

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin



June 2023

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The Executive Officer (EO) of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board) hereby provides the following report on recent staff activities for April 2023 in the region:

1. LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM

New River Sampling: During the Month of April 2023, the Land Disposal Unit coordinated the New River Sampling Program by preparing sample bottles, coordinating lab contracts, and assisted in record keeping. Water Quality sample collection was conducted with the assistance of the Site Cleanup Unit. Imperial County, [*Julya Mestas*]

Unpermitted Facility Inspections: During the month of April 2023, the Land Disposal Unit conducted one inspection of an unpermitted facility in response to a public complaint and/or notification from the California Office of Emergency Services.

- On April 26, 2023, a private property located in Blythe, CA 92225 was inspected in response to a public complaint that was made on March 14, 2023, of illegal disposal of hazardous material. During the inspection of the property, no evidence of illegal disposal was observed. Riverside County [*Zakary Owens*]

Permitted Facility Inspections: From July 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, the Land Disposal Unit conducted 50 inspections of facilities regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements. During the month of April 2023, the Land Disposal Unit conducted 18 facility inspections.

Approvals/Notifications and Notices of Termination: Two Approval/Notifications and one Notice of Termination (NOT) were issued in April 2023. A description of the NOT follows:

- The Imperial Irrigation District (Discharger), was issued a Notice of Termination on April 6, 2023, for the State Water Resource Control Board General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality (Order Number 2003-0003-DWQ[41]) for the Clubhouse Plot Study (Facility). The Discharger requested termination of coverage on March 24, 2023. In their request, the Discharger stated that the study was complete and the discharge had ceased. Riverside County [*Scot Stormo*]

2. WATER QUALITY/NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAMS

Salton Sea Management Program Community Workshop

On April 20, 2023, staff participated in a community workshop held by the Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP). The workshop discussed current projects underway at the Salton Sea along with current planning efforts, and an in-depth overview of the 2023 SSMP annual report. The workshop allowed for the public to comment and ask questions regarding progress that is being made at the Salton Sea with these various projects. [*Hajer Dawoody, EG*]

Yucca Valley Septic Tank Prohibition Enforcement

On April 19, 2023, staff sent second Notices of Violation (NOVs) to 260 property owners in Yucca Valley that have not connected to the Hi-Desert Water. The NOVs were sent to property owners that have had access to the sewer for more than a year to three years. Staff have received communications from many of the property owners and are working with them as well as Hi-Desert Water District to facilitate compliance with the Yucca Valley Septic Tank Prohibition. [Emma McCorkle, SES]

3. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AND SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM

Regional Water Board staff continues to work with staff from the Department of Defense (DoD) to expedite ongoing activities at cleanup sites located at military facilities within the Colorado River Basin Region. The UST and SCP staff issued correspondence reviewing technical reports, requesting site access, providing direction for site assessment, and approving remedial action plans for sites currently in the assessment and cleanup process. The following table lists the correspondence regarding DoD, UST and SCP projects issued in April and May 2023.

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
April 4, 2023	Review of the Final Feasibility Study, Munitions Response Programs Site 4, Former Turret and Skeet Range	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, California, GeoTracker ID No. T10000011419	Jessie Bagby, Engineering Geologist
April 4, 2023	Approval of Draft Final Field Activities Summary Report Shoreline And Inspection Area Survey And Surface Removal	Former Salton Sea Test Base, Imperial County, California, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000007745	Jessie Bagby, Engineering Geologist
April 4, 2023	Response to 2 nd Request For Extension-PFAS Sampling And Analysis Pursuant To California Water Code Section 13267 Order	Imperial County Airport, 1099 Airport Road, Imperial, Imperial County, GeoTracker ID No. T10000012781, Order No. WQ-2019-0005-DWQ	Angela Garcia, Senior Engineering Geologist

