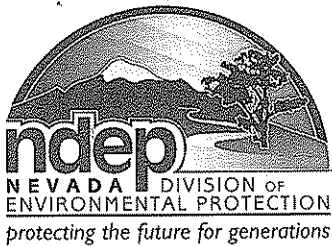


**APPENDIX C
CORRESPONDENCE WITH NDEP AND
TRONOX'S RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**





STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

March 20, 2009

Susan Crowley (Contractor)
C/O Tronox LLC
PO Box 55
Henderson, NV 89009

Re: **Tronox LLC (TRX)**
NDEP Facility ID #H-000539
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Response to:
Semi-Annual Remedial Performance Report for Chromium and Perchlorate Tronox LLC,
Henderson, Nevada, July 2008 – December 2008
Dated February 27, 2009

Dear Ms. Crowley,

The NDEP has received and reviewed TRX's above-identified Performance Report and provides comments in Attachment A. TRX should provide an annotated response-to-comments (RTC) letter as part of the next Performance Report submittal. Please note that TRX should provide a submittal date for the Data Review Memorandum for this Performance Report **by April 3, 2009**.

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:bar:sh



CC: Jim Najima, NDEP, BCA, Carson City
Brian Rakvica, NDEP, BCA, Las Vegas
Keith Bailey, Environmental Answers LLC, 3229 Persimmon Creek Drive, Edmond, OK 73013
Susan Crowley, Crowley Environmental LLC, 366 Esquina Dr, Henderson NV 89014
Mike Skromyda, Tronox LLC, PO Box 55, Henderson, NV 89009
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, DAQEM, PO Box 551741, Las Vegas, NV, 89155-1741
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., Suite 100, 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

Attachment A

1. CD, please note that the CD provided with the Report was blank.
2. Section 2.1, page 2-1, 1st paragraph, TRX states that “Historic water elevations across the barrier wall directly downgradient of the well field show that north of the barrier wall water levels in wells M-69 through M-74 range between two to seven feet lower than water elevations south of the barrier wall. This indicates negligible hydraulic communication across the barrier wall (see Figure 3).” NDEP has the following comments that TRX should include in this discussion/section and provide an explanation as to how the following comments impact the conclusion that the hydraulic communication across the barrier wall is negligible:
 - a. Figure 3 shows that historically the groundwater elevation in downgradient well M-69 has been greater than three to five feet below the groundwater elevation for upgradient well I-Y. However, the groundwater elevation difference between these two wells has been less than one to two feet since April 2008. Please note that similar conditions are observed between M-71 and M-56.
 - b. Figure 3 shows that the groundwater has increased in the downgradient well M-70 so that the groundwater elevation downgradient of the barrier wall has been greater than the groundwater elevation upgradient of the barrier wall since March 2008
3. Section 3.1.1, NDEP has the following comments:
 - a. TRX states that “[the total chromium concentration in] I-Q has dropped in half since February 2008.” However, the total chromium concentration in I-Q in May 2008 was similar to the November 2008 low and August 2008 was similar to the February 2008 high. This is a reason why NDEP finds little value in discussing contaminant concentration differences between quarters. In future submittals, TRX should focus this type of discussion on trends in the data.
 - b. 3rd paragraph, TRX states that “chromium concentrations downgradient of the barrier wall and recharge trenches continue to decline”. Please provide data to substantiate this statement in future submittals. (Please note that NDEP will not comment on each occurrence in this Performance Report; however, this comment should be incorporated throughout future submittals.)
4. Figure 3, please revise this figure as follows:
 - a. For ease of comparison, please revise the date and elevation axes so that they are identical for each graph.
 - b. The dates for the installation of the barrier wall, the cessation of Lake Mead water injection, and the commencement of injection of Lake Mead water after trench refurbishment should be noted either on the graphs or as a footnote to this figure.
5. Figure 6, please clarify what the purpose of this graph is and what is meant by the “downgradient” notation on PC-91 (i.e. downgradient of what?).
6. Appendix C, RTC 6.c.i and RTC 7, if TRX feels that data collected and validated by companies other than TRX is inappropriate for inclusion in the Appendix A table, then please provide this data as requested in NDEP’s original comments in a separate table specified for this purpose in future Performance Report submittals.
7. Appendix D, please provide a schedule for the submittal of the Data Review Memorandum for this Report by **April 3, 2009**.

