

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
JANUARY 6, 2009**

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE AN ADDITIONAL \$650,000 FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD) FOR CONTINUATION OF THE OVERSIGHT OF REMOVAL OF TETRACHLOROETHENE (PCE) POLLUTION BY THE CITY OF TURLOCK (CITY), STANISLAUS COUNTY.

DISCUSSION

The Central Valley Water Board requests funding of \$650,000 to continue support of the City's investigation and remediation of the PCE plumes in downtown Turlock.

In 1994, the City, the Central Valley Water Board, and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control entered into an agreement for investigation and removal of PCE in the City. It was agreed that an investigation would be conducted to detect the level of PCE contamination in soil and ground water in downtown Turlock. This investigation would be followed by the implementation of a groundwater management plan for the extraction of PCE from the groundwater and the containment of PCE plume(s).

To date, the City has identified the extent of the PCE plume, concluded that there is no significant source of PCE remaining in soils, and determined that, although the PCE plume is naturally attenuating over time, enhancement of the natural attenuation process may be necessary. The City also has constructed a three-dimensional groundwater flow and transport model to assess groundwater flow, PCE transport rates, and predict future PCE concentrations under different scenarios.

This current funding would be applied to project costs incurred by the City from 2003-2006 (\$141,041), staff oversight costs (\$50,000) and to the additional investigation of the PCE plumes, installation and operation of a pump and treat system to contain and remove the core of the main PCE plume. The Central Valley Water Board staff anticipates that the requested funds will support operation of a pump and treat system for a period of 18 to 24 months.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board:

Approve the additional funds of \$650,000, from the CAA to the Central Valley Water Board in support of the City's investigation and remediation of the PCE plumes in downtown Turlock?

FISCAL IMPACT

Approving \$650,000 would leave an uncommitted balance of approximately \$12,520,873 in the CAA as of November 3, 2008.

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

Yes, the Central Valley Water Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board should:

Approve the additional \$650,000, from the CAA to the Central Valley Water Board in support of the City's investigation and remediation of the PCE plumes in downtown Turlock.

State Water Resources Control Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to improve and protect groundwater quality in high-use basins by 2030. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Action 2.3.2 to coordinate with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, as appropriate, to focus on enforcement actions, investigations, and cleanup efforts to remediate contamination plumes that impact or have the potential to impact drinking water sources.

DRAFT

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2009-

ALLOCATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$650,000 FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD) FOR CONTINUATION OF THE OVERSIGHT OF REMOVAL OF TETRACHLOROETHENE (PCE) POLLUTION BY THE CITY OF TURLOCK (CITY), STANISLAUS COUNTY.

WHEREAS:

1. The Central Valley Water Board requests \$650,000 to continue support of the City's investigation and remediation of the PCE plumes in downtown Turlock. This request will supplement a previous CAA allocation of \$46,750 for this Project;
2. The funds will be applied to Project costs incurred by the City from 2003-2006 and to additional staff oversight and investigation of the PCE plumes, installation and operation of a pump and treat system to contain and remove the core of the main PCE plume;
3. In 1994, the City, the Central Valley Water Board, and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control entered into an agreement for PCE Investigation and Removal in Turlock. It was agreed that an investigation would be conducted to detect the level of PCE contamination in soil and ground water in downtown Turlock. This investigation would be followed by the implementation of a groundwater management plan for the extraction of PCE from the groundwater and the containment of PCE plume(s); and
4. The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of California Water Code (CWC) § 13442. CWC § 13442 provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order moneys to be paid from CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste in order "to assist in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on waters of the state."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves the allocation of additional funds of \$650,000 from the CAA to the Central Valley Water Board to continue support of the City's investigation and remediation of the PCE plumes in downtown Turlock; and

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2. The funds will be available until January 31, 2012. Any unexpended funds, as of January 31, 2012, shall revert to CAA, unless the Deputy Director or Assistant Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance authorizes an extension.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Board held on January 6, 2009.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board