23/April 26</b>	<b>Tribal Topock Project Monthly Updates</b> , Teleconference

#### Upcoming Meetings

<b>May 15/June 19/ July 17</b>	<b>CTF meetings</b> , Henderson, NV or Bullhead City, AZ
<b>July 18</b>	<b>CWG meeting</b> , Bullhead City, AZ
<b>July 19</b>	<b>TWG meeting</b> , Bullhead City, AZ

*Note: Dates subject to change*

# East Ravine/Compressor Station Groundwater Investigation Activities

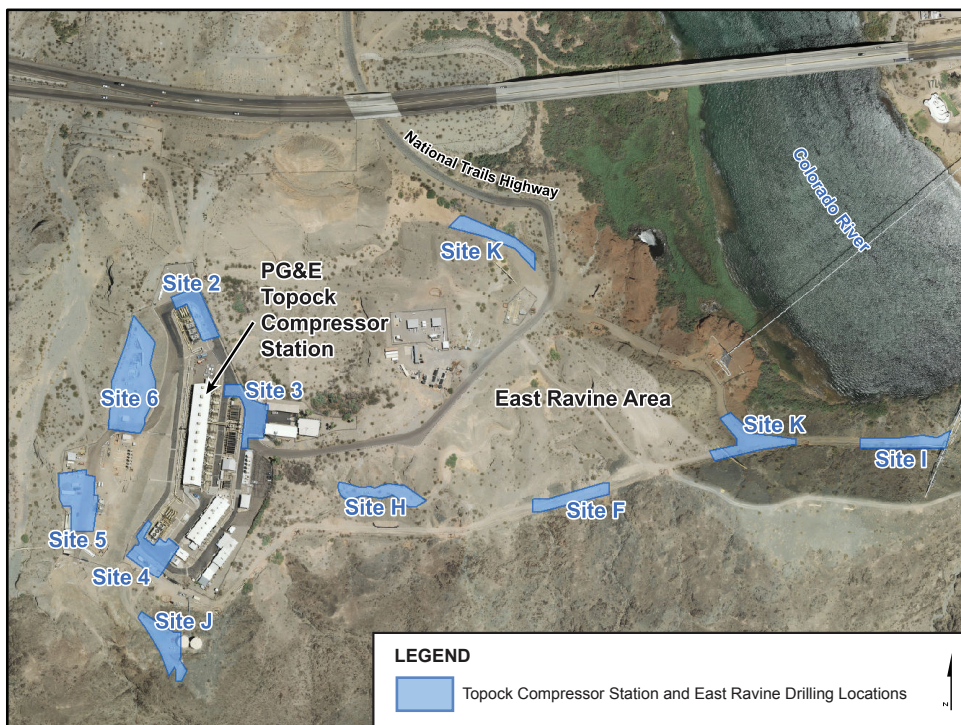
PG&E has completed the following field work inside the Compressor Station as part of the Groundwater Investigation:

- Installed wells in the alluvium at Sites 2, 3, 5, and 6.
- Installed wells into bedrock at Sites 4 and J, 3, and 6.

PG&E has completed the following field work in the East Ravine as part of the Groundwater Investigation:

- Installed a well in the alluvium at Site L.
- Installed wells in the bedrock at Sites F, H, K, and I.
- Conducted a pump test at Site H.

To date, 15 locations have been drilled as part of Phase 2 of the Groundwater Investigation. These boreholes are included in the total Environmental Impact Report (EIR) count. On February 6, 2012, PG&E discussed field data and the path forward with the agencies, tribes, and stakeholders. A field work summary report will be included as an appendix to the draft 60% Design submittal.



## Planning for Supplemental Soil Investigation

During March and April, PG&E and the agencies met to discuss and resolve comments related to the objectives and scope of sampling inside the Compressor Station, and work on the draft Remedial Action Objectives. The next step in this process is for PG&E and the agencies to issue a revised sampling plan.

PG&E will continue to meet with stakeholders to resolve outstanding comments and will submit a revised Soil Work Plan to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) for approval in summer 2012. In addition, PG&E has

voluntarily offered to expand the role of the TRC to include the review of documents related to the soil investigation outside the fenceline of the Compressor station.

Field work is planned for late summer or fall of 2012. Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC will review potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed activities.

