SWMU 19 - Refuse Disposal Area

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5.5.19 SWMU 19 - Refuse Disposal Area

The location of Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 19 is shown on Figure 5.5.19-1a and SWMU 19 monitoring stations and sample locations are provided on Figure 5.5.19-1b. The Refuse Disposal Area is a closed disposal area that contains domestic garbage and miscellaneous site refuse, and is located along the northern edge of the Tailing Basin and Water Recirculation System (SWMU 1) as shown on Figure 5.5.19-1b. According to Plant records, the Refuse Disposal Area (identified as Disposal Site No. 5 on the Engineering Drawings in Appendix 5.5.11-A) is approximately 600 feet by 270 feet. This disposal area was closed in the late 1970s, and was capped with a 2-foot layer of graded clay fill and a 1-foot layer of graded slag. The cover system is illustrated in cross-section in Appendix 5.5.11-A as "No. 5 Waste Burial Site". In the early 1990's the Refuse Disposal Area was covered with fines material from the Tailing Basin and Water Recirculation System. The fines material was removed from the east area of the Tailing Basin and Water Recirculation System and one to two foot layers were spread over SWMU 19. The fines material cover was then fertilized, seeded with grass seed and reclaimed. Currently SWMU 19 has a vegetated grass cover on top of the engineered cover.

Groundwater impacts across this area are discussed in Section 5.3. Elemental phosphorus was not managed or present in process water in SWMU 19 and therefore was not sampled, in accordance with the RFI Work Plan.

5.5.19.1 Conclusions

If the U.S. EPA selects a cover as the corrective measure for the Coarse Slag Pile (SWMU 12) and the Tailing Basin and Water Recirculation System, SWMU 19 would be included under the cover, given its location along the north rim of the Tailing Basin and Water Recirculation System. However, final corrective measures will be determined at a later date.

SWMU 19 is already covered by a horizontal barrier consisting of 2-feet of clay, which serves to protect the buried material and minimize infiltration of precipitation. Sampling of the cap materials and/or an engineering assessment of the current cap may be considered during future investigations. However, a cover over the Tailing Basin and Water Recirculation System would provide additional protection to SWMU 19 with appropriate slopes.

Figures



