California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

Recipient of the 2001 Environmental Leadership Award from Keep California Beautiful



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Boeing Santa Susana Field Laboratory Status Report Interim Source Removal Action (ISRA) Outfalls 008 and 009 NPDES CA 0001309, CI-6027

On Monday, August 24, 2009, Board staff participated in a final pre-work site walk of Outfall 008 with staff from Ventura County, Boeing and a number of consultants. The purpose of the site walk was to review the Health and Safety Plan, to review activities, and to begin staging for the work. Prior to the field work, temporary sediment control and soil stabilization best management practices (BMPs) were installed downstream of the locations where work will be performed. On Tuesday, August 25, 2009, work to remove contaminated soil in Outfall 008 commenced.

In the watershed of Outfall 008, there are nine (9) areas targeted for removal of soil. The first area excavated was DRG-1 which is located less than 1,000 feet upstream of the monitoring location. In this area, the plan was to remove approximately 170 cubic yards of soil targeting elevated concentrations of dioxins. Excavation of this area was completed and the confirmation samples were collected on Wednesday, August 26, 2009. The confirmation samples will be collected along the sidewall of the excavation every 200 ft² and along the excavation floor every 400 ft², as per the work plan. In the areas where the excavation goes to bedrock, the plan will be modified accordingly. These samples will be used to determine if additional excavation is required.

Work in the area denoted HVS-2B-1 commenced on Wednesday, August 26, 2009, where the plan was to remove approximately 900 cubic yards of soil contaminated with elevated concentrations of copper and lead.

On Thursday, August 27, 2009, the Executive Officer and Board staff participated in a site inspection of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory. Staff reviewed the areas in the watershed of Outfall 009 that are targeted for interim source removal action and subsequently visited the Outfall 008 watershed where remedial activities are ongoing.

Staff noted that construction BMPs were in place and the active excavation area (HVS-2B-1) was being over sprayed to control the dust generated. A Senior Public Works Inspector from Ventura County, Joe Schooler, was also onsite to review the activities. The excavation efforts were proceeding according to plan. Samples collected from the ISRA targeted areas in the watershed of Outfall 008 have been characterized as non-hazardous waste. Therefore the soils can be stockpiled in preparation for shipping.

The stockpile area is located near the front gate on the lower parking lot, which is paved. Staff inspected soil being stockpiled onsite. The stockpiles rest on a layer of plastic. The piles are wetted to control dust; however the amount of water applied is tightly controlled to ensure that no runoff is generated from the piles. At the end of the day, the piles are covered completely. Shipping of the collected excavated soil is tentatively scheduled to begin next week, when a sufficient amount of soil has been stockpiled to warrant trucking offsite.