

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

**SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2016**

Prepared on September 9, 2016

**ITEM NUMBER: 18**

**SUBJECT: Executive Officer Report**

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**KEY INFORMATION: Update on Buckley Road Trichloroethylene (TCE)  
Groundwater Investigation**

Central Coast Water Board staff conducted drinking water well testing of 67 supply wells and continue to oversee the investigation of trichloroethylene (TCE) in groundwater in the Buckley Road area, adjacent to the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport (Airport). Testing of supply wells started in October 2015 when TCE was discovered at concentrations exceeding the safe drinking water standard in a domestic well near the Thread Lane industrial area. Based on the TCE concentrations and distribution in wells, the primary focus area with TCE concentrations near or above the drinking water standard includes: Thread Lane (also known as Noll Road), Davenport Creek Road, Evans Road, Angie Lou Lane, Mello Lane, Edna Road, Three Sisters Road, and Airport Drive. Central Coast Water Board staff re-tested 14 selected wells in June through August 2016 and found that TCE concentrations are generally consistent with earlier sampling results. Currently, 13 wells out of the 67 wells tested exceed the drinking water standard for TCE (5 micrograms per liter). The current maximum detected concentration of TCE in a private domestic well is 45 micrograms per liter from a well located on Thread Lane.

The investigation for the source of the TCE plume is ongoing. Central Coast Water Board staff required environmental information and investigation from several industrial properties on Buckley Road and from the adjacent Airport. On June 3, 2016, Central Coast Water Board staff concurred with the County's workplans for investigating potential sources of TCE on Airport property. Copies of the workplans are available at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water\\_issues/hot\\_topics/tce\\_pce\\_info/tce\\_pce\\_index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/hot_topics/tce_pce_info/tce_pce_index.shtml)).

The County completed their fieldwork investigation in early September 2016. The fieldwork investigation consisted of drilling exploratory borings and groundwater sampling at five locations along the southwest side of the Airport along Buckley Road (upgradient from the maximum TCE concentrations detected in groundwater), and passive soil-gas sampling at over 100 locations on Airport property near current and former industrial areas and various present and former stormwater conveyance

locations. Central Coast Water Board staff oversaw the County's field investigation activities. The preliminary laboratory results from the groundwater investigation along Buckley are non-detect for TCE. The results from the soil gas investigation also did not indicate a TCE source on the airport property. Investigation reports for the soil gas investigation and groundwater investigation are due September 20, 2016 and October 10, 2016, respectively. Given preliminary results from this investigation, the next step is for Central Coast Water Board staff to require additional investigation within the industrial area overlying the TCE groundwater plume along Thread Lane to further delineate the highest concentration area and identify potential sources.

Central Coast Water Board staff plans to continue community outreach by hosting a second public meeting this fall to communicate 1) the results of the County's soil gas and groundwater investigations, 2) the path forward for this project, and 3) listen to and answer questions from the community.

There is also a Buckley Road Area TCE Investigation website that is updated regularly as new information becomes available. The Buckley webpage is available by going to [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water\\_issues/hot\\_topics/tce\\_pce\\_info/tce\\_pce\\_index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/hot_topics/tce_pce_info/tce_pce_index.shtml).

Or go to the [Central Coast Water Board home page](#) and link to the Buckley webpage by clicking on "Buckley Road Area Trichloroethylene (TCE) Groundwater Investigation Website" link available on the home page under "ANNOUNCEMENTS". Central Coast Water Board staff has also developed an email subscription for the Buckley Road Area TCE Investigation notifications, and there are currently 158 members.

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