

CETCO® SLURRYBOND 2000 G PROVIDES A COST-EFFECTIVE DRILL SPOILS DISPOSAL SOLUTION FOR BROTHERTON PIPELINE



Brotherton Pipeline, Inc. is a registered minority owned company based in Gold Hill, Oregon. They specialize in horizontal directional drilling, and have over 30 years of experience in such areas as natural gas transmission, natural gas distribution, plowing, trenching, vacuum excavation, auger boring, rock hammer boring, and underground power installation. In working throughout the western and northwestern US on a wide variety of projects (beach approaches, crossing highways, creeks, rivers, streets, wetlands, canals railroads, and lava fields). Drill spoils disposal has always been a challenge for Brotherton Pipeline, Inc. SLURRYBOND 2000 G has become the drill spoils solidification product of choice for Brotherton Pipeline, Inc.

PROJECT DETAILS

Drill Spoils Solidification

LOCATION

Chandler, AZ USA

PRODUCTS USED

SLURRYBOND™ 2000 G

CHALLENGE

In order for a landfill to accept waste or drill spoils, one of the tests that must be performed is a paint filter test. A sample of the material is placed into a paint filter for five minutes and if any portion of the material passes through the filter within the five minute test period, the material is deemed to have free liquids and cannot be accepted by the landfill. Drill spoil free liquids can cause problems for trucks getting in and out of landfills as well as causing problems with the landfills leachate collection system. As noted by Israel Brotherton, “finding an effective product that can be added to our spoils to achieve this level of dryness while staying on budget has proven to be challenging.”

SOLUTION

After researching possible solutions and networking with Carson Underground and the Drilling Products division of CETCO, Brotherton Pipeline, Inc decided to try a different solution from CETCO to serve as a solidification/drying agent for drill spoils.

“We have tried several different products, from several different manufacturers. Some products are effective yet very costly, others are less expensive but also less effective,” said Israel Brotherton. Another issue has been related to the application of the product. Windy conditions may impact proper application and result in product waste

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due high winds etc. CETCO suggested that Brotherton Pipeline, Inc try SLURRYBOND 2000 G. “This is far more granular than other products, reducing the likeliness of it becoming airborne. We started by trying 1/2 of a pallet to assess its effectiveness.” (Brotherton, 2020)

“While the cost of the SLURRYBOND 2000 G is slightly more than our previous solution, less of the product is used, there is less waste, and it is much more user friendly. On average, 7-10 bags of SLURRYBOND 2000 G are mixed per 10 yards of spoils, depending on the liquid content. An excavator is used to mix the spoils, the spoils begin to clump and clumps break apart, making the spoils stackable. This allows the spoils to not only be hauled to a landfill at a reduced disposal cost, but they can be hauled with a dump truck. This reduced the cost of disposal significantly, by removing the need to rent lined bins, pay premium disposal fees for cuttings that do not stack, and pay the additional fees associated with using roll-off trucks to transport spoils. Minimizing dust production on the jobsite is another added benefit to using SLURRYBOND 2000 G. This minimizes worker exposure and environmental impacts that can be associated with dust production.” (Brotherton, 2020)

Disposal of drill spoils for horizontal directional drilling contractors is a big challenge today. Fortunately, the options for solidification agents are increasing, and specialty products are now available when dealing with waste slurry that is contaminated with salt, cement, or even hydrocarbons.