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
April 10, 2023	Approval of Work Plan For Installation Of Shallow Soil Vapor Probes	SOCO #63, 800 Imperial Avenue, Calexico, Imperial County, CRWQCB File No. 7T2 231 023, GeoTracker File T0602514171	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 10, 2023	Response To Bifurcated Case Closure Request Letter	SOCO #63, 800 Imperial Avenue, Calexico, Imperial County, CRWQCB File No. 7T2 231 023, GeoTracker ID No. T0602514171	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 12, 2023	Review of Subsurface Investigation and Site Conceptual Model, Submitted Pursuant To Health And Safety Code Section 25296.10, Corrective Action Requirements	McDonalds's Restaurant, Site ID No. 40796 (Former Service Station), 105 West Main Street, Brawley, Imperial County; GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000012309	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 12, 2023	Review of Draft Site Inspection Report, Basewide Investigation of Per-And PolyFluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, San Bernardino County, GeoTracker Global ID No: DOD100399200	Jessie Bagby, Engineering Geologist
April 19, 2023	Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy; Abandonment Of All Wells And Waste Materials	AAA Air Conditioning, 1134 West Hobsonway, Blythe, CA 92225, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0606500888, Orphan Site Cleanup Fund (OSCF) Number B270	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
April 24, 2023	Requirement For A Technical Report Pursuant To Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0024	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 24, 2023	Requirement For A Technical Report Pursuant To Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0027	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 24, 2023	Requirement For A Technical Report Pursuant To Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0028	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 24, 2024	Requirement For A Technical Report Pursuant To Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0030	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 26, 2023	Review Of Workplan For Soil Vapor Extraction And Air Sparging (SVE-AS) And Request For Workplan For Additional Site Characterization	Former USA Gasoline Station-#295, 1036 Imperial Avenue, Calexico, Imperial County, CRWQCB File No. 7T2 231 019, GeoTracker File T0602558699	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
April 26, 2023	Property Access Agreement- Property Work Conducted Under Emergency, Abandoned, Recalcitrant (EAR) Account No. R10-135	Former Express Stop, 82668 Indio Boulevard, Indio, CA 92201, APN 611-133-009-0000, Global ID No. T0606500696	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
April 26, 2023	Approval Of Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms Community Involvement Plan	Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, San Bernardino County, GeoTracker Global ID No. DOD100399200	Jessie Bagby, Engineering Geologist
April 26, 2023	Approval Of Memorandum-Limited Boring Plan, Pursuant To Health And Safety Code Section 25296.10; Corrective Action	Miller Property, 1291 East Hobsonway (Former 9680 East Hobson Way), Blythe, CA 92225, APN 851-071-020, Global ID No. T0606500766, Orphan Site Cleanup Fund (OSCF) B254	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer

4. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM

Imperial Irrigation District Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP)

On September 14, 2021, Stipulated Order No. R7-2021-0006 was adopted for a total liability of \$549,000 (SEP Amount) issued to resolve violations at the Grass Carp Hatchery and El Centro Generating Station facilities. The entire SEP Amount will be suspended pending the Discharger's funding and completion of a third party-performed SEP proposed by the Imperial County Public Health Department, Division of Environmental Health (DEH): Point of Entry (POE) Pilot Project – Phase II. Under the POE Pilot Project – Phase II, the Discharger will install at least 25 additional POE systems and will maintain the installed POE systems for at least 2 years after the installation date.

As of their most recent progress report, a total of 19 POEs have been installed. DEH met with four more that were on the waitlist to take part in the project. One of the four households had their POE installed, while the other three are pending POE installation.

Five households completed one year within the POE Pilot Project during the 1st Quarter 2023 reporting period.

DEH began filming a demonstration video that shows equipment change-outs. DEH plans to utilize the video for outreach on YouTube for maximum accessibility. DEH also plans to perform outreach to all participating households. [*Maribel Schiavone, SEA*]

401 Water Quality Certifications (Dredge or Fill Discharge)

The following table shows the certifications that the Colorado River Basin Water Board issued in April 2023. The certifications listed were in addition to the waste discharge requirements adopted by the Regional Water Board. [*Logan Raub, Environmental Scientist, Fatima Alrahem, WRCE*]

Issuance Date	Applicant	Project	WDID#
4/4/2023	Caltrans	State Route 95 - Road Wash-Out Damage Repair Project	7B333038001
4/11/2023	Hell's Kitchen Geothermal, LLC	Hell's Kitchen Well Pad 4 Geotechnical Investigation Project	7A133178001
4/11/2023	Hell's Kitchen Geothermal, LLC	Hell's Kitchen Geotechnical Investigation Project	7A133177001

Table 1: Mandatory Minimum Penalty Status

Number	Facility	Violation Description	Assessed Penalty	Settlement Offer Date	Waiver Received Date	Public Notice Issuance Date	Comment Due Date	EO Execution Date	Number of MMPs
1	Seeley CWD	Bacteria indicator & Free Cyanide	\$27,000 *\$39,000	8/11/2021 *9/2/21	9/8/21 *9/23/21		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		9 *13
2	Niland SD	Bacteria indicator, BOD, Chlorine Residual	\$45,000	7/29/2022	8/29/22		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		15
3	Valley SD	Total Cyanide	\$6,000	3/30/2023	4/18/23	4/21/23			2
	TOTAL:		\$78,000 *\$39,000						26 *13

*Revised

Unaddressed Violations Subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties (April 2023)

No. of Facilities	No. of Violations
6	48

[Maribel Schiavone, SEA and Kai Dunn, Supervising WRCE, Ph.D., P.E.]