



**Linda S. Adams**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

# State Water Resources Control Board

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## Division of Financial Assistance

1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814  
P.O. Box 944212 • Sacramento, California • 94244-2120  
(800) 813-FUND (3863) • FAX (916) 341-5806 • [www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ustcf/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/)



**Arnold Schwarzenegger**  
Governor

## **NOTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) CLEANUP FUND (FUND),  
MEETING NOTIFICATION FOR CASE CLOSURE RECOMMENDATION,  
PURSUANT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 25299.39.2: CLAIM NUMBER: 730;  
SITE ADDRESS: NELLA OIL #5, 13461 BOWMAN ROAD, AUBURN, CA 95603

By this letter, as Fund Manager, I am informing you of the Fund's intent to recommend closure of your UST site cleanup case to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) at its February 15, 2011, Board meeting.

In the interim, any reasonable, necessary, and eligible costs that you incur and submit in a properly documented reimbursement request will continue to be reimbursed by the Fund, as monies are available.

### Meeting Notice

The State Water Board is planning to consider closing your UST case at its meeting that will be held on February 15, 2011, commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Coastal Hearing Room, Second Floor of the Cal/EPA Building, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California. Under separate cover at a later date, you will receive an agenda for this meeting.

### Legal Authority

Health & Safety Code (H&SC) Section 25299.39.2(a) requires that the Fund Manager notify UST owners or operators who have a Letter of Commitment (LOC) that has been in active status for five or more years and to review the case history of these sites on an annual basis unless otherwise notified by the UST owner or operator. In addition, the H&SC section further states that the Fund Manager, with approval of the UST owner or operator, may recommend regulatory case closure to the State Water Board. This process is called the "5-Year Review." The State Water Board may close or require the closure of a UST case that is under the jurisdiction of a Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) or a local agency participating in the State Water Board's local oversight program.

Discussion

Having obtained your approval, and pursuant to H&SC Section 25299.39.2(a), to recommend closure of your UST case to the State Water Board, enclosed is a copy of the UST Case Closure Summary for your UST case. The case closure summary contains information about your UST case and forms the basis for the UST Cleanup Fund manager's recommendation to the State Water Board for UST case closure. A copy of the Case Closure Summary is also being provided to your environmental consultant and the Regional Water Board that has been overseeing corrective action at your site. Other interested persons may obtain a copy of the Case Closure Summary by contacting Ms. Dennise Walker, at (916) 341-5789.

Comments

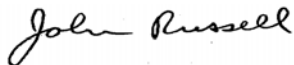
At the meeting, interested persons will be allowed to comment orally on the case closure recommendation (including the case closure summary), subject to the following time limits. The UST Cleanup Fund claimant and the Regional Water Board overseeing corrective action at the site will be allowed five minutes for oral comment, with additional time for questions by the State Water Board members. Other interested persons will be allotted a lesser amount of time to address the State Water Board. At the meeting, the State Water Board may grant UST case closure, deny case closure, or may continue consideration until a later meeting.

Written comments on the case closure summary must be received by the State Water Board by 12:00 noon on January 20, 2011. Please provide the following information in the subject line: **February 15, 2011 Board Meeting, UST Case Closure, and applicable site address and UST Cleanup Fund claim number.** Comments must be addressed to:

Ms. Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor [95814]  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100  
(tel) 916-341-5600  
(fax) 916-341-5620  
(email) [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Robert Trommer at (916) 341-5684.

Sincerely,



John Russell, P.G., Fund Manager  
Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund

Enclosure

cc: Flyers LLC  
2360 Lindbergh Street  
Auburn, CA 95602

Central Valley RWQCB  
Attn: Ms. Pamela Creedon  
11020 Sun Center Drive #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Central Valley RWQCB  
Attn: Mr. Brian Newman  
11020 Sun Center Drive #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Central Valley RWQCB  
Attn: Mr. Paul Sanders  
11020 Sun Center Drive #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Placer County Environmental Health Department  
Attn: West Bourgault  
11484 B Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603

Apex Envirotech, Inc.  
Attn: Thomas Knoch  
11244 Pyrites Way  
Gold River, CA 95670

Placer County Water Company  
Attn: David Breninger, General Manager  
P.O. Box 6570  
144 Ferguson Road  
Auburn, CA 95604

Placer County Water Company  
Attn: Brian Martin, Director of Technical Services  
P.O. Box 6570  
144 Ferguson Road  
Auburn, CA 95604

1495 Investors LLC  
13489 Bowman Road  
Auburn, CA 95603-3149

Philip E Hawkins TR ET AL

Steven Riccardelli & Amy C Eldridge



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## UST Case Closure Summary

This Underground Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure Summary has been prepared in support of a recommendation by the Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (Fund) to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for closure of the UST case at 13461 Bowman Road in Auburn, California (Site).

