

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 8, 2009

Prepared April 6, 2009

ITEM NUMBER: 8

SUBJECT: Staff Closures

Background:

This staff report summarizes a cleanup site that Central Coast Water Board staff has closed because the groundwater beneath the site has attained water quality goals that are protective of beneficial uses.

**Circle K Service Station #1197, 6930 Morro Road, Atascadero, San Luis Obispo County;
[Corey Walsh (805) 542-4781]**

The subject site is an active retail service station located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Atascadero Avenue and Morro Road (Highway 41) in Atascadero. The property is surrounded by commercial and residential properties. A San Luis Obispo County Branch Library facility is also located adjacent to the site. ConocoPhillips Company is the party responsible for cleanup of the site. The property is owned by Mark and Elizabeth Polin.

During site upgrade activities in March 1998, contractors discovered a release of gasoline and associated constituents including methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE). Historic groundwater analytical results show the primary constituents of concern were MTBE and tertiary-butyl alcohol (TBA). The maximum concentrations for MTBE and TBA were as follows: 1,100 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), and 4,800 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively. ConocoPhillips used enhanced bioremediation to clean up contaminants at the site. The most recent groundwater monitoring showed all constituents of concern are below cleanup goals. Attachment 1, Dissolved-Phase MTBE Concentration Map, presents concentrations for samples collected on January 29, 2009. The site lies within a groundwater basin designated as having beneficial uses for domestic and municipal supply and agricultural supply.

The depth to groundwater at the site currently ranges from approximately 8 to 11 feet below ground surface. Groundwater flows toward the east-northeast at an average gradient of 0.004 feet per foot. The nearest active municipal supply water well is a Atascadero Mutual Water Company well located approximately 7,300 feet northeast of the site. However, Atascadero Unified School District operates an irrigation well located approximately 4,000 feet north of site. The nearest surface water body is Atascadero Creek, which is located approximately 1,300 feet west of site. Any residual petroleum hydrocarbons are unlikely to impact these wells or surface water considering the groundwater flow direction, distances to wells and surface water and low contaminant concentration.

Based on site investigation and groundwater monitoring results, there is no longer a threat to groundwater or surface water quality from the release of petroleum hydrocarbons at this site. Central Coast Water Board staff has no further requirements for groundwater monitoring, investigation, or cleanup at the site. The San Luis Obispo County Environmental Health Services, Hazardous Materials Program agrees with this determination. Water Board staff also

notified the property owner, adjacent owners and other interested parties of the proposed case closure. ConocoPhillips will be directed to destroy all monitoring wells. The Executive Officer will issue a final case closure letter upon receipt of a well destruction report documenting the proper destruction of all monitoring wells.

ATTACHMENT

Dissolved-Phase MTBE Concentration Map

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