

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Update

2007 Remediation Technologies Symposium
October 24, 2007

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Greener Cleanups

Emerging Strategies for reducing emissions in the Superfund and Brownfield Programs



Objectives

- Reduce emissions from cleanup operations
 - Use and promote of clean fuels, renewable energy sources, particulate reduction filters
- Promote GHG emissions reductions and site reuse and redevelopment



Four Focus Areas

- Contracts and Interagency Agreements (IAGs)
- Cooperative Agreements
- Enforcement
- Internal Operations



Superfund Contracts and IAGs

- Site focused
- Currently: case-by-case approach
Example: B20 ultra low sulfur fuel required by contract at one site
- Possible next step: develop and use standard contract terms regarding
 - Architect and engineering services
 - Site-specific cleanup services
 - General support and other services



Brownfields Contracts and IAGs

- More “customer focused” program
- Brownfields communities drive technical assistance requests

Challenges: Contracts and IAGs

- Developing specifications
- Developing oversight tools
- Investing staff time and resources
- Scope of IAG and its high rate of utilization both barriers to emission reduction work.
- Expected increased cleanup cost—diminishing over time (?)



Contracts and IAGs

- Possible next steps:
 - Explore/expand scope of COE IAGs
- Brownfields: Explore/expand scope of conference agendas
 - “sustainable redevelopment” sessions
 - reduced emission case studies



Superfund Cooperative Agreements

- Currently, some state-led efforts
 - Washington state fleet using B5 ultra low sulfur fuel
- Possible next steps
 - Elicit voluntary emissions reduction commitments
 - Adding emission reduction requirements to Cooperative Agreements

Superfund Cooperative Agreements

cont'd

- Challenges
 - Potential unwillingness of states (individually/collectively) to change practices
 - Potential limited availability of cleaner fuels, at least in some regions

Brownfields Cooperative Agreements

- On case-by-case basis, discussion emission reduction options with states
 - One R10 state considering emission reduction as selection criteria for competitive funding
- National workgroup considering both
 - emission reduction measures as selection criteria
 - specific emission reduction requirements to be included in community cooperative agreements

Brownfields Cooperative Agreements

cont'd

- Outreach and networking with partners to promote “green” redevelopment
 - Green building letters
 - Emphasizing that redevelopment includes habitat restoration and subsistence use

Enforcement

- Possible approaches
 - Work with PRPs on voluntary basis to reduce emissions
 - Develop standard language for Administrative Consent Orders ("AOCs")



Internal Operations

- Some vehicles converted to partial biodiesel use
 - B100 in Emergency Response truck
 - B5 in Research Vessel *Monitor*
- Possible next steps
 - Retrofitting of older EPA trucks
 - Purchasing only biodiesel compatible vehicles in future

A wide, calm river flows through a valley, reflecting the sky and surrounding hills. The water is a deep blue-grey color, and the sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The hillsides are covered in dense green forest, and the overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Update Upper Columbia River Site