### Agency Information

Agency Name: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Sacramento Office (Regional Board)	Address: 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114
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### Case Information

Case No: 310012	Global ID: T0606100010
Site Name: Nella Oil #5	Site Address: 13461 Bowman Road, Auburn CA 95603
Responsible Party: Nella Oil Company	Address: 2360 Lindbergh Street, Auburn CA 95602
USTCF Claim No.: 730	Number of Years Case Open: 23
USTCF Expenditures to Date: \$1,206,064	

### Tank Information

Tank No.	Size in Gallons	Contents	Closed in Place/ Removed/Active?	Date
T-1	8,000	Gasoline	Removed	Dec 1997
T-2	8,000	Gasoline	Removed	Dec 1997
T-3	8,000	Gasoline	Removed	Dec 1997
T-4	12,000	Diesel	Removed	Dec 1997
T-5	12,000	Gasoline	Active	-
T-6	12,000	Gasoline	Active	-
T-7	6,000	Gasoline	Active	-
T-8	6,000	Diesel	Active	-

### Release Information

- Source of Release: UST system
- Date of Release: 27 January 1987 (leak discovered)
- Affected Media: soil and groundwater

### Site Information

- GW Basin: unnamed basin, American River Watershed.
- Beneficial Uses: Municipal and Domestic Water Supply (MUN), Agricultural Supply (AGR), Industrial Service Supply (IND), and Industrial Process Supply (PRO)
- Land Use Designation: Commercial

- Distance to Nearest Supply Well: According to data available in GeoTracker, there are no Department of Public Health (DPH) water supply wells within ½ mile of the Site
- Minimum Groundwater Depth: 2.89 feet below ground surface (bgs) at monitoring well MW-9
- Maximum Groundwater Depth: 28.54 feet bgs at monitoring well RW-2.
- Groundwater Flow Direction: Predominately to the southeast with an average gradient of 0.014 feet/foot (ft/ft).
- Soil Types: The Site is underlain by sediments to a depth of two to fifteen feet, which are underlain by weathered crystalline rocks.
- Maximum Depth Sampled: 33 feet bgs

### Monitoring Well Information

Well Designation	Date Installed	Screen Interval (feet bgs)	Most Recent Depth To Groundwater (feet bgs) (June 2010)
MW-1	Jun 89	23-27	9.28
MW-2	Jun 89	22-26.5	-
MW-3	Jun 89	21-26	-
MW-4	Oct 90	8-28	-
MW-5	Oct 90	5-27	12.39
MW-6	Oct 90	8-28	8.13
MW-7	Oct 90	7-27	8.69
MW-8	Sep 92	8-28	-
MW-9	Oct 92	8-28	6.99
MW-10	Oct 92	8-28	8.88
MW-11	Jan 97	5.5-28	11.02
MW-12	Jan 97	5.5-28	9.19
MW-13	Jan 97	9-30	8.60
PTW-1	Jan 92	8-33	--
RW-1	Apr 03	5-30	12.30
RW-2	Apr 03	5-30	13.38

### Contaminant Concentration

Contaminant	Soil (mg/kg)		Water (ug/L)		WQOs (ug/L)
	Maximum (Oct 1997)	Latest	Maximum *	Latest (June 2010)	
TPHg	5,800	NA	2,100	460	5
TPHd	3,900	NA	2,800	NA	56
Benzene	12	NA	86	24	0.15
Toluene	130	NA	62	3.0	42
Ethylbenzene	88	NA	160	29	29
Xylenes	540	NA	590	71.4	17
MTBE	16	NA	14,000	300	5
TBA	NA	NA	2,900	1,400	12
1,2-DCA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.5

NA: Not Analyzed, Not Applicable or Data Not Available

mg/kg: milligrams per kilogram, parts per million

ug/L: micrograms per liter, parts per billion

WQOs: Water Quality Objectives

\* Data from GeoTracker, monitoring wells

### **Site Description**

The location of the property is the south of Luther Road and west of US Interstate 80 in Auburn, California. The site is relatively flat, approximately one acre in size and surrounded by rolling wooded hills. The site is currently an active retail gasoline station and mini market in a commercial area. Four USTs, including two 12,000-gallon gasoline USTs, one 6,000-gallon gasoline UST, one 6,000-diesel fuel UST and four dispenser islands currently operate at the site.

