

Topock Review

R e m e d i a t i o n

October 2009 Issue 3

Final Groundwater Corrective Measures Study/Feasibility Study target to be delivered to Agencies in November 2009

On January 27, 2009, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) submitted the Draft Topock Groundwater Corrective Measures Study/Feasibility Study (**CMS/FS**) to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI), the Consultative Working Group (CWG), and Tribal Governments. By early June 2009, more than 470 comments were received on this key document. The comments covered a wide range of topics from scope of the remedial action, to identification and screening of remedial technologies, to development and evaluation of remedial action alternatives. Each comment was reviewed and resolved by PG&E, DTSC, and DOI. This intense **comment resolution effort** spanned a period of 5 months. After the comments are resolved, PG&E will finalize the **CMS/FS** for submittal to the agencies in **November 2009**. Of note are the following revisions to the document:

TOPOCK TICKER:

Mark your calendar for these important dates.

October 27-28 – Tribal Summit, TBD

November 18 – CWG Meeting Bullhead City, NV

February 2010 – Topock Leadership Partnership Meeting, TBD

- The **Final CMS/FS** will include an analysis of options to address **East Ravine** groundwater contamination, as defined by the investigation effort that occurred from January through July 2009. Additional information will be collected to enhance the understanding of East Ravine contamination and that information will be incorporated into the design of the final remedy.

- **Alternative E (In-situ Treatment with Freshwater Flushing)** was revised to address varying comments

on the original Alternative E including, but not limited to, hydraulic control, sustainability of potable water sources, and infrastructure in the floodplain.

PG&E proposes in the **Final CMS/FS** that the revised **Alternative E – In-situ Treatment with Freshwater Flushing** be the preferred option among the alternatives evaluated. DTSC and DOI will evaluate the **Final CMS/FS** and propose an agency preferred alternative which may be the same or different from PG&E's proposal.

FOR MORE INFO:

Visit DTSC's Topock Project Website: www.dtsc-topock.com

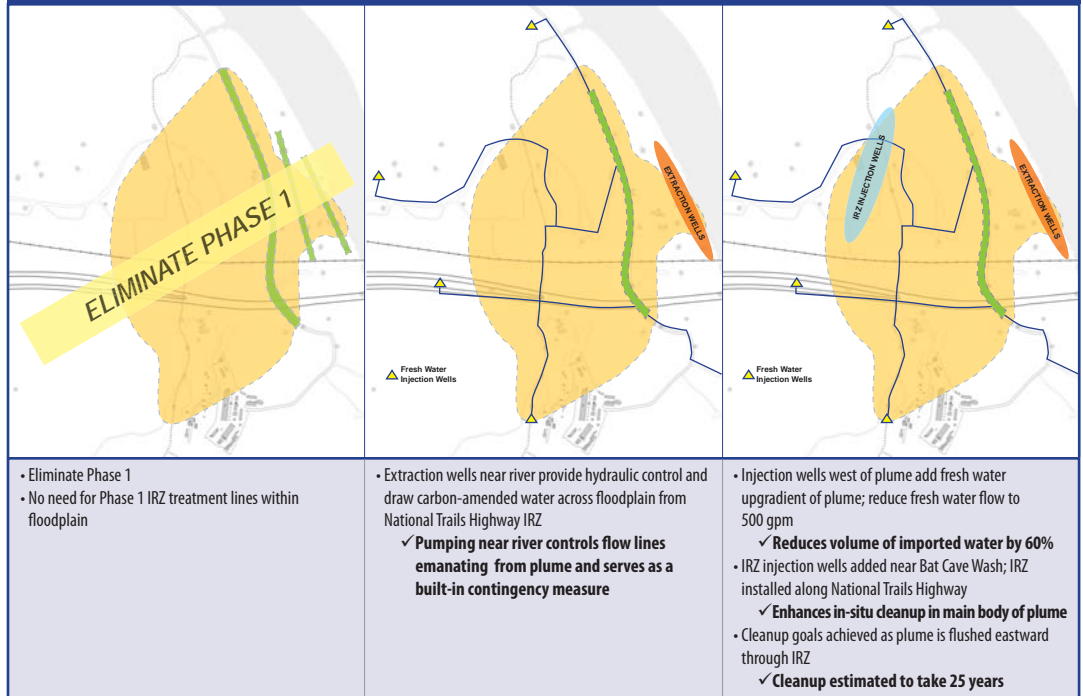
UPCOMING REPORTS:

AOC 4 Time Critical Removal Action Work Plan – November 2009

Final Groundwater CMS/FS – November 2009

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.

REVISED ALTERNATIVE E – IN-SITU TREATMENT WITH FRESHWATER FLUSHING



Approximate outline of Cr(VI) concentrations of 32 ppb or greater in groundwater at a minimum depth of 80 feet below the elevation of the bottom of the Colorado River (October 2007). All facility locations and quantiles approximate and subject to change.

Next Steps

After receipt of the **Final CMS/FS**, DTSC and DOI will review the document and decide whether the **CMS/FS** is technically complete. After the **CMS/FS** is complete, both agencies will propose a preferred alternative for public review and comment. Following public review and comment, the agencies will prepare decision documents for the groundwater remedy. The groundwater remedy selection schedule is shown on the right.