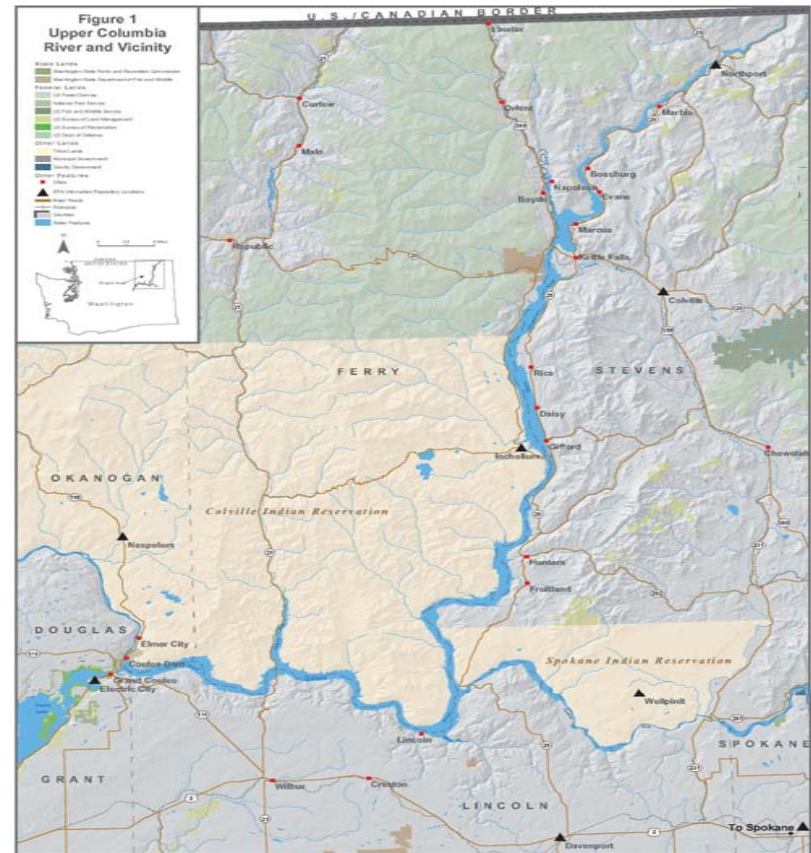
Description of Area

Upper Columbia River
from the US-Canada
border to the Grand
Coulee Dam

Local communities

Tribal Lands

Lake Roosevelt
reservoir - 1.5 million
visitors per year



Cominco Smelter - Trail, BC

Roughly 10
river miles
north of the
border

Up to mid-
1995, directly
discharged
approximately
15,000,000
tons of
metals-laden
slag into the
Columbia River



**Other Teck Cominco discharges to the
River:**

**liquid discharges
fertilizer plant
smoke stack emissions
accidental spills**

Recent History

- 1999 – EPA petitioned by Colville Tribe.
- 2001 – EPA conducted Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation.
- 2003 – Unilateral Order to Teck Cominco.
- 2005 – EPA begins Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)
- 2006 – EPA/Teck Cominco Settlement

2006 EPA/Teck Cominco Settlement

- Teck funding and conducting RI/FS.
- EPA conducting Human Health Risk Assessment.
- Teck providing source information to EPA.
- Teck funding EPA oversight and support by State, Department of Interior, Tribes.
- Does not include cleanup actions.



Litigation

- Two members of Colville Tribe, joined by State of Washington.
- Lawsuit against Teck Cominco to enforce Unilateral Order.
- Teck Cominco has petitioned US Supreme Court to hear appeal.



RI/FS Status

- EPA disapproved first draft Work Plan.
- Second Draft Work Plan under review.
- EPA works closely with “Participating Parties”
 - Department of Interior (6 bureaus)
 - Colville Confederated and Spokane Tribes
 - State of Washington



Bunker Hill / Coeur d'Alene Basin Superfund Site Update

- Good progress and much left to do to cleanup historic metals contamination
- In “the box”
 - 3200 residential properties cleaned up
 - 17 drinking water wells closed
- In “the Basin”
 - 1560 residential and commercial properties cleaned up
 - Constitution mine and mill, Golconda and Rex mine sites cleaned up



More than 15,000 acres or 80% of Lower Coeur d'Alene Basin wetlands have lethal levels of sediment lead concentrations due to upstream historic mining



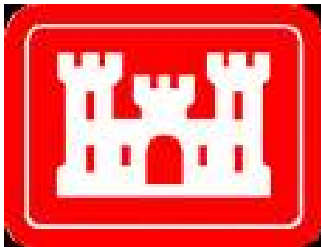
Wetland Project Partnership



**Environmental
Contaminants**



**Willing Private
Property Owner**



U.S. Forest Service

Bunker Hill/Coeur d'Alene Update cont'd

This farmland to wetland conversion project includes soil removal, excavating a meandering drainage channel, installing a water diversion structure, and planting native species



**The outcome: safe waterfowl
feeding habitat**