### **Site History/Assessments**

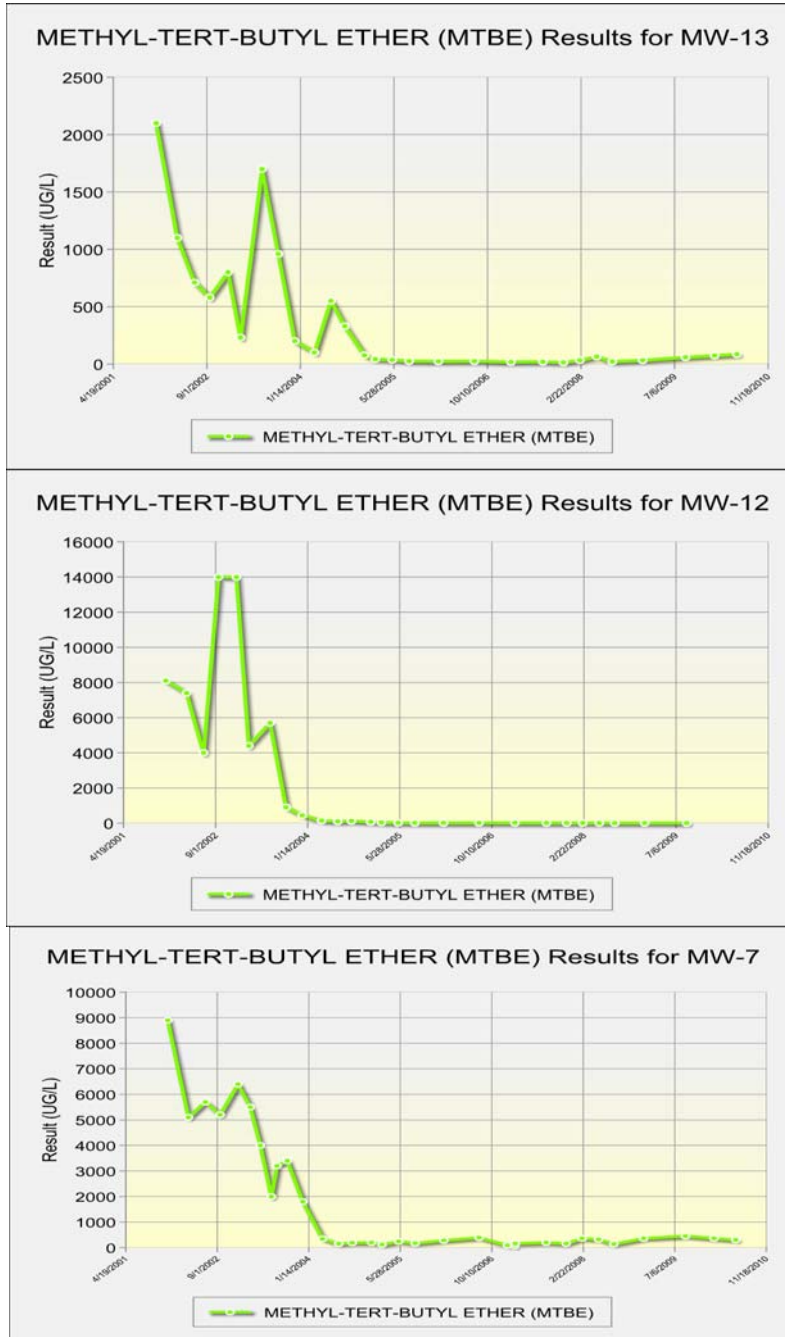
The Site has been an active retail gasoline station since at least 1987. In August 1991, groundwater contamination was detected in soil during a Phase II Site Assessment. To date, 13 monitoring wells and two remediation wells have been installed and monitored regularly. A Sensitive Receptor Survey was conducted in 2000. A Site map showing the location of the current USTs, monitoring wells and groundwater level contours is provided at the end of this case closure summary.

