

## 2016 Sees Much Progress at Site

As the last quarter of the year begins, much progress has been made as the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company site this year.

## Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Update

Phase 1 remedial investigation work tasks were completed in September 2016. The entire Phase 1 remedial field program went very well this past summer. The field tasks were performed on schedule and with no accidental injuries to personnel.

Here's a summary of the major Phase 1 field activities accomplished:

- 44 groundwater monitoring wells were installed.
- 20 existing groundwater wells were re-developed for use as monitoring wells.
- Soil gas screening activities were completed at 29 locations.
- 95 soil borings were completed at locations throughout the site. Soil samples at various depths were collected for analysis. There were 724 samples collected.
- Incremental soil samples were collected

from 43 decision units within the operational grid.

- Test pits were dug to evaluate the asbestos landfill areas.
- Surface water and sediment samples were collected from site features as well as the Flathead River and Cedar Creek.
- 64 groundwater monitoring wells were sampled in early September and will be sampled quarterly going forward.
- A backfill borrow area to supply material for backfilling basements and cavities was cleared. The backfill borrow area is permitted under MDEQ's open-cut permit program. Seven test pits were dug to collect samples for analysis.
- Geophysical surveys and ground penetrating radar (GPR) surveys were completed for the site and landfill areas to gain a better understanding of sub-surface conditions.

The field sampling activities of summer will generate a tremendous amount data that will be used to define site conditions. This data will be analyzed and presented in a Phase I Summary Report. The report is scheduled to be submitted to EPA in February 2017.

## Demolition Update

Most of the structures located north of the main potline building have been demolished and are removed. Anodes continue to be removed from the 10 potrooms within the potline building. Calbag Resources is finishing anode removal in the last two rooms. Recycling of metal components continued throughout the summer with frequent shipments of aluminum busbar and steel being shipped for recycling. Work has started on demolition of the former laboratory building and is expected to be completed by the end of October.

In preparation for demolition, asbestos roofing materials are being removed from the rectifier building located on the south side of the facility. Also, asbestos roofing material is being removed from the casting area, located in the center of the complex.

Looking forward, cathode removal from the potrooms is to begin in November. The spent potliner will be shipped to an appropriate treatment facility outside Montana.

## National Priorities Listing Update

On September 9, 2016, EPA added the CFAC site to the National Priorities List (NPL). This announcement was published in the September 9, 2016, Federal Register.

## Project Schedule

Complete?	Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study Task	Estimated Completion Dates	Complete?	Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study Task	Estimated Completion Dates
✓	AOC is executed	November 30, 2015		Baseline Risk Assessment Work Plan	1st Quarter 2017
✓	Project Planning / Subcontractor Procurement	Jan – March 2016		Phase II Site Characterization Field Program	3rd Quarter 2018
✓	Site Reconnaissance / Geophysical Survey / Soil Gas Screening	April 2016		Phase II Data Summary Report	1st Quarter 2019
✓	Sampling and Analysis Plan Addendum	May 2016		Baseline Risk Assessment	3rd Quarter 2019
✓	Drilling Program	May – September 2016		Final Remedial Investigation Report	1st Quarter 2020
✓	Groundwater Sampling Event #1	September – October 2016		Feasibility Study Work Plan	3rd Quarter 2020
✓	Draft Phase I Summary Report	February 2017		Feasibility Study Report Submitted to EPA	1st Quarter 2021
	Draft Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment Report	February 2017			



## CFAC Community Liaison Panel

In May 2015 as a tool for communicating with the local and regional community residents and leaders, Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) organized a community group to meet on a regular basis. The CFAC Community Liaison Panel (CLP) purpose is to provide a forum for the discussion and exchange of ideas and opinions about the project. Those involved represent the community, project consultants, state and federal agencies and CFAC.

To learn more about the panel, contact facilitator Mary Green at 1-877-384-7036.

**CFAC Community Liaison Panel Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 3, 2016**  
**Columbia Falls High School Cafeteria**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
Meetings are open to anyone wanting to learn more about the project.

### Information Sites for Project

<http://cityofcolumbiafalls.org/cfac-liaison-panel>  
<http://www.deq.mt.gov/dir/cfac.mcp>  
<http://www3.epa.gov>  
[www.rouxinc.com](http://www.rouxinc.com)

**CFAC and its team are committed to answering your questions.**

**For more information about the project or the community panel, contact Mary Green at 1-877-384-7036.**

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