

Update on CAP Canal Breach

Crews began pouring concrete yesterday to replace the failed canal panels at the CAP breach site near Bouse where CAP employees are working around the clock with contract help to get the system back into operation.

The current projection is that all concrete work will be complete by Oct. 14-15 (they pour at night when it is cooler). The concrete will cure for three days and then about 2.5 feet of water will be let into Pool 1 on Oct. 19. The schedule calls for increasing the depth over a two-week period. This is required based on designed canal fill requirements. CAP will be able to resume deliveries on day 3, Oct. 22, when the depth of the water is 5.5 feet. By Nov. 1, the water will be the normal 16.5 feet deep and the flow will be 3,000 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Over the weekend the workers graded roadways to the site so they could begin to bring in fill dirt. It took more than 200 semi-truck loads of fill dirt to bring in a total of 2,800 cubic yards of fill. To do this, 30 trucks operated day and night to bring the fill from Parker to the site.

While repairs are underway and the 5-mile stretch that is Pool 1 is dry, crews have performed a thorough inspection of this entire section. This included using ground penetrating radar to identify any other potential problems along the system. The evaluation revealed voids

and cracks in 7 other panels along Pool 1 which have been replaced.

Crews also are inspecting the joint seals in Pool 1 and, where necessary, will repair them. There are about 78,000 joints within this 5-mile section of canal.

Also, to ensure that CAP receives concrete which meets our specifications, a CAP engineer was sent to the batch plant in Parker to ensure that the concrete is prepared properly. CAP requires a drier concrete so when it is poured on the sloped side of the canal, it does not all flow to the bottom.

The forensic analyses have begun on the breach of the canal and results are expected within a month. Those results will be analyzed and acted upon to ensure ongoing reliability of the canal.

Crews have been very thorough with the inspection and repairs of this section of canal. Although this has taken a few more days than planned, the critical nature of these repairs is very important. The goal is to resume normal operation as soon as possible, until then, we will continue to work day and night until the job is complete and CAP is operating normally.

