

**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2023

**To:** Rebecca Digiustino, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

**From:** Gil Cobb and Johnny Ramus, Point Source Solutions

**RE: ECSI #6544 – Golden Bear Ventures PPA – Preliminary Stormwater Assessment and Source Control Evaluation Work Plan**

Rebecca,

The following revisions to the Preliminary Stormwater Assessment and Source Control Evaluation Work Plan have been added in response to ODEQ's comments contained in ODEQ's November 20, 2023, memorandum.

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ODEQ – **1. Section 3.2 Stormwater Assessment and Drainage Evaluation:** *“During the sewer scope investigation, areas of in-pipe sediment accumulation should be identified to inform feasibility of sediment sample collection. After the stormwater system is mapped onsite, an updated map with final representative sample locations along with written justification for the selected locations should be provided for DEQ review and approval.”*

Point Source acknowledges this request to identify areas of in-pipe sediment accumulation during the sewer scope for feasibility of sediment sample collection.

As per the sewer scope investigation, Point Source will video record the sewer scope and identify any low areas (bellying) in the drainpipe where sediment accumulation could occur. Based upon the location of sediment accumulations (if present), the feasibility of a discrete sediment sample collection within the underground drainpipe at any point of pipe bellying may be limited without excavation and partial removal of the drainpipe. Therefore, as per the Work Plan submitted to ODEQ in August 2023, Point Source will continue to collect sediment at representative catch basin locations. If sediment accumulation is present in areas other than in close proximity of catch basins, Point Source will discuss the specifics of sampling at that location with ODEQ.

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ODEQ – **2. Section 3.3 Site Inspection & Best Management Practices for Site Control Measures:** *“Please fully describe the type of storage (e.g., final products, raw materials, production supplies, or other items) and where storage occurs onsite, including interior and exterior storage locations.”*

Point Source acknowledges this request to fully describe the types of storage and locations of where storage occurs onsite.

As per the Work Plan submitted to ODEQ in August 2023, Point Source will prepare a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) that includes applicable site description details. Please refer to ODEQ checklist (<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Documents/1200zchecklist.pdf>), specifically **A.10.b.i (2-19)**, **A.10.b.ii**, and **A.10.b.iii**. for more information on the site description details.

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ODEQ – **3. Section 4.1 Catch Basin Sediment and Stormwater Sampling Plan:** *“Based on Figure 3, it appears there are eight catch basins and two trench drains located onsite; however, it is unclear if all or only select catch basins will be considered “representative”. As stated in Comment #1, an updated map with final representative*

*sample locations should be created based on the findings from the sewer scope investigation and submitted to DEQ for review and approval prior to sampling.”*

**Point Source acknowledges this request to provide an updated map with final representative sample locations.**

**In order to provide this map, Point Source requests that ODEQ approve the Preparatory Activities (Section 3.0); a Stormwater Assessment and Drainage Evaluation, to identify all “representative” catch basins throughout the Site in order to provide an updated Catch Basin Sediment and Stormwater Sampling Plan.**

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**ODEQ – 4. Section 4.1 Catch Basin Sediment and Stormwater Sampling Plan:** “The list of analytes proposed for the sediment and stormwater samples does not match the analytes and analytical methods listed in Section 4.3 or 5.0. For example, Section 4.1 only lists cadmium by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) method 6020 for sediment samples; however, Section 4.3 lists EPA methods 6010, 6020, and 200.8, and Section 5.0 lists eleven other metals in addition to cadmium. The analyte and method lists should be rectified for consistency across the sections. Additionally, please confirm that method detection limits for the chosen analytical methods are less than the Columbia Slough screening level values for sediments and stormwater. See Comment #9 for DEQ’s recommended constituents of potential concern (COPC).”

**Point Source acknowledges the discrepancies in the August 2023 Work Plan regarding the proposed list of analytes and has updated the revised Work Plan.**

**To clarify; Section 4.1 specifically lists cadmium as a COPC due to cadmium being the only metal detected over ODEQ Whitaker Slough Sediment Screening Levels in the December 2022 Subsurface Environmental Investigation. As for Section 4.3 table which listed Methods 6010, 6020, and 200.8, these additional methods were to account for the possible request to analyze stormwater for Totals or Dissolved metals – Point Source redacted all mention of the additional methods.**

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**ODEQ – 5. Section 4.1 Catch Basin Sediment and Stormwater Sampling Plan:** “Please clarify if a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 1200Z Industrial Stormwater General Permit has been issued for the site. Although DEQ Cleanup Program does not require including the 1200Z permit requirements in the collection criteria, sampling requirements can be combined if a 1200Z permit has been issued for the site. Please note that the DEQ Cleanup program will not evaluate the following proposed analytes for demonstrating upland stormwater source control: nitrate, pH, total oil & grease, fecal coliforms, total phosphorous, and biological oxygen demand. Additionally, evaluation of seasonal variability can be helpful for understanding the site, but for DEQ Cleanup Program purposes, seasonality does not need to be strictly tied to the calendar year.”

