

# Silver Bow Creek / Butte Area

## 2010 Fall Superfund Work

Bulletin #9

December 1, 2010



Atlantic Richfield Co.  
will be submitting  
Construction Completion  
Reports (CCRs) in  
January, 2011 for:

Syndicate Pit  
&  
Jennie Dell Waste Dump

CCRs are reports that document all construction activities that occur in Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit.

### Fall activities include...

#### **Butte Reduction Works (BRW)**

The existing seep along Silver Bow Creek (SBC) is caused by the drainage from the east pond at BRW. To ensure the ground water does not move toward SBC, the water level in the pond will be lowered. Contaminated water will be drained to the hydraulic control channel (HCC) and directed into the Butte Treatment Lagoons for treatment in Lower Area One (LAO). A head gate will be installed to maintain the water level and the existing culvert in SBC will be removed. The BRW work started on October 25 and will be completed in December.

#### **Lower Area One — Hydraulic Control Channel (HCC)**

The HCC is designed to collect contaminated groundwater and send it to the LAO ponds for treatment prior to discharge into SBC. Cleaning the HCC started in November using a vacuum truck to remove sediment, iron slimes, and sludge in the bottom of the channel. The vacuumed sludge, sediments, and water will be hauled to the Butte Mine Waste Repository located on Butte Hill.

#### **Lower Area One — Butte Treatment Lagoons Sludge Removal**

Sludge was removed from the Butte Treatment Lagoons in October and November. Removal happens several times a year. The sludge is produced from a chemical reaction between hydrated lime and contaminated groundwater. The lime helps remove contaminants from the groundwater. This sludge is dredged from the lagoons and moved to the Lower Area One Sludge Drying Beds.

#### **Lower Area One — Sludge Drying Beds Clean Out**

Dried sludge from the Butte Treatment Lagoons is removed from the drying beds and hauled to the Butte Mine Waste Repository. Precautions are taken to prevent sludge from leaving the trucks. Dried sludge is currently being hauled.

#### **Lower Area One — Butte Treatment Lagoons (BTL) Upgrades** (see also, Bulletin #7-October 6, 2010)

The final engineering design documents are available for review. The designs include upgrades to the Lime Addition System, Site Operation Building, Automatic Sampling Building, Influent Pump Station, Effluent Station, and the West Camp Pump Station. After approval, EPA and Atlantic Richfield will start upgrades to the existing BTL.

#### **Silver Bow Creek Stream Bank Work**

The removal of the contaminated stream banks and replacement with clean fill started on October 12 and will be completed in December. The adjacent uplands will be capped with topsoil during the same time period. Vegetation restoration along the stream banks and uplands will be conducted in spring, 2011.

#### **Granite Mountain Memorial Phase II**

Construction activities will be completed this fall on the Granite Mountain Memorial Phase II project. This work includes the Foreman's Park area and walking trails associated with the site. The final seeding activities will be completed in spring, 2011 and the area will be opened to the public in summer, 2011.



## More Fall Work...

### **Metro Storm Drain (MSD) Isolation Study**

The Phase III Isolation Study started on August 7 and was completed in November, 2010. The study is designed to determine if the lower section of the MSD sub-drain can be isolated to limit the volume of clean groundwater it collects.

### **Metro Storm Water Sub-Drain Clean Out**

The Metro Storm sub-drain, which collects contaminated groundwater, must be cleaned several times per year. The sub-drain cleaning is completed by power washing the slotted pipe with water to remove mineral build up in the pipe. This work will be completed in December, 2010.

### **Metro Storm Water Drain Flow Meter Installation**

The flow meter will be installed in January, 2011 and will measure the flow of water in the Metro Storm Drain.

### **Winterization of MSD**

Winterization of the MSD sub-drain system is completed.

### **Catch Basin 8**

The road to Catch Basin 8, at the end of Excelsior Street, will be enhanced to support all traffic that enters the site for inspections, cleaning operations, and maintenance activities. Work will be completed in December, 2010.

### **Curb and Gutter Programs**

On October 15, Atlantic Richfield Company started installing curb and gutter at defined, high sediment, erosion areas on Butte Hill. Curb and gutter installation helps control and minimize contaminated storm water run-off to Silver Bow Creek. The installation will continue this fall until freezing conditions prevent further work. The project will start up again next summer and be completed by October, 2011.

### **Pacific Street**

Pacific Street is the entrance to the Mountain Con area within the Granite Mountain remediation project. Curb and gutter installation and paving was completed in November, 2010.

## Do you Need More Information?

- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:** Sara Sparks, Remedial Project Manager, 782-7415 or Nikia Greene, Community Involvement Coordinator, 406-457-5019
- **Montana Department of Environmental Quality:** Joe Griffin, Project Officer, 560-6060
- **Butte Silver Bow County Planning Department:** Tom Malloy, 497-6257
- **Butte Silver Bow County Health Department:** Eric Hassler, 497-5042
- **Citizens Technical Environmental Committee:** Suzzann Nordwick, President, 565-1537
- **Atlantic Richfield Company:** Marci Sheehan, 723-1831, Trey Harbert, 723-1816