July 2, 2013

Hello, folks. Here is a Parachute Creek update for July 2, 2013:

The benzene concentration in all surface water samples remains non-detect for all sample points except for CS-6. The benzene levels there varied between 1.2 and 1.7 ppb over the last week.

Williams has submitted a work plan proposing upgrades to the existing ground water aeration system and the construction of a second ground water aeration system for the northeast side of Parachute Creek. The second ground water aeration system will be upgradient of the existing system in an area with elevated benzene concentrations in the ground water. The intent will be to have a two-stage ground water treatment process to help speed up treatment of ground water and help reduce the concentration of benzene that reaches Parachute Creek at location CS-6.

The state health department visited the Parachute Creek site on June 13 to collect ground water and surface water samples for independent analysis to confirm the sample results that Williams has been reporting for the project. The state health department collected what are known as "split" samples with Williams from one ground water well and three on-site surface water samples, and had the samples analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including benzene and various solvents. The results of the state health department's independent sample analysis were consistent with the results of the analysis conducted by the laboratories that Williams uses for sample analysis. Results are available on the state health department's website for this Parachute Creek release.

At the request of a private property owner whose property borders Parachute Creek, on June 13, the state health department also collected a surface water sample from Parachute Creek where the private property owner allows his horses to drink from the creek. The sample location is downgradient of the City of Parachute Irrigation Water Diversion and upstream of the Town of Parachute itself. All VOCs, including benzene and other constituents that might be related to the Parachute Creek pipeline release, were non-detect in the both the state health department's and Williams' sample results.