

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

Order No. R1-2004-0012  
WDID No. 1B03129RSON

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

For

EXCHANGE BANK DATA CENTER  
330 SEBASTOPOL ROAD  
SANTA ROSA, CA

Sonoma County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, (hereinafter the Regional Water Board) finds that:

1. The former Exchange Bank Data Center at 330 Sebastopol Road utilized two underground storage tanks to fuel the company's small fleet of vehicles. One tank was installed in 1979 and removed in 1986. The second underground tank was discovered during site investigation activities and was closed in place due to safety considerations. One or both tanks released gasoline to soil and groundwater.
2. Exchange Bank (hereinafter Discharger) conducted a voluntary effort to investigate and cleanup the groundwater contamination. A Cleanup and Abatement Order has not been issued to the discharger.
3. Groundwater cleanup commenced in October 2000 pursuant to a 1999 Corrective Action Plan complimented with a Feasibility Report and a Corrective Action Plan Addendum. The remediation system consists of a network of sparge points delivering oxygen at a low flow rate into the affected shallow aquifer to enhance the bioremediation of petroleum hydrocarbons discharged from the former underground storage tanks.
4. The cleanup effort has been only partially successful. The degradation of the remaining petroleum hydrocarbons in groundwater in the area of monitoring well M-6 appears to be limited by low dissolved oxygen concentrations and the lack of available dissolved nutrients.
5. The Discharger proposes modifications to the biosparge system involving the injection of oxygen and nutrients in three new biosparge points in the area of M-6. The addition of oxygen and the periodic addition of nutrients to groundwater in the three new biosparge points should enhance bioremediation and decrease cleanup time.
6. Regional Water Board staff requested a Report of Waste Discharge for the nutrient injection on November 4, 2002. The Report of Waste Discharge was completed on July 11, 2003.

7. The nutrient solution will consist of nitrate salts and trace amounts of phosphates. Approximately 0.5 pounds of nutrients will be dissolved and then introduced into each biosparge point to be circulated through the aquifer by air injection. The mass of nutrients is based on not exceeding the California Public Health Goal of 10 mg/l for nitrates in drinking water. Groundwater samples will be collected from monitoring wells M-2, M-3, M-6 and M-7 to ensure compliance with water quality goals and to measure the progress of cleanup.
8. The Regional Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region includes water quality objectives and receiving water limitations.

The beneficial uses of areal groundwater include:

- a) Municipal and domestic supply
  - b) Agricultural supply
  - c) Industrial service supply
  - d) Industrial process supply
9. This project is categorically exempt from requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act under Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15330. The subsurface injection of a nutrient solution is a minor action which will prevent further migration of existing groundwater contamination, and mitigate the ongoing threat to water quality caused by the release of petroleum fuel, a hazardous substance. The proposed cleanup activity, costing \$1 million or less, is taken to prevent, minimize, stabilize, mitigate, or eliminate the release or threat of release of a hazardous waste or substance. The injection of a nutrient solution into groundwater does not require the onsite use of a hazardous waste incinerator or thermal treatment unit. The subsurface injection will occur beneath an asphalt parking area, minimizing the potential release into the air of volatile organic compounds as defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 25123.6. The proposed actions will be consistent with applicable state and local environmental permitting requirements including, but not limited to, air quality rules such as those governing volatile organic compounds and enforcement of water quality standards through adoption of waste discharge requirements by the Regional Water Board.
  10. This Order does not preempt or supersede the authority of municipalities, or other local agencies to prohibit, restrict, or control discharges of waste subject to their jurisdiction.
  11. The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.
  12. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

13. The permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provision of State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16. The impact on existing water quality is expected to be beneficial, if the effort is successful, and insignificant if not.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Discharger, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

**A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS**

1. There shall be no discharge of waste to surface waters at any time as the result of this in-situ remediation of petroleum-contaminated groundwater.
2. The discharge of any waste not specifically regulated by this Order is prohibited.
3. Creation of a pollution, contamination, or nuisance, as defined by Section 13050 of the California Water Code (CWC), is prohibited. [Health and Safety Code, Section 5411]
4. The discharge of waste to land that is not under the control of the discharger is prohibited.
5. The discharge of waste or the placement of contaminated material on property not specified in the report of waste discharge completed on July 11, 2003, or this Order is prohibited.
6. Contaminated groundwater treatment activities in areas where access by the general public is not controlled is prohibited.

**B. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

1. The discharge shall not cause the pH of the groundwater to be changed more than 0.5 units from that which occurs naturally for more than 90 days.
2. The discharge shall not cause the concentration of nitrate as nitrogen in groundwater to exceed the California Public Health Goal for drinking water of 10 mg/l for more than 90 days.

**C. PROVISIONS**

1. A copy of this Order shall be maintained by the discharger and be available at all times to operating personnel.
2. Severability

Provisions of these waste discharge requirements are severable. If any provision of these requirements is found invalid, the remainder of these requirements shall not be affected.

3. Operation and Maintenance

The discharger must maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible any facility or control system installed by the discharger to achieve compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

In the event the discharger is unable to operate the remediation system for longer than three consecutive days, or for more than four days in any week, due to:

- a. breakdown of waste treatment equipment;
- b. accidents caused by human error or negligence; or
- c. other causes such as acts of nature;

the Discharger must notify the Executive Officer in writing within two weeks. The written notification shall include pertinent information explaining reasons for the non-operation and shall indicate the steps taken to correct the problem and the dates thereof, and the steps being taken to prevent the problem from recurring.

4. Change in Discharge

The Discharger must promptly report to the Regional Water Board any material change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

5. Change in Ownership

In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the following items by letter, a copy of which must be forwarded to the Regional Water Board:

- a. existence of this Order; and
- b. the status of the Dischargers' annual fee account.

6. Vested Rights

This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to persons or property, nor protect the Discharger from his liability under federal, State, or local laws, nor create a vested right for the Discharger to continue the waste discharge.

7. Monitoring

The Discharger must comply with the Contingency Planning and Notification Requirements Order No. 74-151, Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R1-2004-0012, and any modifications to these documents as specified by the Executive Officer.

Such documents are attached to this Order and incorporated herein. Chemical analyses must be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services.

#### 8. Inspections

The Discharger shall permit authorized staff of the Regional Water Board:

- a. entry upon premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any required records are kept;
- b. access to copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of this Order;
- c. inspection of monitoring equipment or records; and
- d. sampling of any discharge.

#### 9. Noncompliance

In the event the Discharger is unable to comply with any of the conditions of this Order due to:

- a. breakdown of waste treatment equipment;
- b. accidents caused by human error or negligence; or
- c. other causes such as acts of nature;

the Discharger must notify the Executive Officer by telephone as soon as he or his agents have knowledge of the incident and confirm this notification in writing within two weeks of the telephone notification. The written notification shall include pertinent information explaining reasons for the noncompliance and shall indicate the steps taken to correct the problem and the dates thereof, and the steps being taken to prevent the problem from recurring.

10. This Regional Water Board requires the Discharger to file a report of waste discharge at least 120 days before making any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

#### Certification

I, Catherine E. Kuhlman, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on March 24, 2004.

Ordered by

Catherine E. Kuhlman  
Executive Officer