

# UST Cleanup Program Update

April 22, 2014

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Division of Water Quality

## Statewide Case Closure Rates

- The current statewide case closure rate is the highest of the past several years
- Table below shows number of cases closed for the period March 31 to April 1 for the previous four years.

Years	Number of Case Closures
2013 to 2014	1261
2012 to 2013	959
2011 to 2012	956
2010 to 2011	1061

# Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy

## Implementation Status

- Regional Boards and Local Agencies have successfully completed both of the major milestones in the required Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy (LTCP)
  - All of the LTCP case reviews were completed by the August 17, 2013 deadline.
    - These reviews check compliance with the general and media-specific criteria in the LTCP
    - The reviews will be reevaluated annually
  - All of the required Path to Closure Plans (PTCP) were completed by the December 31, 2013 deadline.
    - These plans project milestones and dates for compliance with LTCP criteria that are currently not met

## Future Case Closure Projection (based on PTCP milestones)

- # of cases currently eligible for closure: 1479
  - # of cases expected to be closed based on PTCPs:
    - by 12/31/15 (Fund sunset date) 1894
    - between 1/1/16 and 12/31/19 1460
    - after 1/1/2020 584
- |       |      |
|-------|------|
| Total | 5417 |
|-------|------|
- These projections are likely to be optimistic
    - Only about two years worth of easy-to-close cases remain, the rest will be more difficult
    - The closure process takes longer than expected

