



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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December 10, 2009

Mr. Walter Pierce
Western Forge & Flange Co.
687 Country Rd 2201
Cleveland, TX 77327

Subject: Request for Information, Remedial Action Progress Report, and Data Gap Work Plan, Spills, Leaks, Investigations and Cleanup (SLIC) Case No. RO0003009 and Geotracker, Global ID # T10000001598, Western Forge & Flange, 540 Cleveland Ave. Albany, CA 94706

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Alameda County Environmental Health (ACEH) staff has reviewed the case file for the above-referenced site including the most recently submitted documents entitled, *Closure Plan for Western Forge & Foundry Co. – Albany*, (Closure Plan) dated April 2008 (an incomplete copy: Appendices I, II, IV [also listed as III], and V are missing from the Closure Plan as received), and *Closure Report for Western Forge & Foundry Co. – Albany*, (Closure Report) dated June 2009, both prepared by Chemical Data Management Systems (CDMS). As mentioned in the meeting held in ACEH offices on November 5, 2009, a number of questions were generated as a result of the review of these documents. This letter is a request for additional information, including clarifications of some of the data or statements contained in these documents to help ACEH understand the events that have occurred at the site to date.

We request that you address the following technical comments, prepare a Remedial Action Progress Report, and a Data Gap Work Plan detailing work to be performed, and send us the technical reports requested below.

TECHNICAL COMMENTS

1. **Request for Information** - In the November 5th meeting reference was made to additional subsurface reports that may be available to help document investigations conducted in the mid 1980's at the site. As also expressed in the meeting ACEH is concerned about the unreported condition of the four groundwater monitoring wells installed by Brown & Caldwell in 1984. Quarterly monitoring ceased; however, the subsequent status of the wells does not appear to be documented in available reports at this time. You are requested to submit electronic copies of all other relevant reports related to environmental investigations for this property (including Phase 1 reports and the appendices listed above in a complete electronic report) by the date listed below. At present ACEH's case file for the subject site contains only the electronic reports as listed on our website (<http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop/ust.htm>).
2. **Clarification of Hazardous Material Use, Storage, and Areas of Investigation** – ACEH notes a list of hazardous materials used at the site in the Closure Plan; however, seeks clarification of the areas these materials were used or stored in. Please forward this information by the date listed below.
3. **Soil Bore Protocols & Data Validity** - In Appendix VI (*Protocol for Soil Boring Investigations & Groundwater Sampling*) of the Closure Plan, protocols for soil bores stated that soil bores would be logged using the Unified Soil Classification System by a trained geologist working under the

supervision of a California Professional Geologist (PG). As ACEH was informed in the November 5th meeting, bore logs were not kept or generated for the soil bores, and that the bores were intended only to collect environmental media to help characterize the site. The soil bore protocols also stated that soil samples from the bores would be field screened to allow proper selection of soil samples for laboratory analysis. The lack of bore logs does not allow for independent judgment of the appropriateness of sample selection, and thus reduces the available data to a supporting role rather than a defining role in the characterization of the site. Please address this apparent data gap in the work plan requested below.