**It is Point Source’s understanding that there are no active National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 1200-Z Industrial Stormwater General Permits for this Site. Point Source acknowledges that the ODEQ Cleanup Program does not require including the 1200-Z General Permit requirements in the collection criteria and that sampling requirements can be combined if a 1200-Z General Permit will be needed for the Site.**

**Point Source will be working to confirm if a 1200-Z General Permit will be required for this Site, and therefore will be concurrently conducting the Preparatory Activities (Section 3.0) to evaluate if a 1200-Z is appropriate for the usage of the Site or if the Site may meet the conditions for a “no exposure” exclusion certificate to the 1200-Z General Permit.**

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ODEQ – 6. **Section 4.1 Catch Basin Sediment and Stormwater Sampling Plan:** “The NPDES 1200Z permit statewide benchmark screening levels can be used as a weight of evidence within the evaluation; however, please use the following primary Columbia Slough screening level values for sediments and stormwater.”

**Point Source acknowledges this request to use Columbia Slough Screening Level values for sediments and stormwater samples.**

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ODEQ – 7. **Section 4.4 Handling of Investigation-Derived Waste:** “Disposable equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) are listed as items that will be stored in a drum and transferred to a disposal facility under a waste profile. These items are typically disposed of in the general municipal trash after field activities. If disposable equipment and PPE are to be disposed of in a different manner than the soil/sediment cuttings or stormwater, please clarify how these items will be handled.”

**Point Source acknowledges this request to clarify how disposable equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) will be handled.**

**Disposable equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) that comes in direct contact with sample media will be stored on-site in labeled and sealed drums and transferred to a ODEQ permitted facility for disposal under a non-hazardous waste profile at a later date upon receipt of analytical data (i.e., Waste Management’s Hillsboro Landfill, Oil Re-Refining Company’s (ORRCO) North Portland facility, etc.).**

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ODEQ – 8. **Section 4.4 Handling of Investigation-Derived Waste:** “Please specify that any excess soil/sediment cuttings or stormwater that will be transferred off-site for disposal will be transported to a DEQ-permitted disposal facility.”

**Point Source acknowledges this request to specify that any excess soil/sediment cuttings or stormwater that will be transferred off-site for disposal will be transported to an ODEQ-permitted disposal facility.**

**Point Source will transfer all sample media to a ODEQ permitted facility for disposal under a non-hazardous waste profile at a later date upon receipt of analytical data (i.e., Waste Management’s Hillsboro Landfill, Oil Re-Refining Company’s North Portland facility, etc.).**

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ODEQ – 9. **Section 5.0 Analytical Plan:** “Based on the site’s history, DEQ recommends analyzing sediment/solids samples and stormwater samples for all polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (not just carcinogenic) and the list of metals presented in Section 5.0. Additionally, based on the growing information showing the toxicity of N-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-N’-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine (6PPD) and 6PPD-quinone (6PPD-Q) to aquatic wildlife, DEQ believes it would be pertinent to analyze for 6PPD and 6PPD-Q in at least stormwater samples collected from the Outfall.”

**Point Source acknowledges this request to analyze sediment, solids, and stormwater samples for all polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons instead of only carcinogenic as well as total metals listed in Section 5.0 and to include 6PPD and 6PPD-Q to the stormwater sample collected at the Outfall.**

**Point Source has made these updates to the revised Work Plan.**

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ODEQ – 10. **Section 5.0 Analytical Plan:** “Please include an analysis prioritization list in the event there is not enough sediments to analyze for all COPC.”

**Point Source acknowledges this request to include an analysis prioritization list in the event there is not enough sediments to analyze for all COPCs.**

**Point Source has made these updates to the revised Work Plan.**

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ODEQ – 11. **Section 7.0 Report Preparation:** “Please include discussion on Progress Report submittals required under the Consent Judgment Section 7.H. Each quarterly Progress Report should report actions taken over the last three months, actions scheduled to occur in the next three months, summary of sampling or data results generated, and a description of any problems encountered and actions to resolve.”

**Point Source acknowledges this request to include a discussion on Progress Report submittals required under the Consent Judgment Section 7.H.**

**Point Source has made these updates to the revised Work Plan.**

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ODEQ – 12. **Section 7.0 Report Preparation:** “Although scheduling of the in-water sediment investigation work is at the discretion of Golden Bear Ventures, LLC, DEQ would like to note that preparation for and completion of the in-water sediment work can be completed concurrently with the stormwater source control evaluation, if preferred.”

**Point Source acknowledges that the Sediment Investigation may be completed concurrently with the Source Control Evaluation, if Golden Bear Ventures, LLC prefers.**