AMEC Selected for NM Superfund Cleanup

AMEC’s Earth & Environmental office in Albuquerque recently signed a $3.6 million contract to develop and operate a system to clean up a federal Superfund site in northern New Mexico. The North Railroad Avenue Superfund site, located north of Santa Fe on the Santa Clara Indian Reservation and in the city of Española, contains a plume of contaminated groundwater approximately three-quarters of a mile long, 800 feet wide, and as much as 260 feet below ground surface. The contaminants are tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and its daughter products derived from dry cleaning solvents.

The aquifer containing the plume is the only source of drinking water for Española and Santa Clara Pueblo. The plume has affected approximately 280 million gallons of groundwater and forced the closure of two municipal drinking water wells. The cleanup plan calls for the use of a pumping system to capture and flush out the highest concentrations of undissolved contamination, plus the use of bioremediation on dissolved contaminants.

Removal of the highest concentration of undissolved contamination will be accomplished by surfactant-enhanced aquifer restoration (SEAR), which utilizes a flushing technique with surfactant to mobilize and capture the undissolved contamination. The bioremediation phase involves the underground injection of a substance designed to encourage natural bacteria to degrade contaminants. Three carbon-source substances will be tested at the site to determine which works best.

Golder Acquires Resource Technologies Group

Golder Associates Inc. has acquired Resource Technologies Group Inc. (RTG), enabling Golder to strengthen its capabilities in the water treatment market. Denver-based RTG is a 40-person consulting and contracting business that provides water treatment engineering, contracting, and operation and maintenance services to mining and waste management clients in the United States. The addition of RTG staff expands Golder’s Denver operations to 165 employees and marks the development of a new Golder services group, the Water Treatment Group, managed by former RTG executives Erich Tiepel and Kevin Conroy.

The Water Treatment Group plans to focus initially on mining industry needs, and then expand to include the waste sector, environmental remediation, and industrial wastewater treatment.

Jones & Stokes Recognized for Conservation Plan Contribution

Jones & Stokes was recognized by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for its pivotal role in developing the largest river habitat conservation plan ever completed under the Endangered Species Act.

The $626 million Lower Colorado Multi Species Conservation Program (MSCP) is a unique partnership that includes multiple federal agencies, tribes, and state agencies from Arizona, California, and Nevada. Its goal was to balance the needs of endangered species against growing demands for water and power from the Lower Colorado River.

Jones & Stokes assisted the MSCP Steering Committee in preparing the Conservation Opportunity Areas Analysis, Conservation Strategy, Biological Assessment, and Habitat Conservation Plan.

The MSCP provides federal and California Endangered Species Act compliance over a 50-year planning horizon and will create more than 8,100 acres of riparian, marsh, and backwater habitat for 26 endangered, threatened, and rare species along 400 miles of the Lower Colorado River between Lake Mead and the U.S.-Mexico border.