

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 31, 2007

7:00 – 9:00 pm

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Administrative Items
 - A. Introductions were not performed.
 - B. Chairwoman Sylvia Hamilton reminded attendees to add their names to the interested parties list on the back table if they would like to be on the list to receive PCAG mailings.
 - C. No agenda items were added.
 - D. Open Forum—Craig O'Donnell, who has represented Assemblymember John Laird on PCAG for the last 2 ½ years announced that this was his last PCAG meeting and that he is moving to the East Coast while his wife attends school. He expressed thanks to the community, explaining that they have a lot to offer the County and Assembly District due to the leadership in San Martin and Morgan Hill. He then introduced his replacement, Ms. Colleen Freeman, who is experienced in environmental and social justice issues.
 - E. The March 29, 2007 meeting minutes were approved as written.
- III. Presentations/Discussions
 - A. Water Board—Status Updates (Hector Hernandez)
 - 1. Bottled Water and Sampling Update
 - a) The Water Board has concurred with termination of bottled water for 534 wells to date.
 - b) Ten wells (16 well users) were put back on bottled water after post-termination monitoring showed perchlorate concentrations above 6 ppb. At least 4 of the wells are in Area III.
 - c) Olin is currently supplying bottled water to 253 users of 174 wells.
 - d) During the first quarter of 2007, a total of 74 wells had concentrations of perchlorate greater than 6.0 ppb.
 - e) 414 domestic supply wells were sampled by Olin during the first quarter of 2007. Of the 287 wells with sufficient data to analyze trends, perchlorate concentrations were decreasing in 13% of the wells, concentrations were stable or no trend in 75% of the wells, and concentrations were increasing in 12% of the wells.

- f) Water Board staff intends to go out in the field this summer to collect split samples with Olin's consultant from approximately 10 wells.

Q. What were the monitoring frequency and well locations of the wells that went back above 6 ppb? Is there a need to increase the monitoring frequency?

A. The Water Board is in the process of revising the Monitoring and Reporting Program, which includes looking at where additional monitoring is necessary.

Q. What are the results of the drilling Olin did on Colony Avenue?

A. Hector wasn't sure, but thinks they were nondetect.

2. Ion-Exchange Certification—No report.

3. 4/30/07 Area I Extraction Well Installation Work Plan

- a) In a 3/29/07 letter, the Water Board conditionally approved the revised Llagas Subbasin Cleanup Feasibility Study, Area I Feasibility Study, and Area I Migration Control Work Plan. The Area I Work Plan is for the plume core.
- b) Plume migration control addresses controlling the movement of the plume and interim cleanup; it is different than the overall cleanup plan.
- c) The Water Board is requiring Olin to clean up to background, which at this point is nondetect, to the extent feasible.
- d) The Water Board's Area I Migration Control Work Plan approval is conditional on a shorter schedule that reduced administrative timelines.
- e) One of major tasks, the well installation work plan, was submitted on 4/30/07. It was supposed to address well location, well types, schedule of testing, and other aspects of design. The submitted report does that, but not to the desired level of detail. This is due to the fact that Olin hasn't selected the treated water disposal option, which will either be Morgan Hill municipal use or recharge/reinjection. Well design depends on the treated water disposition. Water Board staff previously told Olin to submit both options. Apparently, Olin and Morgan Hill are in negotiations. Olin proposed a tentative date of 6/30/07 for determining the treated water disposition.

Q. Isn't it time to set a date for the decision regarding treated water disposition?

A. Yes. Olin needs to make their decision, but the Water Board wants to be reasonable. Water Board asked Olin if 6/30/07 would be a reasonable date to make the treated water disposition decision and Olin reported it would be, since it was in their work plan.

Q. Can't we just say 6/30/07 is the treated water disposition due date?

A. Yes, but the Water Board is looking at the overall schedule. If Olin makes the treated water disposition determination by 6/30/07 that overall cleanup schedule approved in the 3/29/07 letter will not be will not be delayed.

Q. If the treated water disposition determination goes beyond 6/30/07, will that delay the approved schedule?

A. Yes.

Q. *Why does negotiation with Morgan Hill matter with regard to the schedule?*
A. *Because it affects the treated water disposition.*

Q. *Is the on-site cleanup system part of this?*
A. *No.*

4. Overall Cleanup Schedule Review

- a) The Water Board would like to see more progress, but Olin is in compliance with deadlines. Some submittals are not as complete as the Water Board would like. Olin is making great progress in characterization, but the Water Board wants to see active remediation.
- b) The Water Board is in the process of revising the Cleanup and Abatement Order. The requirements with due dates in the existing Order mostly addressed characterization and most of those tasks are complete. The Water Board will look at the approved schedule for future work and incorporate that into the new order, including preparation of the contingency plan. Water Board staff plans to present the revised Cleanup and Abatement Order to the Board at their 9/7/07 meeting in San Luis Obispo.
- c) The next Water Board meeting will be on 7/6/07 in Watsonville.

B. Water District TGRR Application Requirements (Tracy Hemmeter)

1. The Water District's Treated Groundwater Recharge/Reinjection (TGRR) Program is an optional incentive program. It is not a required part of cleanup and has only been used by one other responsible party.
2. Treated groundwater recharge and reinjection are lower priority reuses. The District's priorities are nonpotable reuse such irrigation and dust control, followed by potable reuse such as drinking water. Recharge/reinjection is the lowest priority reuse.
3. The basic design of the system needs to be completed before the District can process a TGRR application. In the case of Olin's Area I Migration Control Work Plan, they have several tasks that need to be completed before they can apply for TGRR. And, until the Water District sees a system design, we can't say whether they would qualify for a financial incentive.

C. Additional PCAG & Attendee Concerns & Timely Implementation Support—The concerns, which focus on the need for certainty in the schedule, were addressed during the Water Board update.

IV. Updates (as time allows)—Tracy

- A. Groundwater Guardian Community—No report.
- B. Perchlorate Working Group—The PWG had a similar agenda and discussion as PCAG. They discussed schedule and treated water disposition issues.

C. Perchlorate Background and Source and Church Avenue Recharge Pond Diversion Studies

1. Sampling for the Perchlorate Background and Source Study, a.k.a. the Forensic Study, should begin this summer.
2. The Church Avenue Recharge Pond Diversion Feasibility Study is almost complete. It evaluated the value of increasing recharge in the Church Avenue recharge ponds for the purpose of managing perchlorate contamination.

V. **Next Meeting: Friday, June 29th, 2007 at 2:00 pm**—The group discussed ideas for increasing PCAG attendance, including:

- Inviting Olin to the 8/30 meeting
- Generating positive press
- Using the SMNA email system
- More discussion on the monitoring program and relationship to bottled water.

Q. This has been a dry winter, which can increase perchlorate concentrations. If we have another dry year, can the monitoring frequency increase?

A. Olin is saying that increased rainfall leads to increased dilution. The Water Board is reviewing the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

VI. Adjourn/Hall Cleanup