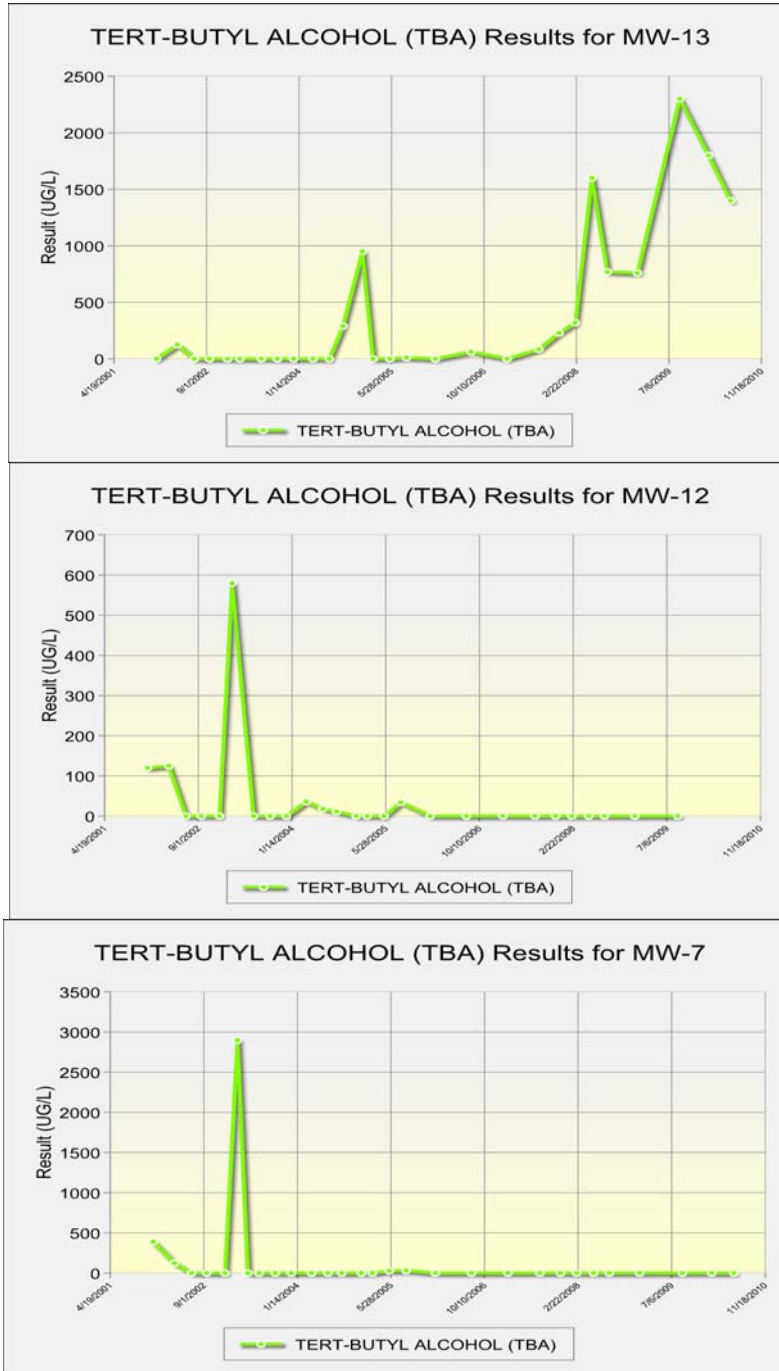
### **Remediation Summary**

- Free Product: Historically, four wells have been observed to contain free phase product: MW-3, MW-4, MW-8 and PTW-1. No free phase product has been noted since 2001.
- Soil Excavation: An estimated 3,700 cubic yards of impacted soil were removed and disposed offsite in October 1997.
- In-Situ Soil Remediation: No in-situ soil remediation was conducted at this site.
- Groundwater Remediation: Groundwater extraction and treatment, conducted from April 2001 through June 2007, removed 9 million gallons of groundwater and approximately 102 pounds of MTBE.