4. **Soil Bore Permits** - With regards to the soil bores ACEH is concerned that soil bore permits may not have been obtained from the Alameda County Public Works Agency (ACPWA), as is required for all drilling projects in the western portion of County of Alameda. ACEH requests clarification of this concern, and any available documentation of permits.
5. **Sampling Protocols** - In Section V (Sampling Plan), Subsection B2 (Sampling Procedure) of the Closure Plan, collected core samples were specified to be placed in an ice chest, with no preservation required. The proposed protocols additionally did not specify if the ice chest was required to be chilled, or how the ice chest might have been chilled. Analytical reports from the laboratory only specified that the samples were within the required temperature criteria. To help ACEH determine the appropriateness of sampling preservation protocols and thus sample validity, please specify if, and how, the samples were preserved.
6. **Identification of Remedial Goals** - ACEH notes that the use of a gross level of contamination has been proposed as an appropriate remedial goal. ACEH also notes that the distance to the bay / estuary ranges between 270 and 420 feet from most environmental samples collected at the site, and that, based on the single data set that is currently available, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) ranges between 2,080 and 42,000 micro mhos / cm in three wells installed by Brown & Caldwell. It would appear that there is at present insufficient technical data to support use of a gross level of contamination as a remedial goal rather than one more protective of the bay / estuary. Please provide justification for the remedial goals for this site in the report requested below.
7. **Request for Remedial Action Progress Report** - As reported in the meeting, and implied in the Closure Report, a plan to inoculate groundwater near the Ring Roller Pit was undertaken to help reduce hydrocarbon concentrations at that location. As reported in the meeting RegenOx was utilized to chemically oxidize the hydrocarbons. ACEH requests a Remedial Action Progress Report that documents these actions, including the rationale for selecting the treatment, data tables, all pertinent soil and groundwater analytical data, site maps showing all soil bore locations, monitoring well locations (remaining), depiction of soil excavation perimeters, confirmation soil sampling locations, and available pre- and post-excavation contamination concentrations, data gaps that require additional investigation, including selective confirmation of currently unverifiable soil collection criteria (soil bore log data). Please include these data in the report requested below.
8. **Request for Data Gap Work Plan** - As described in the Closure Report, multiple excavations were conducted to investigate the possibility of impacted soil in the subsurface; however, there appear to be no soil samples to document the lateral limits of these excavations, including if contamination was encountered, and if so, if an appropriate lateral and vertical limit (such as predefined remedial goals for soil) had been reached in the excavation. Additionally because of the potential of residual hydrocarbon concentrations to be present in groundwater beneath or adjacent to areas use, and due to the accidental introduction of free product to groundwater during excavation of the Hydraulic Roller Ring pit, groundwater may be impacted in areas beneath the site. As a consequence, ACEH requests a Data Gap Work Plan for a Soil and Groundwater Investigation, including sampling protocols for soil and groundwater collection, sample preservation, and filtration protocols, to

document the current lateral and vertical extent of impacted media. Data gaps that have been identified and require additional investigation, including selective confirmation of currently unverifiable soil collection criteria, should also be investigated. Please include identified data gaps and remedies in the work plan requested below.

9. **Preferential Pathway Study** – The purpose of a preferential pathway study is to locate potential migration pathways and conduits and determine the probability of the NAPL and/or plume encountering preferential pathways or conduits that could spread contamination. Of particular concern is the identification of abandoned wells and improperly destroyed wells that can act as vertical conduits to deeper water bearing zones, pumping wells in the vicinity of your site and manmade conduits for shallow migration. We request that you perform a preferential pathway study that details the potential migration pathways and potential conduits (wells, utilities, pipelines, etc.) for horizontal and vertical migration that may be present in the vicinity of the site. Discuss your analysis and interpretation of the results of the preferential pathway study (including the detailed well survey and utility survey requested below) and report your results in the Remedial Action Progress Report requested below. Include an evaluation of the probability of the dissolved phase and NAPL plumes for all constituents of concern encountering preferential pathways and conduits that could spread the contamination, particularly in the vertical direction to deeper aquifers. The results of your study shall contain all information required by 23 CCR, Section 2654(b).
 - a) **Utility Survey** - An evaluation of all utility lines and trenches (including sewers, storm drains, pipelines, trench backfill, etc.) within and near the site and plume area(s) is required as part of your study. Submittal of map(s) and cross-sections showing the location and depth of all utility lines and trenches within and near the site and plume area(s) is required as part of your study.
 - b) **Well Survey** - The preferential pathway study shall include a detailed well survey of all wells (monitoring and production wells: active, inactive, standby decommissioned (sealed with concrete), abandoned, (improperly decommissioned or lost); and dewatering and cathodic protection wells) within a ¼-mile radius of the subject site. The well survey should include well data from California Department of Water Resource well database and ACPWA. As part of your detailed well survey, please perform a background study of the historical land uses of the site. Use the results of your background study to determine the existence or unrecorded/unknown (abandoned) wells, which can act as pathways for migration of contamination at and/or from your site.
10. **GeoTracker Compliance** – A review of the case file and the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) GeoTracker website indicate that electronic copies of analytical data have not yet been submitted, rendering the site to a non-compliance status. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 16, Article 12, Sections 2729 and 2729.1, beginning September 1, 2001, all analytical data, including monitoring well samples, submitted in a report to a regulatory agency as part of the UST or LUST program, must be transmitted electronically to the SWRCB GeoTracker system via the internet. Also, beginning January 1, 2002, all permanent monitoring points utilized to collect groundwater samples (i.e. monitoring wells) and submitted in a report to a regulatory agency, must be surveyed (top of casing) to mean sea level and latitude and longitude to sub-meter accuracy using NAD 83. A California licensed surveyor may be required to perform this work. Additionally, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 30, Articles 1 and 2, Sections 3893, 3894, and 3895, beginning July 1, 2005, the successful submittal of electronic information (i.e. report in PDF format) shall replace the requirement for the submittal of a paper copy. Please complete the surveying and upload all applicable electronic submittal types such as the analytical data (EDF), survey data (GEO_XY and GEO_Z), and PDF reports from July 1, 2005 to current to GeoTracker by the date specified below. Electronic reporting is described below.

