



State Water Resources Control Board

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STATE WATER BOARD APPROVES ALMOST \$1.5 MILLION FOR SAN GABRIEL VALLEY GROUNDWATER CLEANUP

SACRAMENTO—The State Water Resources Control Board unanimously approved a grant for \$1,420,000 to treat polluted groundwater in the San Gabriel Valley of Los Angeles County. The money comes from the State Water Board's Cleanup and Abatement Account into which many water pollution fines are paid.

The chemically contaminated site is considered an "orphan site" because no responsible party can be identified. Where possible, treatment of contaminated water is paid for by responsible parties. When that is not possible, under state law the Water Board may contribute to cleanup costs where appropriate.

"This is an example of Cleanup and Abatement money being used to help Californians get additional usable water," said Tam Doduc, Chair of the State Water Board. "The San Gabriel Valley's groundwater needs to be restored. Where possible, those responsible should pay. However, I am happy we could step in where either there is no responsible entity to pay for a cleanup or where there are delays in establishing responsibility."

The money will pay for water treatment to remove significant concentrations of 1,4-dioxane and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Dioxane is on the Proposition 65 list of carcinogens (cancer-causing substances) compiled by California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services considers 1,4-dioxane as reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen. The chemical is a solvent that has been used in manufacturing and in some household products.

The site where the water will be treated is the former J.A.B. Holdings, Bozung Site located in the San Gabriel Valley of Los Angeles County. The water below the site can move toward 22 drinking water wells that serve a population of over 84,000.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority and Department of Toxic Substances

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Control all supported the \$1,420,000 expenditure. The funds will be transferred from the State Water Board to the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority, which will oversee the work. The amount represents approximately 20 percent of the funds in the state's Cleanup and Abatement account.

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