### **General Site Conditions**

- Geology and Hydrology: The upper stratigraphy is predominantly interbedded and intermixed sand, silt and clay grading to weathered bedrock at 2 to 15 feet bgs, underlain by competent granite, granodiorite and diorite, encountered approximately 5 feet below the weathered bedrock/ soil interface. Groundwater elevations fluctuate seasonally with precipitation, peaking in late winter and early spring and declining into summer and autumn. The groundwater gradient at the Site is approximately 0.01 feet/foot predominantly to the south to southwest. Locally, shallow groundwater is not a source of drinking water.
- Estimate of Hydrocarbon Mass in Soil: Approximately 780 pounds of TPHg and 0.8 pound of benzene remain in the soil.
- Groundwater Trends: There are more than 21 years of groundwater monitoring data for this Site. The following graphs show MTBE and TBA trends at the source area (MW-13), near down gradient (MW-12) and far down gradient (MW-7), respectively.





- Water Quality Objectives (WQOs): According to the 27 May 2009, *No Further Action Required, Human Health Risk Assessment Addendum, and First Quarter 2009 Quarterly Monitoring Report*, prepared by Apex Envirotech, Inc (Apex), WQOs for all petroleum constituents will be achieved by 2023, based on degradation trends from historic data.



### **Sensitive Receptor Survey**

A Sensitive Receptor Survey (SRS) was conducted in 2007 by Apex. A records search at the Department of Water Resources and an on-the-ground survey in the area identified one domestic water supply well within a 2,000 foot radius of the Site. The domestic well is approximately 1,940 feet southwest of the site. Drinking water at and near the Site is currently supplied by the Placer County Water Company.

### **Risk Evaluation**

On July 13, 2008, Apex submitted a *Soil Vapor Survey Results Report and Human Health Risk Assessment*, which concluded "There is no risk posed to human health from the soil, soil vapor, or groundwater beneath the site. All analyzed constituents were either below the calculated human health risk limit or below laboratory detection limits" (Apex, July 2008, pg. 5).

On December 4, 2008, Apex submitted an additional Human Health Risk Assessment, which concluded that . . . "There is no risk posed to human health from soil ingestion or dermal contact onsite for commercial risk levels and offsite for residential risk levels." (Apex, Dec. 2008, pg. 6).

### **Closure**

**Does corrective action performed ensure the protection of human health, safety and the environment?** Yes.

**Is corrective action and UST case closure consistent with State Water Board Resolution 92-49?** Yes.

**Is achieving background water quality feasible?** No.

To remove all traces of residual petroleum constituents at this site, it would require the additional excavation of soil. The excavation would have to be very large, would seriously impact the operating business, and would likely impact local traffic and public utilities. If complete removal of detectable traces of petroleum constituents becomes the standard for UST corrective actions, however, the statewide technical and economic implications will be enormous. For example, disposal of soils from comparable areas of excavation throughout the state would greatly impact already limited landfill space. In light of the precedent that would be set by requiring additional excavation at this site and the fact that beneficial uses are not threatened, attaining background water quality at the RP's site is not feasible.

**If achieving background water quality is not feasible:**

**Is the alternative cleanup level consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State?** Yes.

It is impossible to determine the precise level of water quality that will be attained given the limited residual petroleum hydrocarbons that remain at the Site. In light of all the factors discussed above, and the fact that the residual petroleum constituents will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, a level of water quality will be attained that is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state.

**Will the alternative cleanup level unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses of water?** No.

Impacted groundwater is not used as a source of drinking water or any other beneficial use currently. It is highly unlikely that the impacted groundwater will be used as a source of drinking water or any other beneficial use in the foreseeable future.

**Will the alternative level of water quality exceed water quality prescribed in applicable Basin Plan?** No.

The final step in determining whether cleanup to a level of water quality less stringent than background is appropriate for this Site requires a determination that the alternative level of water quality will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in the relevant basin plan. Pursuant to State Water Board Resolution 92-49, a Site may be closed if the basin plan requirements will be met within a reasonable time frame.

