

Meeting Summary
Tar Removal from Spingstead & Hogtown Creeks
Cabot Carbon/Koppers Superfund Site
Gainesville, Florida
3-2-2010

Participants:

Wayne Reiber, Cabot Corporation
Stu Pearson, City of Gainesville
Pat Kline (Consultant with City of Gainesville)
John Mousa & Robyn Hallbourg, Alachua County EPD
Manu Sharma, Gradient Corporation
Kelsey Helton, Florida DEP
Brett Thomas & Scott Miller US EPA Region IV
Mark Taylor, Weston Solutions

Meeting Summary

The conference call began at approximately 10 AM. Following introductions, the agenda for the call was reviewed.

Exposure Risk Discussion

Prior to discussing the project, Kelsey Helton indicated FDEP is in the process of developing comments and recommendations regard the work. Kelsey provided an update regarding the ongoing exposure discussions within FDEP and with Alachua County related to the PAHs detected in sediment samples during the ACEPD May 2009 study. Confirmatory sampling after tar removal may be required at some locations due to the concern that natural reworking of the sediments may result in PAHS residing above the water table. There was discussion regarding the strong correlation between detected PAHs and the visible tar. This discussion concluded with the understanding that FDEP will be issuing comments and recommendations in the next week or so. Further discussion regarding would be held at a later time.

Overview of the Project (Wayne Reiber)

The project overview was provided by Wayne Reiber. The project includes removal of tar stained sediment from 10 locations identified in the ACEPD May 2009 Study that is intended to be reflective of a consensus approach that addresses the concerns associated with the tar deposits . It was explained that the October 2009 Work Plan has been approved by EPA and Cabot is continuing to refine the means and methods for the tar removal in consultations with the City of Gainesville, the County EPD and FDEP. The target time frame for the removal is expected low rainfall window expected in late April-early May of this year.

Tar Removal Methods and Approaches (Mark Taylor)

Mark Taylor began the discussion regarding the means and methods for tar removal. The basic plan is summarized below.

- Use small backhoe type equipment to excavate the tar stained sediments from the 10 locations identified in the Alachua County study.
- Send the material to Clark Environmental's thermal treatment facility.
- Where feasible, collect sediment using a vac truck and transport it directly to the disposal facility or place the sediment in a staging area to dry and to be consolidated into larger containers.
- Control the water during sediment removal will using a bypass berm covered with plastic.
- Turbidity curtains will be placed down-stream along with floating absorbent booms to reduce turbidity to meet regulatory requirements and help capture dissolved phase material that may be released during the excavation.
- Absorbent materials will be used to collect free tar that accumulates in the excavation.
- The removal locations will be accessed from the bank rather than traveling up and down the stream bed.
- The access plan is to use commercial properties to access the sediment removal location in preference to private residents.

Items covered during the discussion also included:

- The length of time needed at each location is expected to be 1-2 days
- A reminder that working in the stream during rain events is not recommended.
- The need to conduct supplemental probing for tar between sample locations HB and H4.
- A spill prevention and pollution control plan will need to be completed for the project.
- Stream sediments may not be cohesive enough to serve as berm material.
- Confirmatory probing will be conducted prior to removal to locate the tar stained sediments at each location.
- Depth of excavation will be less than 4-feet in some locations (e.g., between boring locations S10 – HB) due to the presence of a dense clay layer in the stream bottom.
- Depth of sediment may be thicker than 4-feet in some areas but results of the ACEPD study indicated that the tar did not extend below a depth of 4-ft.

Work Staging Area (Mark Taylor)

Mark Taylor explained that there is a need for a work staging area to store equipment and to house the soils prior to disposal. Stu Pearson indicated he has scheduled a discussion this week with the manager of the public works property designated as parcel 29 on the property ownership map. Mark will follow up with Stu in a few days to further discuss the staging area.

Regulatory Requirements (Mark Taylor)

Mark explained that discussions with the St Johns River Water Management District compliance personnel indicated that the Florida DEP will have the lead regarding regulatory requirements for this project. Kelsey Helton of FDEP indicated that FDEP had begun discussions internally regarding the regulatory requirements but nothing specific has yet been determined. Mark and Kelsey will have a follow on discussion in the coming days to further define the regulatory requirements. Formal permits will not be required but the substantive requirements of application regulations will need to be met.

Property Access (Mark Taylor)

Prior to the conference call, a map was distributed via email that shows the property ownership in and around the 10 tar removal locations. The plan is to create a simple 1 page access agreement for affected property owners to review and sign. The access strategy is to try and gain access to properties both on and adjacent to the removal locations in the event the tar deposits have shifted and to account for positional uncertainty and the need for room to work.

Commercial properties will be used as the access points as much as possible. One exception is the H4 location. The access approach will be a door to door effort by Mark Taylor following the release of the fact sheet.

Public Outreach (Manu Sharma/Mark Taylor)

Manu Sharma explained that the plan for public outreach is to prepare and send out a 1-2 page fact sheet to the affected property owners. The fact sheet will be distributed to the representatives on the call for review and comment. It was recommended and agreed to that both the City of Gainesville and Alachua County public information specialist be contacted.

John Mousa recommended that the fact sheet be distributed to a wider coverage of property owners so that people in the neighboring properties will understand the work that is planned. Property access will be sought by having Mark Taylor contact the property owners directly. It was decided that there will be a meeting in Gainesville to finalize project implementation details and the community involvement approach. Attendees will include representatives from Alachua County, the City of Gainesville, Cabot Corporations, and Weston Solutions. The meeting will include participation from the public information specialist from both Alachua County and the City of Gainesville.

John Mousa reminded the team that we need to be prepared to answer questions regarding dioxin. Although this is unrelated to the removal of the tar, it is important to be prepared to effectively discuss this topic with local residents, if needed.

Next Steps (All)

The next key steps are listed below.

- FDEP to provide EPA and Cabot with its comments and recommendations regarding the project..
- Determine specifics regarding regulatory requirements with FDEP
- Determine requirements for pollution prevention plan
- Schedule the meeting in Gainesville to finalize project implementation details and public involvement approach
- Develop the Pollution Prevention Plan
- Supplemental information (e.g., Health & Safety Plan, Pollution Prevention Plan, etc.) will be provided as addenda to the Work Plan. The entire Work Plan will not be resubmitted.

Review Action Items (All)

Key action items resulting from the discussion are listed below.

- Mark Taylor to follow-up with Su Pearson regarding the staging area
- Cabot to finalize access agreement and fact sheet
- Mark Taylor to follow up with Kelsey Helton regarding regulatory requirements.
- Kelsey Helton to provide Mark Taylor a point of contact for determining the contents of the pollution prevention plan.