TECHNICAL REPORT REQUEST

Please submit technical reports to ACEH (Attention: Mark Detterman), according to the following schedule:

- **February 1, 2010** – Technical Comment 1 - Electronic Report Submittal to County's FTP website
- **February 1, 2010** – Submittal of Geotracker Compliance documentation
- **March 15, 2010** – Remedial Action Progress Report
- **March 15, 2010** – Data Gap Work Plan for a Soil and Water Investigation

These reports are being requested pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10. 23 CCR Sections 2652 through 2654, and 2721 through 2728 outline the responsibilities of a responsible party in response to an unauthorized release from a petroleum UST system, and require your compliance with this request.

ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL OF REPORTS

ACEH's Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC) require submission of reports in electronic form. The electronic copy replaces paper copies and is expected to be used for all public information requests, regulatory review, and compliance/enforcement activities. Instructions for submission of electronic documents to the Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Program FTP site are provided on the attached "Electronic Report Upload Instructions." Submission of reports to the Alameda County FTP site is an addition to existing requirements for electronic submittal of information to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) GeoTracker website. In September 2004, the SWRCB adopted regulations that require electronic submittal of information for all groundwater cleanup programs. For several years, responsible parties for cleanup of leaks from underground storage tanks (USTs) have been required to submit groundwater analytical data, surveyed locations of monitoring wells, and other data to the GeoTracker database over the Internet. Beginning July 1, 2005, these same reporting requirements were added to Spills, Leaks, Investigations, and Cleanup (SLIC) sites. Beginning July 1, 2005, electronic submittal of a complete copy of all reports for all sites is required in GeoTracker (in PDF format). Please visit the SWRCB website for more information on these requirements (http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/report_rqmts.shtml).

PERJURY STATEMENT

All work plans, technical reports, or technical documents submitted to ACEH must be accompanied by a cover letter from the responsible party that states, at a minimum, the following: "I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the information and/or recommendations contained in the attached document or report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge." This letter must be signed by an officer or legally authorized representative of your company. Please include a cover letter satisfying these requirements with all future reports and technical documents submitted for this fuel leak case.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION & CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

The California Business and Professions Code (Sections 6735, 6835, and 7835.1) requires that work plans and technical or implementation reports containing geologic or engineering evaluations and/or judgments be performed under the direction of an appropriately registered or certified professional. For your submittal to be considered a valid technical report, you are to present site specific data, data interpretations, and recommendations prepared by an appropriately licensed professional and include the professional registration stamp, signature, and statement of professional certification. Please ensure all that all technical reports submitted for this fuel leak case meet this requirement.

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AGENCY OVERSIGHT

If it appears as though significant delays are occurring or reports are not submitted as requested, we will consider referring your case to the Regional Board or other appropriate agency, including the County District Attorney, for possible enforcement actions. California Health and Safety Code, Section 25299.76 authorizes enforcement including administrative action or monetary penalties of up to \$10,000 per day for each day of violation.

