

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To:	Nevada Environmental Response Trust
Cc:	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection United States Environmental Protection Agency
From:	Arul Ayyaswami and Dan Pastor
Date:	July 3, 2019
Subject:	Unit 4 Source Area In-Situ Bioremediation Treatability Study Monthly Progress Report

At the direction of the Nevada Environmental Response Trust (NERT or Trust), Tetra Tech, Inc. (Tetra Tech) has prepared this memorandum that summarizes Tetra Tech's progress made during May 2019 toward successfully implementing the Unit 4 Source Area In-Situ Bioremediation Treatability Study. The location of the treatability study is depicted on Figure 1 and the well locations are depicted on Figure 2.

Task Progress Update: May 2019

Task M21 – Unit 4 Source Area In-Situ Bioremediation (ISB) Treatability Study

- Task Leader Arul Ayyaswami
- Current Status
 - The University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) continued microcosm and column testing in accordance with the Unit 4 Source Area In-Situ Bioremediation Treatability Study Bench-Scale Work Plan and Treatability Study Modification No. 1. The following is a brief summary of results of the microcosm and column testing through May 2019:
 - UNLV performed microcosm tests with a combination of molasses, molasses with acetate, mixed microbial cultures, and soil and groundwater collected from boring and well locations near the Unit 4 Building. The most recent microcosm sampling event was conducted on May 17, 2019. The analytical results from the sampling event will be summarized in future progress reports once the analytical data are available.
 - UNLV continued microcosm testing using nano-scale zero valence iron (nZVI). The microcosm tests evaluated the effectiveness of nZVI to treat groundwater collected from the Unit 4 area and in various combinations with mixed microbial cultures, molasses, nutrients, groundwater, and soil. As previously reported, hexavalent chromium concentrations reduced within these microcosms from approximately 22 mg/L to less than 1 mg/L within 4 hours using the stoichiometric requirement of nZVI. The microcosm tests continued for a total of 55 days, the day (April 13) UNLV collected the final samples. These analytical results will be summarized in future progress reports once the analytical data are available.

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• UNLV continued column testing with two intermediate columns (columns packed with a mixture of sand and soil collected from 75 to 85 feet bgs) and two deep columns (columns packed with a mixture of sand and soil collected from 95 to 105 feet bgs). The columns used a continuous feed solution of molasses, diluted groundwater from wells U4-E-02I and U4-E-05D, sodium bicarbonate, mixed microbial cultures, and nutrients. Hexavalent chromium concentrations at the effluent of the columns remain less than 0.05 mg/L. Analytical results for nitrate, chloroform, chlorate, and perchlorate are still being evaluated. The flow rates through the columns decreased after approximately 80 days of operation, likely due to bioaccumulation which is expected when running biological columns with a continuous feed of carbon substrate. On May 18, 2019, the injection pressures were increased to approximately 15 psi and the flow rates through the columns returned to the original flow rates.

• Schedule and Progress Updates

- The following activities are scheduled to be conducted in June 2019:
 - Continued UNLV microcosm and column testing in accordance with the Unit 4 Source Area In-Situ Bioremediation Treatability Study Bench-Scale Work Plan and Treatability Study Modification No. 1. Due to observed biological degradation rates and various analytical laboratory related-delays, UNLV bench-scale testing may be continued through September 2019, if necessary, to further evaluate the effects of high concentrations of chemicals of potential concern and total dissolved solids on biodegradation.
 - A Unit 4 Source Area In-Situ Bioremediation Treatability Study Work Plan Addendum for Phase 2 will be prepared at the completion of laboratory testing provided the data support moving forward with a field test. The submittal timeline of the Addendum will be dependent on the duration of the microcosm and column studies.

Health and Safety

There were no health and safety incidents related to Task M21 during May 2019.

CERTIFICATION

Unit 4 Source Area Bioremediation Treatability Study Monthly Progress Report

Nevada Environmental Response Trust Site (Former Tronox LLC Site) Henderson, Nevada

Nevada Environmental Response Trust (NERT) Representative Certification

I certify that this document and all attachments submitted to the Division were prepared at the request of, or under the direction or supervision of NERT. Based on my own involvement and/or my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the systems(s) or those directly responsible for gathering the information or preparing the document, or the immediate supervisor of such person(s), the information submitted and provided herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete in all material respects.

Office of the Nevada Environmental Response Trust

Le Petomane XXVII, not individually, but solely in its representative capacity as the Nevada Environmental Response Trust Trustee

Signature: Not Individually, but Solely as President of the Trustee	not individually,		
but solely in his representative capacity as President of the Nevada Environmental Response T	rust Trustee		
Name: Jay A. Steinberg, not individually, but solely in his representative capacity as President of the Nevada Environmental Response Trust Trustee			
Title: Solely as President and not individually			
Company: Le Petomane XXVII, Inc., not individually, but solely in its representative capacity as the Nevada Environmental Response Trust Trustee			
Date:			

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I am responsible for the services described in this document and for the preparation of this document. The services described in this document have been prepared in a manner consistent with the current standards of the profession, and to the best of my knowledge, comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and ordinances. I hereby certify that all laboratory analytical data was generated by a laboratory certified by the NDEP for each constituent and media presented herein.

Description of Services Provided: Prepared Unit 4 Source Area Bioremediation Treatability Study Monthly Progress Report.

July 3, 2019

Date

Kyle Hansen, CEM

Field Operations Manager/Geologist

Tetra Tech, Inc.

Nevada CEM Certificate Number: 2167

Nevada CEM Expiration Date: September 18, 2020

Figures

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