

H. 532 Study Support

Monthly Progress Report Period Covering June 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007

Prepared for:

CLF Ventures

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Background:

The Section 5 RFP describes two Phases for the Section 5 Study. Phase I of the Section 5 Study was completed in January 2007, culminated by a detailed Phase I project report. Phase I focused on the assessment of existing data and studies, and led to the identification of new data to be collected in Phase II. The current stage of the Section 5 Study involves the continued delineation and implementation of Phase II data collection.

Progress on Phase II Tasks:

Phase II data collection and assessment was initiated in May 2007. Major activities included the continuation of field work on the Omya property for the hydrogeological investigation, advanced preparation for the Dust Monitoring Study, progression of the Hazardous Air Pollutant Modeling Study, and the initial Phase II evaluation of Omya's progress on noise issues.

Phase II progress highlights

- Hydrogeology and Surface Water (principal contributor: David Adilman)
 - Discrete zone sampling tasks were continued in early June. Three zones were tested in Well #2 and two zones were tested in Well B. As discussed in the Field Sampling Plan, discrete zone sampling has an improved chance of detecting any chemical contamination that might be occurring because it focuses on potential zones of preferred flow.
 - An attempt to drill Well O was made in June. This well was intended to be installed in the till (unconsolidated sediments deposited from glaciation) above bedrock adjacent to existing Well A. Because this well was intended for unconsolidated material (as opposed to bedrock) a different drilling method was utilized. Unexpectedly thick boulders with large voids in between were encountered at this location to a depth of at least 15 ft – well above the target depth of 75 ft. After two days of drilling at several locations within the target area, the borehole could not be advanced to the target depth. Therefore, Well O was abandoned. If sampling results from subsequent testing of upgradient monitoring wells suggest that this location is critical for completion of the CEM, further attempts will be made to install this well.
 - At the request of the Geosyntec, Omya installed various flow and level recording instrumentation for the PIQ water balance.
 - Groundwater sampling was to have commenced on June 18. However, due to backups at Severn Trent Laboratories (STL) in Sacramento, CA, the sampling was postponed until July 9. STL is the only lab that can currently run the validated method for Flotation Agent compound analysis using Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (LCMS). According to STL, the method is very labor intensive and time consuming. After completing the analysis of samples recently collected by Heindel and Noyes, and samples from the Section 5

discrete zone testing, STL has indicated that they do not have the instrument availability to conduct further analyses until July 16. In addition, they will not be able to analyze all the samples included in the Phase II work plan and still abide by the 14-day maximum holding time for these samples. Therefore, Site groundwater monitoring wells will be sampled the week of July 16 and the surface water and residential wells will be sampled the week of July 30.

- Air (principal contributor: Michael Ames)
 - On June 22th, Project Team Members Michael Ames and Steve Zemba (Cambridge Environmental), and Britt Holmén, Nicholas Meltzer, and Anna Conterato (University of Vermont) visited each of the sampling sites to be used in the Phase II Dust Monitoring Study. The study group met with residents at most of the locations to help in the selection of specific locations for the samplers and to arrange power connections for the instruments.
 - An informational Dust Study meeting was held on the evening of June 22th at the Maclure Library in Pittsford to review the scope and purpose of the Dust Monitoring Study, and to demonstrate the operation of the primary sampling instrument. The meeting was attended by the Dust Study Team, citizens, representatives from Omya, and Oversight Team members
 - Final arrangements were made for the purchase and rental of air monitoring instrumentation and initial supplies and for the Dust Monitoring Study.
 - Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) emissions test data for the various components at Omya's Verpol (main) manufacturing facility have been reviewed and combined with atmospheric dispersion modeling results for these sources. These data and models allow estimations of Omya's contributions to atmospheric HAP concentrations in the area around the facilities. Emissions data and dispersion modeling results for the East Plant and the Omya oil combustion sources are currently being reviewed. Once all of these results are combined, we will evaluate the significance of HAP emissions across the entire Omya facility.

- Noise (principal contributor: Lawrence Copley)

On June 21, 2007, an all-day meeting was held at the Verpol Plant to review Phase 2 progress on noise, and establish a plan for further effort. Two neighbors were present for the first hour or so (Umbert and David Rosato). During this initial meeting, Michael Laurent reviewed the effort to date and outlined the plans for further effort.

There has been a delay due to problems with the acoustical instrument that Omya purchased in December 2006. After many months of unsuccessful software upgrades from the instrument manufacturer, it was decided, with the advice of Omya's consultant (HMMH), to return the instrument and obtain a new device from another manufacturer. This new instrument was delivered to Omya on June 21, 2007.

The intent now is to use the new instrument for two parallel efforts:

- Measure the acoustical signatures of approximately 50 noise sources within the plant that have been identified as possibly significant contributors of noise reaching neighboring residences;
- Conduct ambient sound monitoring at selected residences, including some that are affected by noise from Omya and some that are not.

The reason for monitoring ambient sound at residences not affected by noise from Omya is to establish a baseline noise profile for typical rural residences in this region of Vermont.

After the neighbors left the meeting, there was a working session which accomplished the following:

- Demonstration of the capabilities of the new acoustical instrument and its method of use;
- Discussion of technical details for measuring noise source acoustical signatures;
- Actual measurements of several roof-top noise sources; and
- Agreement that the next progress meeting will be August 7th, by which time there will be a significant body of data on noise sources and community ambient sound levels.

Anticipated Work:

The following activities are anticipated as next steps. Details of some of these activities are provided in the Phase II Workplans.

- Hydrogeology and Surface Water
 - Groundwater, surface water and residential well sampling
 - Non-TMA potential source assessment
 - Smith Pond and tributary evaluation
 - Preliminary data evaluation
- Air
 - Final testing and calibration of the Dust Study sampling and monitoring equipment will be conducted in early July at the University of Vermont. Samplers will be installed at sites around Omya, and monitoring will begin in mid-July.
 - The overall estimation of Omya’s contributions to ambient HAP levels will be completed in July and evaluation of the toxicological significance of these levels will begin.
- Noise
 - A follow-up meeting of Copley Associates, Omya, HMMH and the Rosatos on noise is currently scheduled for August 7, 2007. The meeting will be designed to discuss progress made by Omya since the June 21, 2007 meeting.