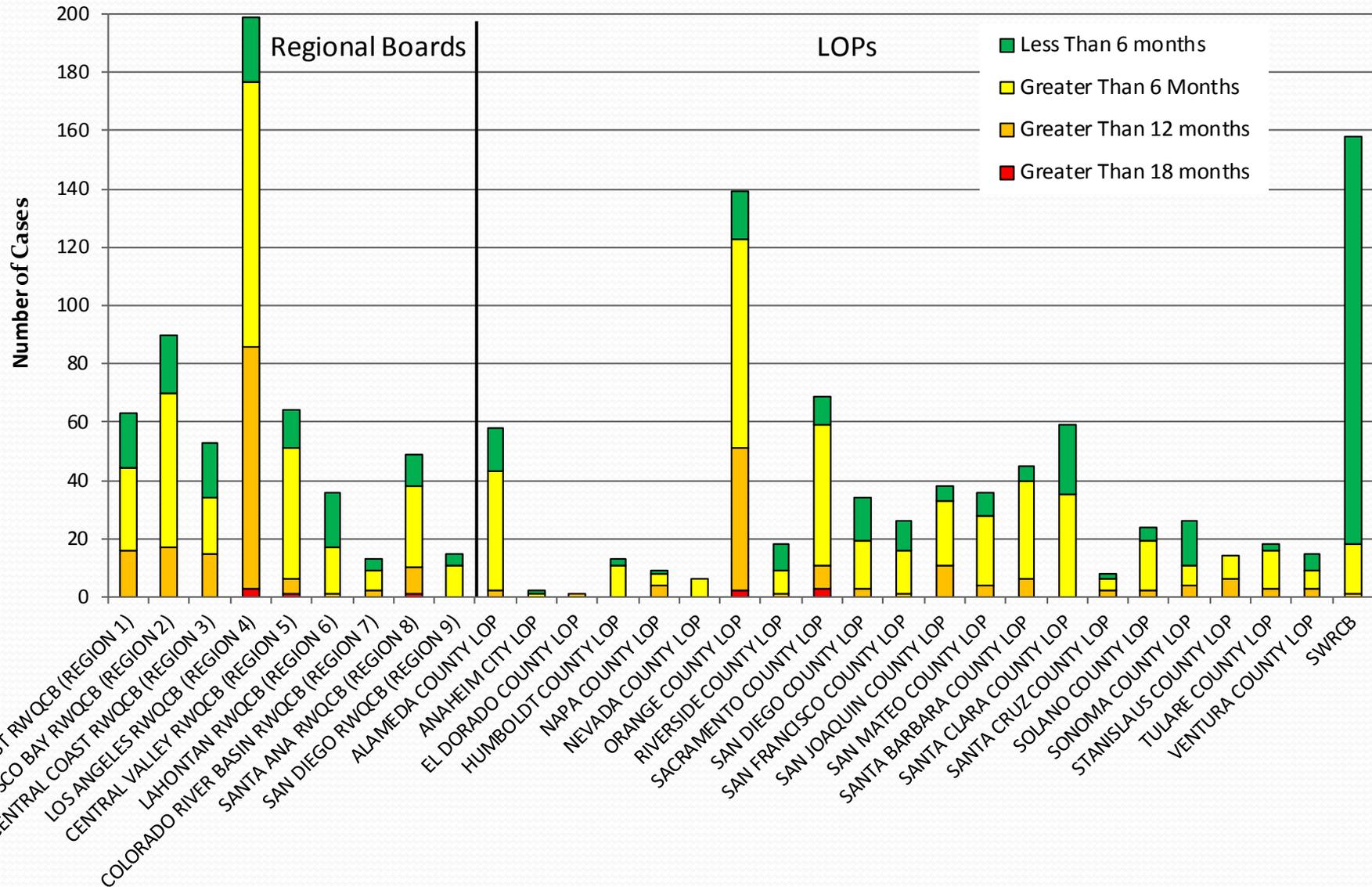
# Future Case Closure Difficulty

## Case Status vs. Age of Case

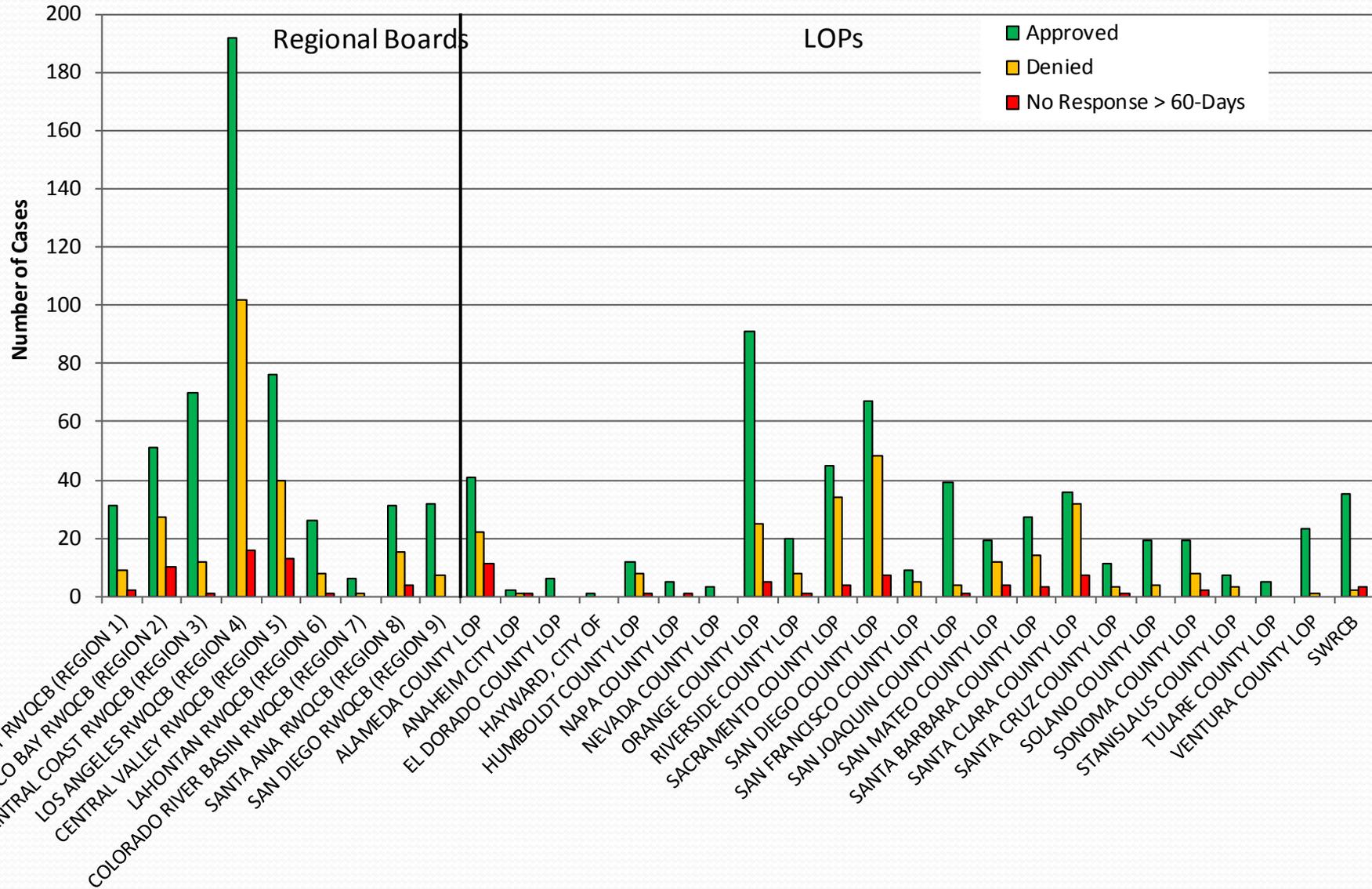
- Assumption: We need to close roughly 1000 cases/yr
- The table below shows the current case status vs. the age of the case in years. Cases that have progressed slowly in the past are likely to progress slowly in the future. (Data collected 10/1/13)
- **Easy** - These cases are currently eligible for closure or performing verification monitoring and are likely to be closed within the next two years. (2044 cases)
- **Moderate** - These cases are currently performing remediation. They will need to finish remediation and complete any required monitoring before closure. (2227 cases)
- **Difficult** - Cases that have not progressed through the cleanup process for many years. Many do not have viable responsible parties. (1906 cases)