Tronox Response to March 20, 2009 NDEP Comments on the Semi-Annual Remedial Performance Report dated February 27, 2009

NDEP Comment

1. CD, please note that the CD provided with the Report was blank.

Tronox Response

TRX will test all CDs prior to distribution of all future submittals.

NDEP Comment

2. Section 2.1, page 2-1, 1st paragraph, TRX states that "Historic water elevations across the barrier wall directly downgradient of the well field show that north of the barrier wall water levels in wells M-69 through M-74 range between two to seven feet lower than water elevations south of the barrier wall. This indicates negligible hydraulic communication across the barrier wall (see Figure 3)." NDEP has the following comments that TRX should include in this discussion/section and provide an explanation as to how the following comments impact the conclusion that the hydraulic communication across the barrier wall is negligible:
 - a. Figure 3 shows that historically the groundwater elevation in downgradient well M-69 has been greater than three to five feet below the groundwater elevation for upgradient well I-Y. However, the groundwater elevation difference between these two wells has been less than one to two feet since April 2008. Please note that similar conditions are observed between M-71 and M-56.
 - b. Figure 3 shows that the groundwater has increased in the downgradient well M-70 so that the groundwater elevation downgradient of the barrier wall has been greater than the groundwater elevation upgradient of the barrier wall since March 2008

Tronox Response

2.a. and b. TRX will include an explanation of how the NDEP comments impact the conclusion that the hydraulic communication across the barrier wall is negligible in the next Annual Remedial Performance Report.

NDEP Comment

3. Section 3.1.1, NDEP has the following comments:
 - a. TRX states that "[the total chromium concentration in] I-Q has dropped in half since February 2008." However, the total chromium concentration in I-Q in May 2008 was similar to the November 2008 low and August 2008 was similar to the February 2008 high. This is a reason why NDEP finds little value in discussing contaminant concentration differences between quarters. In future submittals, TRX should focus this type of discussion on trends in the data.
 - b. 3rd paragraph, TRX states that "chromium concentrations downgradient of the barrier wall and recharge trenches continue to decline". Please provide data to substantiate this statement in future submittals. (Please note that NDEP will not comment on each occurrence in this Performance Report; however, this comment should be incorporated throughout future submittals.)

Tronox Response

- 3.a. TRX will focus discussion of contaminant concentrations on trends in the data in future submittals.*
- 3.b. TRX will provide data to substantiate all claims in future submittals.*

NDEP Comment

4. Figure 3, please revise this figure as follows:
 - a. For ease of comparison, please revise the date and elevation axes so that they are identical for each graph.
 - b. The dates for the installation of the barrier wall, the cessation of Lake Mead water injection, and the commencement of injection of Lake Mead water after trench refurbishment should be noted either on the graphs or as a footnote to this figure.

Tronox Response

4.a. and b. TRX will revise the figure as requested.

NDEP Comment

5. Figure 6, please clarify what the purpose of this graph is and what is meant by the “downgradient” notation on PC-91 (i.e. downgradient of what?).

Tronox Response

Figure 6 was included as part of the discussion of the effect on the potentiometric surface of the very large groundwater mounding event at the COH RIBs in November 2008. The figure was meant to show that the leading edge of the groundwater mound was evident in PC-58 in November but had not yet reached PC-91. The “downgradient” notation was to identify PC-91 as downgradient of PC-58. The value of this figure in future submittals will be re-examined.

NDEP Comment

6. Appendix C, RTC 6.c.i and RTC 7, if TRX feels that data collected and validated by companies other than TRX is inappropriate for inclusion in the Appendix A table, then please provide this data as requested in NDEP’s original comments in a separate table specified for this purpose in future Performance Report submittals.

Tronox Response

TRX will provide the data collected and validated by other companies in a separate table in future Performance Report submittals.

NDEP Comment

7. Appendix D, please provide a schedule for the submittal of the Data Review Memorandum for this Report **by April 3, 2009.**

Tronox Response

The schedule for the submittal of the Data Review Memorandum has been provided.