If you have any questions, please call me at (510) 567-6876 or send me an electronic mail message at mark.detterman@acgov.org.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Detterman, PG, CEG
Hazardous Materials Specialist

Enclosure: ACEH Electronic Report Upload (ftp) Instructions

cc: James Carro, Chemical Data Management Systems, 6515 Trinity Ct., Suite 201, Dublin, CA 94568

Fredric Hoffman, Contaminant Hydrogeologist, (sent via electronic mail to fredric.hoffman@gmail.com)

Donna Drogos, (sent via electronic mail to donna.drogos@acgov.org)

Mark Detterman (sent via electronic mail to mark.detterman@acgov.org)

GeoTracker, File

Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC)	ISSUE DATE: July 5, 2005
	REVISION DATE: March 27, 2009
	PREVIOUS REVISIONS: December 16, 2005, October 31, 2005
SECTION: Miscellaneous Administrative Topics & Procedures	SUBJECT: Electronic Report Upload (ftp) Instructions

The Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC) require submission of all reports in electronic form to the county's ftp site. Paper copies of reports will no longer be accepted. The electronic copy replaces the paper copy and will be used for all public information requests, regulatory review, and compliance/enforcement activities.

REQUIREMENTS

- Entire report including cover letter must be submitted to the ftp site as a **single portable document format (PDF) with no password protection**. (Please do not submit reports as attachments to electronic mail.)
- It is **preferable** that reports be converted to PDF format from their original format, (e.g., Microsoft Word) rather than scanned.
- Signature pages and perjury statements **must** be included and have either original or electronic signature.
- **Do not password protect the document**. Once indexed and inserted into the correct electronic case file, the document will be secured in compliance with the County's current security standards and a password. **Documents with password protection will not be accepted.**
- Each page in the PDF document should be rotated in the direction that will make it easiest to read on a computer monitor.
- Reports must be named and saved using the following naming convention:
RO#_Report Name_Year-Month-Date (e.g., RO#5555_WorkPlan_2005-06-14)

Additional Recommendations

- A separate copy of the tables in the document should be submitted by e-mail to your Caseworker in **Excel** format. These are for use by assigned Caseworker only.

Submission Instructions

- 1) Obtain User Name and Password:
 - a) Contact the Alameda County Environmental Health Department to obtain a User Name and Password to upload files to the ftp site.
 - i) Send an e-mail to dehloptoxic@acgov.org
Or
 - ii) Send a fax on company letterhead to (510) 337-9335, to the attention of My Le Huynh.
 - b) In the subject line of your request, be sure to include **"ftp PASSWORD REQUEST"** and in the body of your request, include the **Contact Information, Site Addresses**, and the **Case Numbers (RO# available in Geotracker) you will be posting for**.
- 2) Upload Files to the ftp Site
 - a) Using Internet Explorer (IE4+), go to <ftp://alcoftp1.acgov.org>
 - (i) Note: Netscape and Firefox browsers will not open the FTP site.
 - b) Click on File, then on Login As.
 - c) Enter your User Name and Password. (Note: Both are Case Sensitive.)
 - d) Open "My Computer" on your computer and navigate to the file(s) you wish to upload to the ftp site.
 - e) With both "My Computer" and the ftp site open in separate windows, drag and drop the file(s) from "My Computer" to the ftp window.
- 3) Send E-mail Notifications to the Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs
 - a) Send email to dehloptoxic@acgov.org notify us that you have placed a report on our ftp site.
 - b) Copy your Caseworker on the e-mail. Your Caseworker's e-mail address is the entire first name then a period and entire last name @acgov.org. (e.g., firstname.lastname@acgov.org)
 - c) The subject line of the e-mail must start with the RO# followed by **Report Upload**. (e.g., Subject: RO1234 Report Upload) If site is a new case without an RO# use the street address instead.
 - d) If your document meets the above requirements and you follow the submission instructions, you will receive a notification by email indicating that your document was successfully uploaded to the ftp site.