Status	Age of Case (years)							
	< 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25 +		
Eligible for Closure	51	167	293	331	426	327	2044	Easy
Verification Monitoring	5	24	57	80	157	126		
Remediation	15	87	244	379	486	397	2227	Moderate
Site Assessment	266	353	445	437	512	373	1906	Difficult
Inactive	4	7	18	30	50	30		

# Time in Eligible for Closure Status



# Closure Requests Received



## SWRCB Case Reviews

- Since the LTCP was adopted in July 2012, State Board staff have completed the following:
  - Cases reviewed over 1200
  - 60-day Closure Notice Posted 218
  - Closure Order Signed 153
  - Closure Letter Issued 42
- Cases closed by agency after SB review > 400

# DWQ Case Oversight

- Cases transferred to State Water Board lead from agencies not LOP certified per AB1701

<b>Reviewed and completed with no regulatory action (data cleanup, etc.)</b>	<b>63</b>
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<b>Reviewed and transferred to Regional Board (Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8)</b>	<b>55</b>
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<b>Closure</b>	<b>153</b>
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Documents in review	112
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60-day notice posted	41
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<b>Needs additional site investigation</b>	<b>111</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>382</b>
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# Abandoned Tanks Project: 337 Abandoned UST Sites in California

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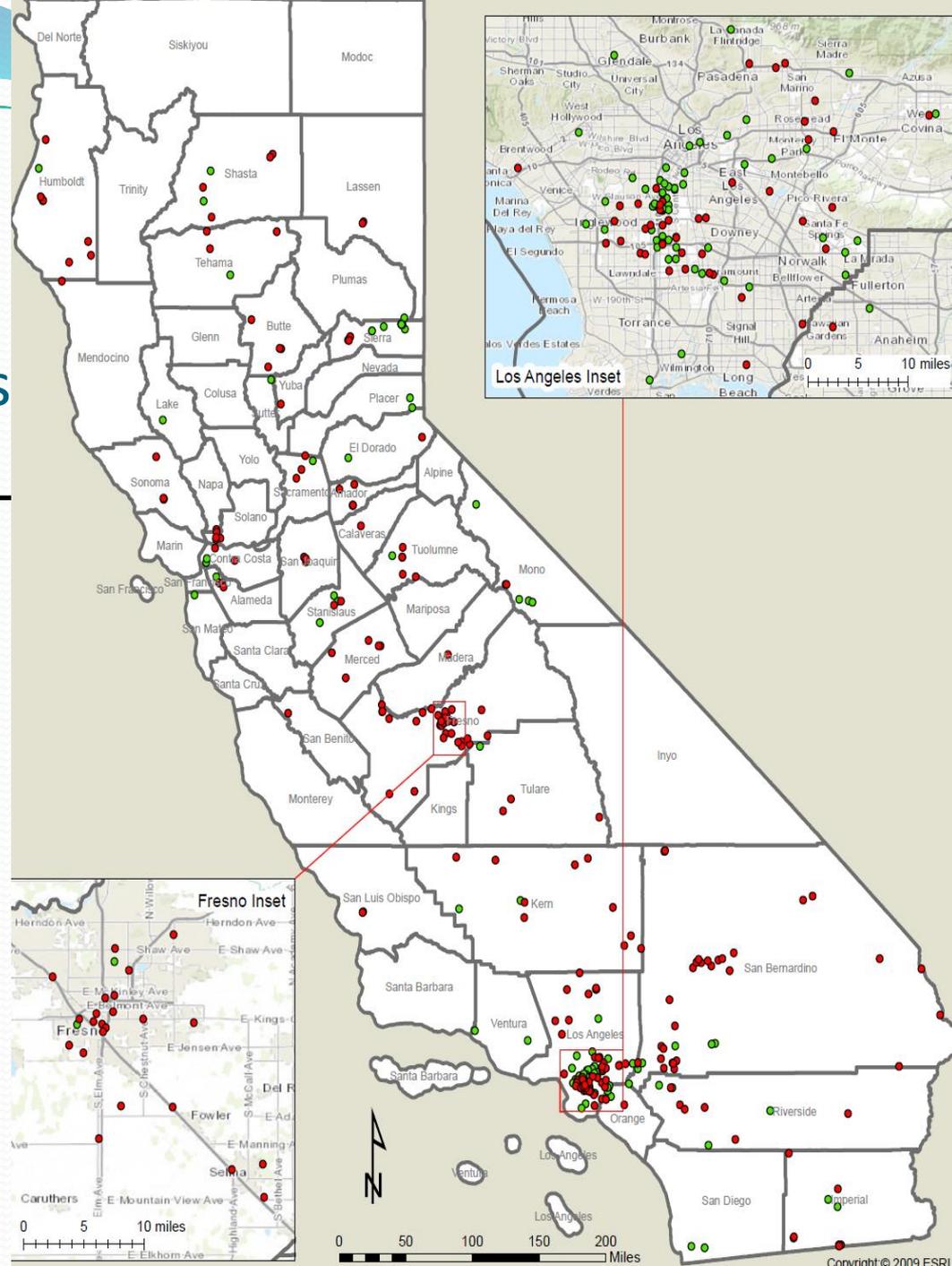
# Compliance Status: 337 Abandoned Underground Storage Tanks in California

April 2014

- Abandoned UST Site – In Compliance (123)
- Abandoned UST Site – Out of Compliance (214)

170 Notices of Non-Compliance issued by State Board since July 2013

44 Non-Compliant sites are being handled by local agencies



## State Water Board Notice of Non-Compliance

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- **170** State Water Board Notices of Non-Compliance issued since July 2013

