

STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

May 12, 2010

Matt Paque Tronox LLC PO BOX 268859 Oklahoma City, OK 73134

Re: Tronox LLC (TRX) NDEP Facility ID #H-000539

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Response to: Removal Action Work Plan for Phase B Soil Remediation of Remediation Zones RZ-B through RZ-E, Tronox LLC, Henderson, Nevada Dated: May 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Paque,

The NDEP has received and reviewed TRX's above-identified Deliverable and finds the following:

- 1. Section 6.0 and Appendix B: NDEP has provided comments for the revision and resubmittal for these sections in Attachment B.
- 2. Appendix H: NDEP has provided comment for the removal of this section in Attachment B.
- 3. The remaining sections, figures, and tables of this Deliverable are acceptable with comments noted for the Administrative Record in Attachment A.

TRX should provide errata and response to comment letters by June 1, 2010 addressing the comments in Attachments A and B. Please contact the undersigned with any questions at sharbour@ndep.nv.gov or (702) 486-2850 extension 240.

Sincerely,

Shannon Harbour, P.E.

Staff Engineer III Bureau of Corrective Actions Special Projects Branch NDEP-Las Vegas Office Fax: 702-486-5733

SH:sh



EC: Jim Najima, NDEP, BCA, Carson City Greg Lovato, Bureau of Corrective Actions, NDEP, Carson City, NV Carolyn Tanner, AG's Office, Carson City, NV

CC: Keith Bailey, Environmental Answers LLC, 3229 Persimmon Creek Drive, Edmond, OK 73013 Susan Crowley, C/O Tronox LLC, PO Box 55, Henderson, NV 89009 Mike Skromyda, Tronox LLC, PO Box 55, Henderson, NV 89009 Michael J. Foster, Tronox LLC, P.O. Box 268859, Oklahoma City, OK 73126-8859 Deni Chambers, Northgate Environmental, 300 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 510, Oakland, CA 94612 Barry Conaty, Holland & Hart LLP, 975 F Street, N.W. Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20004 Brenda Pohlmann, City of Henderson, PO Box 95050, Henderson, NV 89009 Mitch Kaplan, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, mail code: WST-5, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901 Ebrahim Juma, Planning Manager, Air Quality and Environmental Management, 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy, 1st floor, P.O. Box 555210, Las Vegas, NV 89155-5210 Joe McGinley, McGinley & Associates, 815 Maestro Dr, Reno, NV 89511 Joe McGinley, McGinley & Associates, 8275 S Eastern Ave, Ste 200, Las Vegas, NV 89123 Ranajit Sahu, BRC, 311 North Story Place, Alhambra, CA 91801 Rick Kellogg, BRC, 875 West Warm Springs, Henderson, NV 89011 Mark Paris, Landwell, 875 West Warm Springs, Henderson, NV 89011 Craig Wilkinson, TIMET, PO Box 2128, Henderson, Nevada, 89009-7003 Kirk Stowers, Broadbent & Associates, 8 West Pacific Avenue, Henderson, Nevada 89015 George Crouse, Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc., 410 Swing Road, Greensboro, NC 27409 Nick Pogoncheff, PES Environmental, 1682 Novato Blvd., Suite100, Novato, CA 94947 Lee Erickson, Stauffer Management Company, P.O. Box 18890, Golden, CO 80402 Michael Bellotti, Olin Corporation, 3855 North Ocoee Street, Suite 200, Cleveland, TN 37312 Curt Richards, Olin Corporation, 3855 North Ocoee Street, Suite 200, Cleveland, TN 37312 Paul Sundberg, Montrose Chemical Corporation, 10733 Wave Crest Court, Stockton, CA 95209 Joe Kelly, Montrose Chemical Corporation of CA, 600 Ericksen Avenue NE, Suite 380, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 Jeff Gibson, AMPAC, 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Ste 700, Henderson, NV 89169 Larry Cummings, AMPAC, 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Ste 700, Henderson, NV 89169 Julie Panko, ChemRisk, Inc., 20 Stanwix Street, Suite 505, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

## Attachment A

- 1. Section 2.0, page 7, TRX should modify the statement that "...Northgate will excavate to depths of 6 inches below existing grades in areas impacted by asbestos above risk-based goals," by adding text stating "unless deeper excavation is indicated by pre-confirmation sampling."
- 2. Section 2.2, page 9, TRX should note that NDEP expects that wells will be specified for abandonment and replacement (as necessary) in the Excavation Plans for each remediation zone.
- 3. Section 4.0, page 20, last paragraph, please clarify that the confirmation sampling plan for the Manganese Tailings Pile will be submitted and approved prior to the completion of the tailings removal. Additionally, please include this Deliverable in the Remediation Schedule for the June 5, 2010 update.
- 4. Appendix G, please provide a site map showing the locations of each of the Manganese Tailings Pile cross-sections.

### Attachment B

#### Section 6.0

- 1. General comment, TRX should note that NDEP agrees to consider the concept of Institutional and Engineering Controls at the Site upon the presentation of data, specifics, and procedures acceptable to NDEP; however, NDEP does not believe that this Deliverable is the appropriate vehicle for presenting the specifics and procedures for the Institutional and Engineering Controls process. As such, NDEP has the following comments:
  - a. Section 6 should be revised to include only statements that Institutional and Engineering Controls are being considered in certain areas of the Site and then specify those areas.
  - b. Environmental Covenants should not be mentioned in this document.
  - c. TRX should state that any and all Institutional and Engineering Controls are subject to NDEP approval.
  - d. TRX should submit the specifics of the Institutional and Engineering Control process and documentation as a stand-alone Deliverable for NDEP review.
- 2. TRX should contact NDEP to schedule a meeting or conference call to discuss TRX's process for potentially establishing Institutional and/or Engineering Controls at the Site.

#### Appendix B

- 1. Section 2, paragraph 3, NDEP has the following comments:
  - a. NDEP has noted that the data is available to determine the chemicals of concern (COCs) for each Remediation Zone (RZ) at this time. TRX can modify the COC list in the future if the initial rounds of sampling provide compelling evidence for a modification. TRX should add COC lists for each RZ to this Perimeter Air Monitoring Plan (PAMP).
  - b. TRX should note that metals, asbestos, etc should all be included as COCs based on Figure 3 of the subject Deliverable.
  - c. NDEP has noted that hexachlorobenzene may not be a suitable surrogate of all airborne SVOCs for each RZ, if it is not present in each RZ. Further, collecting and analyzing the SVOC samples using the described method will provide data for nearly all of the SVOCs of concern. Therefore, TRX should obtain and report this data.
- Section 3.2.1, TRX should provide a more defensible procedure for determination of upwind and downwind determinations. NDEP suggests the following: If the wind is variable, assigning a predominant wind direction may be subject to qualitative interpretations. Northgate Environmental Management will define predominant wind direction based on at least 50 percent of wind direction and average measurements occur in two quadrants (southeast-southwest or northeast-northwest).

# Appendix H

1. General comment, this appendix should be removed from this Deliverable. Any references to this Appendix should be removed and the Table on Contents revised to reflect this comment. Please see comments for Section 6 (above) for additional information.