**Have factors contained in Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 2550.4 been considered?** Yes.

In approving an alternative level of water quality less stringent than background, the State Water Board considers the factors contained in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2550.4, subdivision (d). As discussed earlier, the adverse effect on shallow groundwater will be minimal and localized, and there will be no adverse effect on the groundwater contained in deeper aquifers, given the physical and chemical characteristics of petroleum constituents, the hydrogeological characteristics of the Site and surrounding land, and the quantity of the groundwater and direction of the groundwater flow. In addition, the potential for adverse effects on beneficial uses of groundwater is low, in light of the proximity of the groundwater supply wells, the current and potential future uses of groundwater in the area, the existing quality of groundwater, the potential for health risks caused by human exposure, the potential damage to wildlife, crops, vegetation, and physical structures, and the persistence and permanence of potential effects.

Finally, a level of water quality less stringent than background is unlikely to have any impact on surface water quality, in light of the volume and physical and chemical characteristics of petroleum constituents; the hydrogeological characteristics of the Site and surrounding land; the quantity and quality of groundwater and direction of groundwater flow, the patterns of precipitation in the region, and the proximity of residual petroleum to surface waters.

**Has the requisite level of water quality been met?** No.

However, the WQO for all constituents of concern are expected to be achieved in less than 15 years. This is a reasonable period in which to meet the requisite level of water quality because the impacted groundwater is not currently being used as a source of drinking water and it is highly unlikely that impacted groundwater will be used as a source of drinking water in the future. Residential and commercial water users are currently connected to the municipal drinking water supply. Other designated beneficial uses of the impacted groundwater are not threatened and it is highly unlikely that they will be considering these factors in the context of the Site setting, Site conditions do not represent a substantial threat to human health and safety and the environment and case closure is appropriate.

### **Objections to Closure and Response**

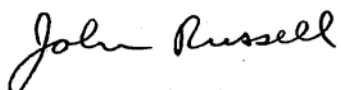
The Regional Board (RB) believes that elevated concentrations of MTBE and TBA remain in groundwater and require additional monitoring.

The Underground Storage Tank (UST) Cleanup Fund manager disagrees. Onsite wells have been monitored for over 21 years, groundwater has nearly achieved WQOs and further groundwater monitoring will not provide additional protection to the public. The recent increase in TBA concentrations, particularly in MW-13, indicates that natural attenuation of the remaining MTBE is likely occurring. The Fund manager recommends that this case be closed.

The Fund has conducted public notification and the SCEMD has the regulatory responsibility to supervise the abandonment of monitoring wells.

### **Summary and Conclusion**

A leak was identified in 1987 during a site investigation. Since 1989, 13 monitoring wells have been installed, 3,700 cubic yards of contaminated soil were excavated, groundwater extraction was conducted for approximately four years removing nine million gallons of groundwater, and a sensitive receptor survey and a human health risk assessment were conducted. According to groundwater data, WQOs will be achieved by 2023. To date, \$1,206,064 in corrective action costs have been reimbursed by the Fund. The nearest water supply well is approximately 1940 feet from the Site. The remaining impacted groundwater is not currently being used as a source of drinking water or other beneficial uses and water is provided to water users near the Site by the Placer County Water Company. It is unlikely that any impacted groundwater will be used as a source of drinking water or other beneficial use in the foreseeable future. In addition, in the unlikely event that a water supply well is drilled in the future, standard construction practices and requirements would prevent impacts from the contaminated area. Based on available information, the residual petroleum hydrocarbons at the Site do not pose significant risks to human health, safety, and the environment, and the Fund Manager recommends that the case be closed.