The timeline for the Soil RFI/RI is shown below. *Please note schedules are subject to change.*

### SUPPLEMENTAL SOIL INVESTIGATION WORK PLAN TIMELINE

**Comment Resolution**  
August 2011- Summer 2012

**Revised Work Plan**  
Summer 2012

**Agencies Review/Approve**  
Fall 2012

**Field Implementation**  
Fall 2012/Winter 2013



## Protecting Cultural and Historical Resources

Tribal leaders, members and employees are actively involved in the effort to develop a cleanup process for the Topock Remediation Project site that is effective, as well as environmentally and culturally sensitive to Tribal interests.

Tribal religious and cultural practices at and near the site continue today, very much as they have for centuries. Maintaining the privacy and peacefulness necessary to certain Tribal activities at the site will be an ongoing challenge while the remediation process unfolds. To achieve this goal, Tribes have provided extensive cultural background information, to help Project participants better understand Tribal perspectives, and needs. In particular, the Hualapai

Tribe submitted a statement describing their cultural perspective which is now part of, and informs, the Project's Cultural and Historic Properties Management Plan (CHPMP).

A key concern of the CHPMP is how to make it possible for Tribes to carry on their traditional religious and cultural practices without impediment. To this end, several Tribes have contributed to the development of the CHPMP, to ensure that, over time, construction, operation and maintenance practices at the Topock site do the least harm possible to cultural and historic properties, and interfere as little as possible with ongoing cultural practices.

– *Colorado River Indian Tribes*

## Topock Project Activity Recap

- The DTSC Topock Environmental Investigation Update Fact Sheet was published and mailed to local residents and stakeholders in January 2012. The fact sheet included a community survey (also available online at the DTSC Topock Project website) to gain feedback that will be used to help improve the Topock community outreach program. The responses are now being analyzed and will be included in DTSC's updated Community Outreach Plan, expected to be completed in September 2012.
- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued the Cultural and Historic Properties Management Plan (CHPMP) on January 19, 2012. The CHPMP specifies how cultural and historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) are to be treated during implementation of the remedy.
- Several of the mitigation measures determined by/called for/required by the EIR are in progress:
  - The Fourth Quarter 2011 EIR mitigation measure compliance report and the Mature Plant Survey Report were completed in January 2012. Both reports are available on the DTSC Topock project website.
  - Field surveys
    - A field survey to delineate and map the extent of wetlands and other water features within the project area was conducted February 13 to 18, 2012. The field survey is part of EIR mitigation measure BIO-1.
    - A botanical survey took place from March 12 to March 23, 2012, as a continuation of the Fall 2011 botanical/floristic survey. The purpose of this survey is to identify sensitive and special status plants.
  - Work on other cultural mitigation measures are in progress. This includes work on the Cultural Impacts Mitigation Program (CIMP) (CUL-1a-8), work on the paleontological investigation report (CUL-3), developing a plan to address Park Moabi off-highway vehicle use (CUL-1a-3c) and brainstorming on a worker cultural sensitivity education program (CUL-1a-13).
- The CWG Displaced Soil Subgroup members held a conference call on January 6, 2012, to discuss a revised draft of the Management Protocol for Handling and Disposition of Displaced Site Material Technical Memorandum. Based on the input received, a revision was prepared and sent to subgroup members in February 2012 for review and comment.
- DTSC provided a status update of the well decommissioning discussions at the January 19, 2012, TWG meeting, and directed PG&E to prepare decommissioning procedures for review and input. PG&E subsequently provided a draft report on decommissioning to the CWG Well Decommissioning Subgroup in March 2012.
- Tribal representatives reviewed and provided input on the 30% design documents, including formal review comments from the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (FMIT) and Hualapai Tribe. The Technical Review Committee (TRC) was engaged to assist the Tribes in review of the design documents.

# 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 **Topock Remediation 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 Information

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

Questions regarding this newsletter or  
the Topock Project should be directed to:

**Aaron Yue**  
DTSC Project Manager  
Phone: (714) 484-5439  
E-mail: [ayue@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:ayue@dtsc.ca.gov)

**Pamela Innis**  
DOI Topock Remedial Project Manager  
Phone: (303) 445-2502  
E-mail: [pamela\\_innis@ios.doi.gov](mailto:pamela_innis@ios.doi.gov)

A view from the Colorado River, looking north

