



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

This will serve as notice that the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Regional Board) has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the following project in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Project Title: Waste Discharge Requirements, General Order for In-Situ Groundwater Remediation at Sites with Volatile Organic Compounds, Nitrogen Compounds, Perchlorate, Pesticides, Semi-Volatile Compounds, Hexavalent Chromium, and/or Petroleum Hydrocarbons.

Project location: Throughout the Central Valley Regional Board's jurisdiction.

Project Description: The Regional Board proposes to adopt General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for in-situ groundwater remediation at sites impacted by volatile organic compounds, nitrogen compounds, perchlorate, pesticides, semi-volatile organic compounds, hexavalent chromium, and/or petroleum hydrocarbons. These constituents pollute various sites throughout the Central Valley Region and cause, or threaten to cause, adverse impacts to existing and potential beneficial uses of the region's groundwater resources. In many cases, in-situ cleanup of groundwater at these sites includes the use and application of chemical, biological, and physical treatment processes, such as chemical oxidation, chemical reduction, nutrient or chemical addition for enhanced biodegradation, or groundwater pump and treat technology with the return of treated groundwater back to the same aquifer zone. The adoption of general WDRs for in-situ groundwater remediation/cleanup would: a) provide a level of protection of water quality comparable individual, site-specific WDRs, b) simplify the application process for dischargers, c) allow more efficient use of Regional Board staff time, d) reduce Regional Board time by enabling the Executive Officer to notify the discharger of the applicability of the general WDRs, and e) enhance the protection of surface water quality by eliminating the discharge of wastewater to surface waters. In addition, each individual in-situ cleanup project will be required to have complied with CEQA on a site-specific basis prior to being allowed to be covered under the general WDRs.

An Initial Study has been conducted by the Central Valley Regional Board, which documents the reasons to support the Finding of the Mitigated Negative Declaration that the project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. The Initial Study and the Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file at the address above and are available for public examination at the Regional Board, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All interested agencies, groups and persons wishing to respond to the finding of Mitigated Negative Declaration are invited to submit written comments to 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, California, 95670-6114, for consideration by this Regional Board on or before **18 August 2008**. For information, please call Alexander MacDonald at (916-464-4625), or contact him by e-mail at amacdonald@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by:

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