

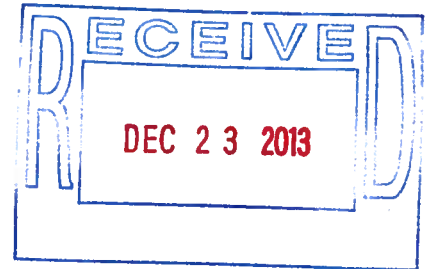


STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

4601 N Monroe Street • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 • (509)329-3400

December 20, 2013

Mr. Dave Godlewski
Teck American, Inc.
Vice President, Environmental and Public Affairs
501 N. Riverpoint Blvd., Suite 300
Spokane, WA 99202



RE: Black Sand Beach: Satisfactory Completion of Annual Performance Monitoring Activities and Remaining Actions to Close Out the VCP Agreement

Dear Mr. Godlewski:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has recently reviewed and approved the Black Sand Beach 2013 Annual Performance Monitoring Report, prepared by URS on behalf of Teck American Inc. (TAI). This recent submittal represents the third annual performance monitoring report submitted to Ecology since the beach replacement work was completed in October of 2010. The July 13, 2013 VCP Agreement between Ecology and TAI included provisions for conducting annual performance monitoring for a period of up to five years. The Agreement included the possibility of discontinuing these annual performance monitoring activities at the end of three years, pending the evaluation of findings from these annual monitoring events.

Valuable information on the performance of the Black Sand Beach has been obtained from these past three years' worth of monitoring, observation and assessment. Ecology believes the observations and findings from the 2011, 2012 and 2013 annual performance evaluations provide a sufficient basis to assess and document replacement beach performance and changes caused by natural, seasonal hydrologic changes. In view of the information gathered to date, additional annual performance monitoring will not be required.

Submittal of the 2013 Annual Performance Monitoring Report represents the last major project milestone associated with the July 13, 2009 VCP Agreement between Ecology and TAI. With the successful completion of this phase of performance monitoring, our Agreement with TAI will formally terminate once the following actions are completed:

- Ecology receives hard copies of the final 2013 Annual Performance Monitoring Report from URS
- Ecology completes all remaining administrative closeout activities associated with this project



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- Ecology receives full payment for all Agreement-related costs yet to be invoiced (i.e., October 2013 site visit, document review, document distribution to stakeholders, Ecology web-site postings, administrative and Site Manager closeout tasks).

Ecology appreciates Teck American's efforts to successfully complete the Black Sand Beach project work. Key to this success was the collaboration with your staff and the consultants and contractors who assisted you with this work. As noted in our previous letter dated November 8, 2010, we believe this work has had a positive impact on the Northport community, and resulted in positive environmental improvements which will benefit the users of the Black Sand Beach, and the Upper Columbia River, for years to come.

Please contact me (509-329-3568) if you have any questions related to this letter.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Hibbler
Eastern Region Section Manager
Toxics Cleanup Program

MAH:CG:ew

cc: Chuck Gruenenfelder/Ecology
Kris McCaig, Teck American Inc.