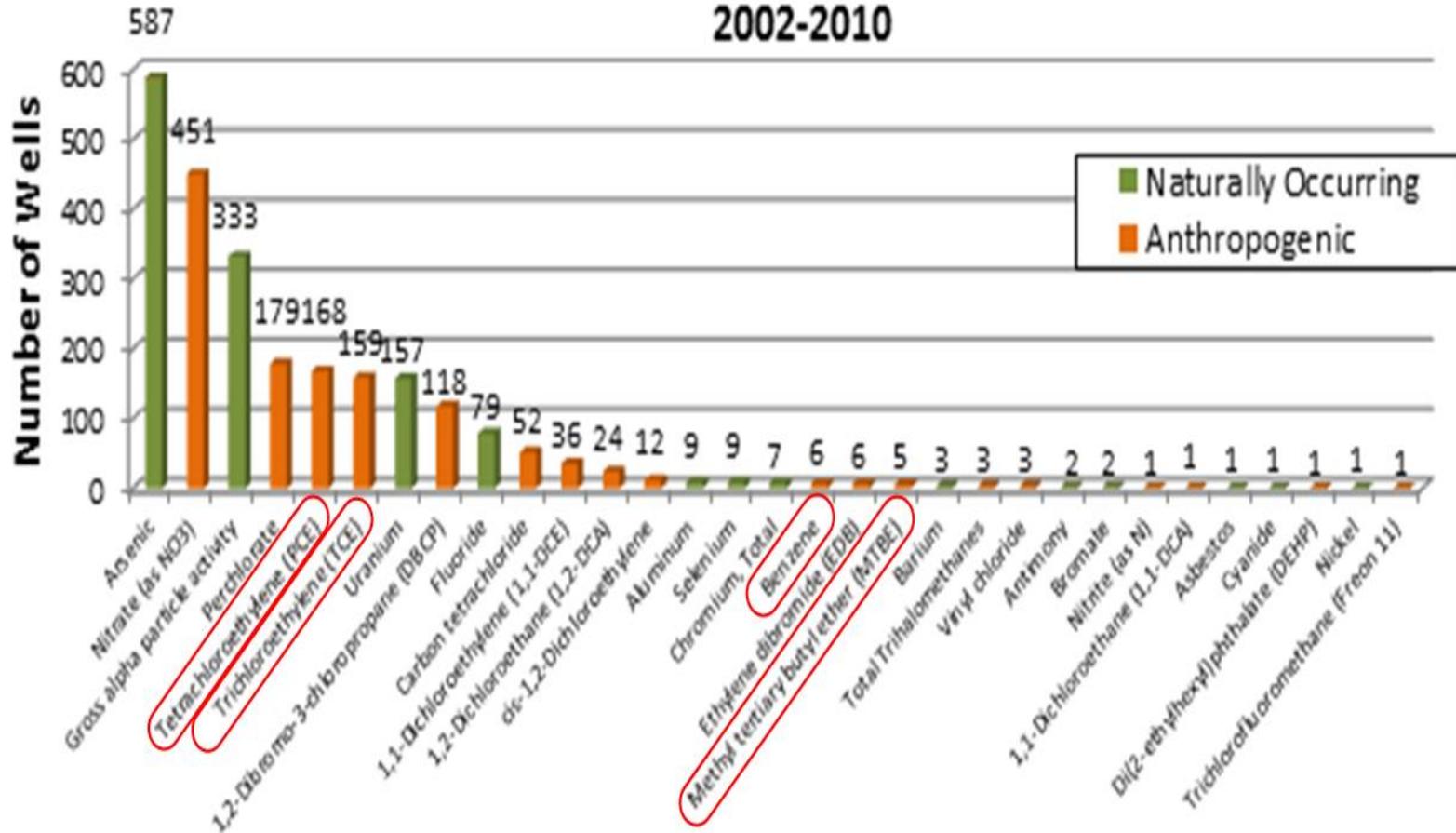
Responses to NONC	# of Sites	% of Sites Issued NONC
Responses received	90	52.7%
• Owners willing to comply	42	24.3%
• Owners claiming no USTs present or closed in place	13	7.7%
• Owners claiming financial hardship	30	17.8%
• Dispute/ Owner claiming not responsible	5	3.0%
No responses received	80	47.3%
• No good address found	7	4.1%
• NONC delivered - Return receipt signed	54	32.0%
• Delivery status unknown - in transit	19	11.2%

# Principal Contaminant Detections: Wells

## Two or More Detections Above the MCL

### in Active Wells

### 2002-2010



# UST Program Summary

- Regional Boards, Local Agencies, and State Board staff are all working hard to review cases for closure and to expedite case closure paperwork.
- Case closure rates are likely to slow down in 3 to 4 years as most of the easy cases will have been closed. Many of the remaining cases are likely to not have financially viable responsible parties.
- There are very few municipal wells currently impacted by UST sites, so little drought relief should be expected from expediting UST cleanups.
- Transitioning resources from UST cleanups to other contaminants that have a greater water supply impact will be a challenge in the coming years.