

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2015-XXXX
CITY OF PORTOLA
PORTOLA CLASS III MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL
PLUMAS COUNTY

The Portola Class III Municipal Solid Waste Landfill is located approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the City of Portola. The 48-acre property is comprised of two parcels owned by the City of Portola (hereafter Discharger). Solid waste operations have been conducted wholly within the larger 22.46-acre parcel. The site consists of one unlined closed waste management unit, a scrap metal storage area, and a green waste storage area. The facility opened in 1968 as an open burn dump operated by Plumas County. In 1974, Plumas County, in agreement with the City of Portola, began operating the site as a sanitary landfill. On 27 May 1978, the City of Portola took over landfill operations.

The landfill is located within the Basin and Range physiographic province, an area characterized by uplifted and tilted mountain ranges separated by broad elongated basins. Quartz diorite is the predominant geologic unit beneath the site. The quartz diorite is generally very deeply weathered at the surface and grades to a silty sand. Shallow groundwater flow beneath and surrounding the landfill occurs in the highly weathered quartz diorite. Groundwater flow direction in this shallow zone is largely controlled by topography, and generally parallels the slope of the landscape with a flow direction of northeast to southwest.

The facility receives an average of 23.90 inches of precipitation per year (measured at Portola Station) as provided by the California Department of Water Resources *Rainfall Analysis for Drainage Design, Volume II, Long Duration Precipitation Frequency Data, Bulletin 195*, October 1976. Nearly all precipitation occurs as rainfall during the wet weather season (November through March). The average unadjusted evaporation rate at the site is approximately 45 inches per year as provided by the California Department of Water Resources *Evaporation from Water Surfaces in California, Bulletin 73-70*, November 1979. The 100-year, 24-hour precipitation event for the facility is estimated to be 4.32 inches, based on *Rainfall Analysis for Drainage Design, Volume II, Long Duration Precipitation Frequency Data, Bulletin 195*, October 1976. The waste management facility is not within a 100-year flood plain based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map, Community-Panel Number 0600570350B.

Nine monitoring wells make up the facility's groundwater monitoring system. First encountered groundwater is about 13 to 38 feet below ground surface. Groundwater monitoring at the site has identified elevated levels of alkalinity, chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids in downgradient monitoring wells. Additionally, volatile organic compounds, including Benzene,

Chlorobenzene, Chloroethane, 4-Chlorotoluene, Chloromethane, 1,4-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, cis-1,2-Dichloroethene, Dichlorofluoromethane, Methyl-tert-Butyl Ether (MtBE), and Methylene Chloride have been detected in downgradient monitoring wells. In response to the groundwater impacts, the Discharger evaluated corrective action measures and proposed landfill closure as the preferred remedial alternative. The landfill halted disposal of municipal solid waste at the landfill on 1 November 2002. In 2005 the Discharger completed partial-final closure of the landfill by installing a temporary 30 mil HDPE cover over the landfill unit. In October 2014 the Discharger completed final closure of the landfill by installing an approved permanent LLDPE cover over the landfill unit.

A rural residential neighborhood exists within 1,500 feet southwest of the landfill. Many of the residences receive water through individual domestic supply wells. Three of the properties have been routinely sampled by the Discharger as part of the groundwater detection monitoring program. These wells, owned by Mack (APN 125-080-018), Prinvale (APN 125-080-024), and Ostreich (APN 125-80-019) have, or have had, regular detections of volatile organic compounds. The Mack well has contained MtBE at a maximum concentration of 3.9 ug/L, the Prinvale well has contained chloroform, cis-1,2-Dichloroethene and Dichlorodifluoromethane at maximum concentration of 0.65, 0.37 and 0.25 ug/L, respectively, and the Ostreich well has contained Dichlorodifluoromethane at a maximum concentration of 0.33 ug/L. It should be noted that none of the VOC detections in the domestic wells have exceeded Primary or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels for drinking water quality.

These proposed Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) prescribe a post-closure monitoring and maintenance schedule for the landfill, require continued implementation of a corrective action and evaluation monitoring program, and update existing WDR Order No. R5-2005-0048 to be consistent with applicable provisions of Title 27 California Code of Regulations.