

de maximis, inc.

**1322 Scott Street
Suite 104
San Diego, CA 92106
(619) 546-8377
(619) 546-9980 FAX**

VIA E-MAIL

January 17, 2020

Mr. Chad Schoop, P.E.
Bureau of Industrial Site Cleanup (BISC)
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
2030 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 230
Las Vegas, NV 89119

**Re: Quarterly Progress Report – Fourth Quarter 2019
Environmental Conditions Investigation Program
Former Montrose Facility, ID# H-000540, Henderson, Nevada**

Dear Mr. Schoop,

On behalf of the Montrose Chemical Corporation of California (Montrose), this Quarterly Environmental Conditions Investigation (ECI) Progress Report has been prepared in accordance with the Montrose Phase II Consent Decree Agreement, dated June 18, 1996. The following summarizes the work performed or significant activities completed during the Fourth Quarter 2019 at the former Montrose facility in Henderson, Nevada.

- On October 17, 2019, Montrose submitted to NDEP the 3rd Quarter 2019 ECI program progress report. The ECI progress report also included the updated Montrose Program Fact Sheet.
- On October 18, 2019, NDEP submitted to Montrose Pay Request #99, which was representative of oversight billings for the period July 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019. Pay Request # 99 was reviewed and paid by Montrose on December 5, 2019.
- On October 18, 2019, Montrose submitted to NDEP the 2019 Annual Closed Ponds Post-Closure Monitoring Report.
- On November 7, 2019, NDEP submitted to Montrose/SMC the response letter that accepted the LOU#30 Investigation Workplan.
- Montrose conducted the 4th Quarter 2019 DNAPL monitoring program during the period December 11 to 13, 2019.

The following provides a brief description of the Montrose ECI Program activities planned for the 1st Quarter 2020:

- NDEP and Montrose to continue work on finalizing the Administrative Closure (AC) Request for the CPA-FTF. Montrose has recently obtained an example Environmental Covenant from Olin. Montrose will work with Olin and NDEP to get the EC finalized and recorded, and subsequently seek the CPA-FTF AC from NDEP.
- Montrose continues to anticipate receiving comments from NDEP regarding the previously submitted Former Plant Site Conceptual Site Model/Data Usability Evaluation Report.
- Montrose continues to implement the Quarterly DNAPL purge and monitoring program. The 1Q2020 DNAPL monitoring event will be conducted in March 2020.
- Montrose/SMC will jointly implement the LOU#30 field investigation program during the 1Q2020.
- Development of a long-term access agreement is ongoing to assure continued access to Montrose ECI areas on the Olin property.
- Development of a deed restriction agreement and/or environmental covenant with Olin to assist closure of the Montrose site assessment areas by future NDEP NFA determinations.

While not directly part of the Phase II ECI program, Montrose continued its participation with the Companies (i.e., Pioneer, SMC/ Syngenta) in the operation and management of the groundwater treatment system (GWTS) and joint programs. The following provides a summary of the notable 4Q2019 GWTS operations/joint programs and anticipated 1Q2020 activities:

- Throughout the reporting period, the Companies conducted routine GWTS O&M activities.
- On October 9, 2019, NDEP submitted to the Companies the final meeting notes from the routine NDEP/Companies 3Q2019 Conference Call.
- On October 11, 2019, NDEP provided to the Companies the draft NERT documents that included recently installed RI well locations and Groundwater VOC tables (Note: This was an action item from the 3Q2019 NDEP/Companies call). NDEP also indicated that they requested additional data sharing information from NERT (Note: the additional NERT data was submitted by NDEP to the Companies on January 7, 2020. This data is currently being reviewed to respond to a letter submitted by NDEP to the Companies on January 7, 2020 letter).
- On behalf of the Companies, *de maximis* submitted a letter to NDEP that informed and summarized the abandonment of inactive transect monitor well MC-46.

- On November 22, 2019, Hargis + Associates on behalf of the Companies submitted to NDEP the 2019 Comprehensive Groundwater Data Evaluation Report.
- On November 25, 2019, *de maximis* on behalf of the Companies submitted the Minor Source Permit Renewal Application to the DAQ. In response, the DAQ provided a letter to *de maximis* on December 3, 2019 indicating that all necessary information to process the permit renewal application package was received and deemed complete.
- The Companies are scheduled to submit the Semi-Annual UIC Report and Semi-Annual GWTS Operations Report to NDEP in mid-February 2020.
- The Companies continue to work on the Administrative Closure Request for the Beta and Western Ditch System.

