Contaminated Sediments Task Force –
Aquatic Disposal Subcommittee Meeting Notes
November 27, 2001

Introductions: A complete list of the meeting attendees is attached. The only new individual present at the meeting was Shannon Snider of Anchor Environmental. One staffing change is that Dean Smith from LA County Beaches and Harbors will now be represented by Cassandra Rutherford at the CSTF meetings.

Pilot Study Update: Steve Cappellino of Anchor Environmental provided an update on the status of the aquatic capping, sediment washing, and sediment blending projects. The current status of the aquatic capping project is that the plans and specifications are finalized and contract negotiations can now begin with Buddies Contracting Services (and Manson). The current schedule is for Buddies to receive a notice to proceed on December 10th. If this schedule is met, Manson plans to work until December 22nd, then to break for the holidays until January 2nd. Approximately 2-3 weeks is the expected duration for completing the fieldwork. At this time, Manson plans to use a single derrick barge for the entire project and to bring in extra dump scows for the portion that requires re-handling of the material. They would fill all the dump scows and then re-position the barge over the disposal pit and re-handle the material for the initial 1-foot layer. All the data collected thus far suggests that the LARE material will support the full load of the cap material without the need to re-handle it. However, this step was added to provide extra data. Also, tests will be conducted in the field later this week to measure the vane shear strength of the surface material to further ensure that the cap material will be fully supported.

Very little change has occurred in the status of the sediment washing and sediment blending projects. Tests should now be completed at WES for the sediment washing study and we should be receiving a draft data report sometime during December. Data is still being collected for the sediment blending evaluation. One of the data needs for this task is the LA regional sediment database that is being developed by the CSTF sediment subcommittee. That database should be available sometime during December.

Ying Poon of Everest provided the group with an update on the cement stabilization bench and field pilot studies. For the bench scale study, lab results have been completed and a data report should be available by mid-December. The raw data suggests that all 4 tests worked well to bind the contaminants. That includes the material from the Consolidated Slip. Data for the field pilot study will be received a little later. Additional tests had to be added to characterize the initial material (leaching and geotechnical properties) as this was not included in the bench scale study. The additional samples were collected prior to the cement additions, but had not been analyzed as a contract modification had to be completed. Data will be available in late December and a report ready by early January.

Cap Monitoring Data: David Moore of MEC provided an overview of recent data received from the SPI monitoring. Draft results suggested that new surface material was detected in the post-placement photos taken at a number of locations outside of the

target NEIBP disposal cell. Most of this material was within the larger confines of the NEIBP, and not in the surrounding area. Preliminary evaluation of the data suggests that the material detected in the photos is not LARE material, but instead material that was already in the pit that may have been pushed out the shallower sills of the pit as the LARE material was dropped during the initial days of the project. Survey data collected by Manson shows that the first series of barge drops actually created craters in the bottom of the pit, displacing large portions of material. What was not evident in the survey data was that this material may have actually formed a "mud wave" that could have been pushed out of the lower edges of the disposal cell. The difference in the elevation between the disposal cell and the actual edges of the pit is about 5 meters. The Corps is currently collecting samples of this material to determine its source. Field samples collected the previous week do not show visual signs of a new surface layer as the camera data indicates. Regardless, samples were collected for detailed grain size and chemistry analyses. Review of the previously collected data suggests that some PAHs may be used to differentiate the two sources of material. All data will be available in mid-December and will be presented at the next CSTF meeting.

David also mentioned that a tracer study was conducted to test a new "research-level" procedure of measuring sediment loss during disposal. That study, which would indicate a worst-case example, suggested that 1-2% of the fine-grained material could be lost during disposal. A simple mass balance of the material from the LARE (which had about 80% sand) does not support the amount of material represented in the photos as coming from the disposal.

Data Gap Studies: Steven Bay provided the group an update on the data gap studies. A meeting was scheduled for the 29th to review the proposals received for the beneficial reuse marketing study. A decision was expected within a week or so and the work should be underway by the first of the year. The dredging BMP study is still on hold pending completion of the white paper that Anchor is preparing for the CSTF.

Project Reporting: Steve Cappellino updated the group on a series of meetings that have occurred to begin coordinating the preparation of the pilot study report, CSTF Strategy document and the regional DMMP. Since many of the items within the reports overlap with each other, attempts are occurring to coordinate the activities so that the documents do not contradict each other. Initially, Anchor, the Corps, LARWQCB, and the CCC have been working to prepare a draft gantt chart that shows the schedules and interrelationships between the three projects/reports. Once a draft is prepared, it will be circulated to the rest of the CSTF for review.

Miscellaneous Items:

- An all-day meeting was scheduled for 10 am on January 8th at the Corps office to discuss all of the data collected from the aquatic capping project. Anchor will prepare an outline for the meeting and present it at the December CSTF meeting. Any presentations and/or data evaluations not included on the agenda can be added at that time so that Anchor has time to prepare the material before the January meeting.

- Items related to the Long-Term Monitoring Program for the cap will also be discussed at the January meeting; however, an all day meeting will also be scheduled for sometime in February to finalize the program. That should allow enough time for the Water Board to get a contract place before the June monitoring event is scheduled.
- The next meeting for the aquatic subcommittee was scheduled for December 18th from 1 to 3 at the POLA conference center. The CSTF Task Force will be meeting at the same location from 10-12.