

University of California, Berkeley
Richmond Field Station
Soil, Groundwater, and Geotechnical Borings Contract Requirements
September 5, 2019

Introduction

The Richmond Field Station (RFS) is currently under a Site Investigation and Remediation Order from the California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). UC Berkeley is continuing to investigate and clean up portions of the RFS that have been affected by historical industrial operations at the site and at adjacent properties. Chemicals that may be encountered in soils at the RFS include metals and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). It is important to follow established procedures if soil disturbance is planned to ensure RFS community and worker safety and to avoid disturbing sensitive wildlife.

General Contractor and Community Requirements

All persons who work at the RFS are required to take the Working at the Richmond Field Station Awareness training. This is available on the RFS Environmental Website at <https://rfs-env.berkeley.edu/working-rfs-training-module>. Alternatively, a live training session can be scheduled with the campus Office of Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S).

Due to the unique environmental conditions at the Richmond Field Station, prior approval is required for any activities that:

- disturb sensitive habitats or endanger the California Ridgway's rail (formerly called the California clapper rail,
- release emissions of material (dust, smoke, chemicals, etc.) into the air or water,
- involve digging in upland soils or marsh sediments,
- involve planting of vegetation,
- include collecting plants or animals. It is prohibited to collect and eat any fruit or other plant material including wild berries, apples and prickly pear fruit.

Persons who disturb soil must first obtain approval through Richmond Field Station Operations by contacting Scott Shackleton (scotts@berkeley.edu) and special training and precautions from EH&S.

Drilling Requirements

The driller is required to develop a Health and Safety Plan.

The driller shall be licensed to drill in California. Drill rigs shall be inspected by a competent mechanic no more than 30 days prior to mobilizing to the site, and the driller shall provide written verification of inspections on arrival at the site. All tooling and safety equipment on the rig shall be in good working order. The drilling rig shall have at least one working fire extinguisher aboard with recent inspection records attached.

The driller shall decontaminate the drill rig and drilling equipment with a high pressure steam cleaner before initiating work at the site, between borings, and before leaving the site. The driller is required to decontaminate hand augers before initiating work at the site, between depth intervals and locations, and before leaving the site. All water from equipment decontamination shall be containerized in 55-gallon drums and transported to a central investigation derived waste (IDW) storage location.

The driller shall hand-auger the first five feet below ground surface to ensure avoidance of undetected utilities.

The subcontractor shall place drill cuttings in drums. The subcontractor shall provide DOT-approved drums with lids and lid rings.

Soil and groundwater borings shall be filled in by the subcontractor with a bentonite/grout slurry until level and the surface repaired to match existing.

The driller shall supply the UC Berkeley Office of Environment, Health & Safety with a daily drilling summary.

The driller shall complete California Department of Water Resources (DWR) logs for submittal to the UC Berkeley Office of Environment, Health & Safety and regulatory agencies if necessary.

The driller shall obtain a Well Permit from Contra Costa Environmental Health if borings are being converted to groundwater monitoring wells. Permits are not required for geotechnical and other soil borings on University property.

The driller shall destroy all borings according to Contra Costa Health Services requirements.

http://cchealth.org/eh/land_use/pdf/wells_soil.pdf

http://cchealth.org/eh/land_use/pdf/annular_seal_well_destruction_materials.pdf

The driller shall provide the UC Berkeley Office of Environment, Health & Safety with a minimum of one week advance notice of work schedule.