If you should have any questions or require additional information regarding the above contents, please contact me at 619-991-9074.

Sincerely,



Edward Modiano
de maximis, inc.
Consultant for Montrose Chemical Corporation of California
Nevada Certified Environmental Manager
EM No. 2107; Expires October 18, 2021

Enclosure: Fact Sheet-Former Montrose Facility, Henderson, Nevada

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Fact Sheet

Former Montrose Facility Henderson, Nevada

UPDATED JANUARY 2020

The Montrose Chemical Corporation of California (Montrose) formerly operated a chemical manufacturing plant on various leased parcels located within what is now the Olin Chlor Alkali Products (Olin) facility in the southwestern portion of the BMI Complex, Henderson, Nevada. The Montrose plant ceased operations in 1983 and the manufacturing facilities were demolished. Various closure activities, including the closure of former evaporation ponds, continued until 1989.

Administrative History

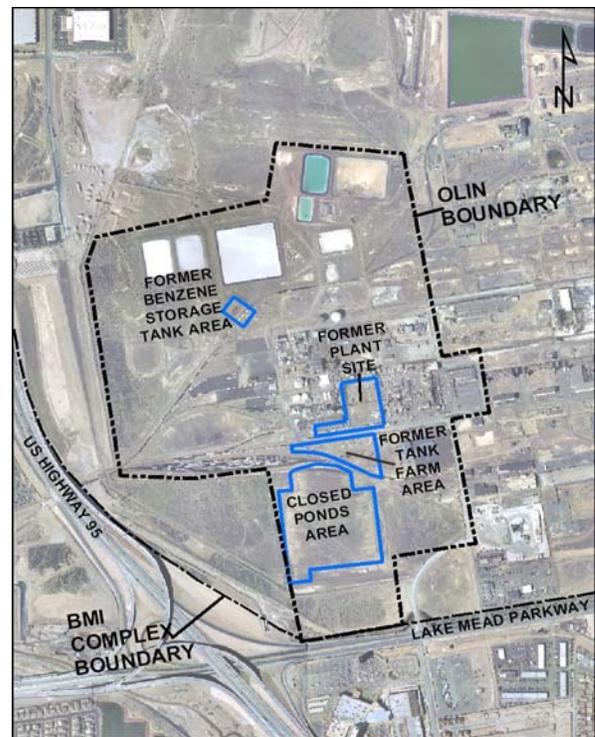
In 1991, Montrose entered into a Consent Agreement with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) requiring Montrose to conduct a Phase I Environmental Conditions Assessment (ECA) of the former Montrose facility to identify areas of potential environmental concern. Montrose submitted its ECA report to NDEP in 1993.

In 1994, NDEP issued a Phase II Letter of Understanding (LOU) that outlined specific environmental issues to be investigated by Montrose. Subsequently, Montrose entered into another Consent Agreement with the NDEP in 1996 to conduct a Phase II Environmental Conditions Investigation (ECI) of areas of potential environmental concern at the former Montrose facility as identified in the LOU.

Site Investigations

Since completion of the 1996 Consent Agreement, Montrose has completed a series of soil and groundwater investigations under the oversight of the NDEP. This work was conducted during the period from approximately 1996 to 2010 which resulted in the submittal of a series of reports and other correspondence to NDEP. These efforts defined areas of chemical presence at the former Montrose leased properties and laid the foundation for future preparation of risk assessments and/or close-out activities.

Also, during the period from approximately 2000 to 2008, Montrose in collaboration with parties involved in the Stauffer Management site (co-located on the Olin plant site), completed a series of additional groundwater and soil investigations which resulted in the publication of a Conceptual Site Model (CSM) document in July 2008. That comprehensive document defined the regional



Former Montrose Facility Locations

geology and hydrogeology, source area locations and the magnitude and mechanism of chemical migration at the combined sites. The CSM also identified outstanding data gaps for which further investigation was required.

Since 2008, further investigations have proceeded at targeted geographical areas. All activities tend to follow a process where the objectives of a program are defined with NDEP, a workplan that defines the work necessary to resolve the data gaps is submitted for NDEP's review, the field or research work is completed, and a report of the findings is published. Review of these reports by NDEP determines if the work has met the stated objectives or if a further phase of work is required. The following provides the status and path forward for the Montrose LOUs, including the AC and NFA process as the following describes.