GROUNDWATER REMEDY SELECTION SCHEDULE	
DTSC (LEAD RCRA AGENCY)	DOI (LEAD CERCLA AGENCY)
Public Comment on Statement of Basis • April – June 2010	Public Comment on Proposed Plan • April – June 2010
Response to Comments • June – July 2010	Response to Comments • June – July 2010
Approval of Final Remedy • October 2010	Issue Record of Decision • October 2010



DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC
SUBSTANCES CONTROL

State of
California

California
Environmental
Protection Agency

2011

- Complete GW Corrective Measure Implementation Work Plan/Design
- Complete Construction of GW Remedy
- RFI/RI Volume 3: Soil

2010

- Complete Phase 1 Soil Data Gaps Evaluation
- Start Phase 2 Soil Investigation Work Plan (if required)
- Public Comment on Proposed Plan (DOI) for Groundwater Remedy
- Public Comment on Statement of Basis (DTSC) for Groundwater Remedy
- Start GW Corrective Measure Implementation Work Plan/Design
- Collect additional East Ravine data
- Start Phase 2 Soil Investigation (if required)
- Conduct public review of EIR, Certify EIR (DTSC)
- Issue GW ROD (DOI)
- Complete PA Process
- Implement AOC 4 Removal

2009

- Complete East Ravine Groundwater Investigation
- Complete RFI/RI Vol. 2 and Addendum
- Complete GW Risk Assessment
- Complete GW CMS/FS
- Continue work on EIR and PA
- Complete AOC 4 TCRA Work Plan

Final Groundwater Risk Assessment nearing completion

On February 9, 2009, PG&E submitted the Draft Topock Groundwater Risk Assessment (GWRA) report to DTSC, DOI, CWG, and Tribal Governments. This report provides information about potential health threats and ecological risks potentially posed by chemically-affected groundwater, and it will assist in risk management decision making. The timeline associated with the GWRA report is on the right.

Progress Made on Implementation of AOC 4 Debris Ravine Time Critical Removal Action

As directed by DOI on June 24, 2009, PG&E initiated work to implement the requirements in the AOC 4 Debris Ravine Final Action Memorandum. On July 29, 2009, PG&E held a project initiation meeting at the Topock Compressor Station for the pre-work plan data collection activities. Representatives from DOI, tribal governments, and contractors were present at this meeting. This initial phase of field work was completed on July 31, 2009. Data collected was then used to formulate the implementation details for the Draft AOC 4 Time Critical Removal Action (TCRA) Work Plan. The Work Plan is planned for delivery to DOI in early November 2009. Below is a preliminary project timeline.

GROUNDWATER RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT TIMELINE

- Draft GWRA**
 - February 2009
- Agencies/CWG Review**
 - Mid-February – Mid-March 2009
- Response to Comments/Revise GWRA**
 - March 2009
- Agencies/CWG Review**
 - April 2009
- Final GWRA**
 - October 2009
- Agencies Approval**
 - October 2009 (anticipated)

PROJECTED AOC 4 TIME-CRITICAL REMOVAL ACTION (TCRA) PROJECT TIMELINE

- DOI Issued Final AOC 4 TCRA Memorandum**
 - June 2009
- Submit Draft Work Plan**
 - November 2009
- Submit Final Work Plan**
 - December 2009
- DOI Approval of Final Work Plan**
 - December 2009
- Field Start**
 - December 2009

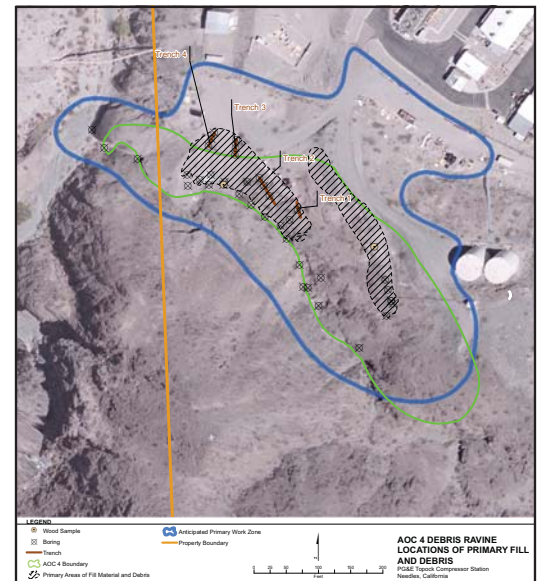
Section 106 Compliance Update

An agreement document (either a memorandum of understanding or programmatic agreement (PA)) is often the culmination of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Compliance. Completion of the Section 106 process is necessary prior to the signing of the DOI's Record of Decision.

In March 2009, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) indicated that a PA was the option which the Department intended to pursue for the Topock Remediation Project. On September 1, 2009, BLM transmitted a draft PA to Tribes, agencies, and PG&E for review (comments due October 9, 2009). The PA process is anticipated to be complete by February 2010.

Public Outreach Update

The DTSC recently completed a series of community meetings (both public and private) from mid-to-late July to inform community members about the cleanup process and status of environmental investigations to date at the Topock site. DTSC staff hosted these meetings in an Open House forum, allowing attendees to learn more on a variety of topics, including groundwater, soil, risk assessment, and state and federal regulatory processes. These meetings provided an excellent opportunity for community feedback and information exchange including the upcoming groundwater remedy selection process.



QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NEWSLETTER OR THE TOPOCK PROJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

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