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John Russell PG No. 8396

December 15, 2010  
Date

## References

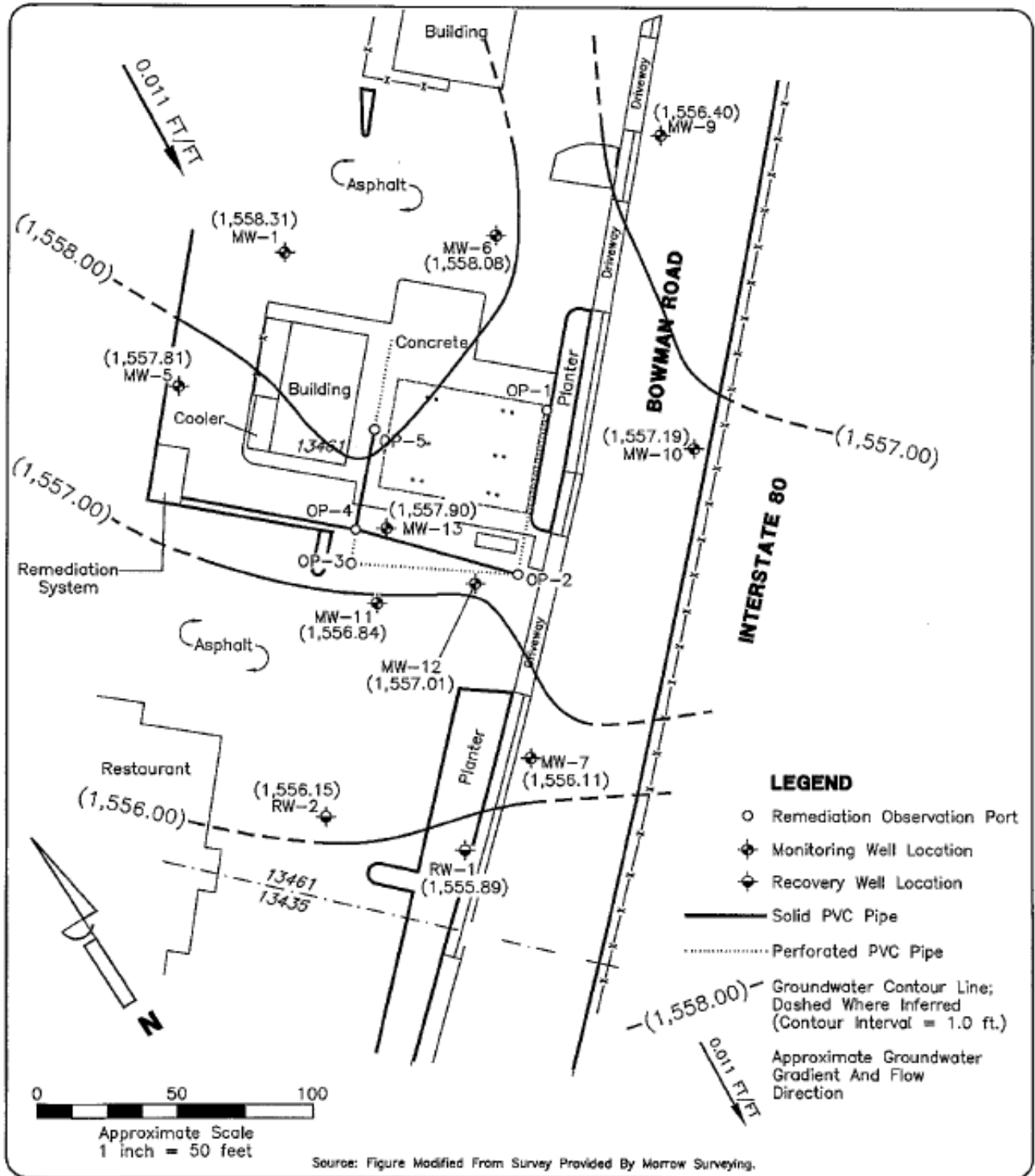
Apex, 20 November 2007, *Soil Vapor Survey Results Report*, Nella Oil Company Station #5, 13461 Bowman Road, Auburn, CA.

Apex, 13 July 2008, *Soil Vapor Survey Results Report and Human Health Risk Assessment*, Nella Oil Company Station #5, 13461 Bowman Road, Auburn, CA.

*Risk Assessment*, Nella Oil Company Station #5, 13461 Bowman Road, Auburn, CA.

Apex, 4 December 2008, *Human Health Risk Assessment*, Nella Oil Company Station #5, 13461 Bowman Road, Auburn, CA.

Apex, 27 May 2009, *No Further Action Required, Human Health Risk Assessment Addendum, and First Quarter 2009 Quarter Monitoring Report*, Nella Oil Company Station #5, 13461 Bowman Road, Auburn, CA.



	DRAWN BY: D. Alston DATE: 5/12/09	<b>GROUNDWATER CONTOUR MAP: JANUARY 15, 2009</b>	<b>FIGURE 15</b>
	REVISIONS		
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