Current Investigations and Document Development

The following provides an update for the LOU areas as of the end of the 4Q2019:

- Closed Pond/Former Tank Farm Area (CPA-FTF): Montrose submitted an Administrative Closure (AC) request to NDEP on August 24, 2018. The AC included responses to NDEP comments regarding the previously submitted risk assessment. NDEP submitted a draft AC letter to Montrose on May 3, 2019 and requested comments from Montrose. On May 9, 2019, Montrose responded with no comments to the draft AC letter. After further discussion with NDEP, it was determined that an Environmental Covenant will need to be provided as part of the AC. Montrose has obtained an example Environmental Covenant (EC) from Olin and will be working with Olin/NDEP to record the EC. Subsequently, Montrose will work with NDEP to obtain the CPA-FTF AC.
- LOU#30: Montrose previously submitted a No Further Action (NFA) package to NDEP on March 21, 2016, in which NDEP provided comments on February 7, 2018. Subsequently, Montrose addressed the NDEP comments and resubmitted the FUBST NFA request on December 21, 2018. NDEP submitted a draft NFA letter to Montrose on May 3, 2019 and requested comments from Montrose. On May 21, 2019, Montrose responded with comments to the draft NFA in which NDEP incorporated and sent an NFA letter to Montrose on June 7, 2019. Per the NDEP NFA letter, Montrose/SMC was requested to submit a schedule for submitting a work plan to conduct additional investigation activities at LOU#30 by July 19, 2019. Subsequently, Montrose/SMC jointly submitted the LOU#30 work plan to NDEP on September 19, 2019. NDEP approved the LOU#30 work plan on November 7, 2019. Montrose/SMC will be implementing the LOU#30 field investigation program during the 1Q2020.
- Former Plant Site (FPS): The FPS Conceptual Site Model/Data Usability Evaluation (CSM/DUE) was submitted by Montrose on July 3, 2017 and NDEP comments are currently pending. Montrose is currently on hold for conducting any additional work at the FPS.
- The Quarterly DNAPL Purge/Monitoring Program is ongoing. The 4Q2019 quarterly event was conducted during the period December 11 to 13, 2019. The 1Q2020 program will be conducted in March 2020.

Groundwater Treatment System and Joint Programs

Montrose, Olin (formerly Pioneer), and Stauffer Management Company, LLC (SMC) collectively operate a groundwater remediation system (GWTS) near Warm Springs Road and continue to work jointly on groundwater programs. The GWTS was first installed in 1983 and consists of a series of extraction wells to capture chemicals migrating within groundwater moving downgradient from the former plant sites. The groundwater is treated by a combination of air-stripping and activated carbon adsorption to remove chemicals and the treated groundwater is then returned to the aquifer system. The GWTS operates continuously and routine ongoing evaluations are conducted to maintain the system's groundwater contaminant capture efficiency. GWTS reports, which include the groundwater capture analysis, are provided to NDEP on a semi-annual basis. The most recent GWTS report (January to June 2019) was submitted to NDEP on August 15, 2019. The 2019 annual Site-wide groundwater monitoring event was conducted in April 2019 and the annual Site-wide groundwater monitoring report was submitted to NDEP on November 22, 2019.

Additional activities being conducted include the ongoing Groundwater Remedial Alternative Study (GWRAS) and investigation of the Beta and Western Ditch System. Per previous correspondence, the Companies incorporated NDEP comments and submitted a revised GWRAS to NDEP on June 28, 2019. During the routine quarterly NDEP/Companies call conducted on September 11, 2019, NDEP informed the Companies that approval of the revised GWRAS was on hold pending further evaluation of recently collected NERT data. NDEP provided the Companies with the recent NERT data on October 11, 2019 and January 7, 2020. The Companies are currently reviewing the NERT data in order to respond to the NDEP January 7, 2020 letter. With respect to the Beta and Western Ditch System, Montrose/SMC is continuing to work on the Environmental Covenant and subsequently with NDEP to obtain the AC.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

NDEP oversees all aspects of the environmental work at the former Montrose facility. Additional information can be obtained from Chad Schoop (702-486-2850 ext. 248) at NDEP. Montrose welcomes community input to this project and recognizes the need to respond to community concerns. Previous reports related to the environmental work at the site can be obtained from NDEP's offices in Las Vegas or Carson City.