

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER No. R1-2012-0067

For

Redwood Coast Petroleum, Inc.

Spill on Highway 128 at Mile Post 50.90

Mendocino County

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

1. On August 2, 2011 at around 2000 hours, a fuel truck owned and operated by Redwood Coast Petroleum, Inc., was involved in a collision on Highway 128, rupturing a cargo tank and resulting in a discharge of an estimated 2,400 gallons of diesel fuel and 1,900 gallons of unleaded gasoline fuel. The spill location is in Mendocino County, near the border between Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, approximately 5 miles northwest of Cloverdale, California, at approximately milepost 50.90 along Highway 128 (hereinafter referred to as the "site").
2. Redwood Coast Petroleum, Inc. was the owner of the fuel truck involved in the discharge. Redwood Coast Petroleum, Inc. is hereinafter referred to as the Discharger.
3. The resulting discharge of fuel soaked into the ground along the Caltrans right-of-way for Highway 128, on the uphill side of the road. The fuel reportedly did not reach a culvert before soaking into the ground.
4. On August 4, 2011, The Regional Water Board Assistant Executive Officer issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2011-0086 to Redwood Coast Petroleum, Incorporated to address discharges of petroleum hydrocarbons associated with the spill. Order No. 2011-0086 required specific tasks be undertaken in response to the initial discharge. This revised Order reflects the progress of the investigation, and requires additional tasks to be undertaken to complete necessary cleanup and abatement activities.
5. An emergency spill response contractor excavated approximately 500 tons of soil and road surface from August 3 to August 7, 2011. Excavation wall and floor sampling was performed. Due to terrain and roadway constraints, not all impacted soil was excavated.
6. Perforated pipe was installed in the excavation trench, with four access pipes, when the trench was backfilled.
7. In November, 2011, four monitoring wells were installed in the roadway, across the roadway from the excavation trench. When initially installed, no groundwater was found down to forty feet below ground surface. After additional rain, groundwater was present in the wells and monitoring revealed that it was impacted with fuel constituents.

8. Two intermittent streams exist on the adjacent property downhill from the spill area. These streams converge and are tributaries to Edwards Creek, a tributary to the Russian River. Inspections and sampling of these streams have been conducted multiple times since the spill. Contamination from the spill has not yet been detected in the streams.
9. The beneficial uses of areal groundwater include domestic, agricultural, and industrial supply.
10. The existing and potential beneficial uses of the Geyserville Hydrologic Subarea of the Russian River Hydrologic Unit include:
 - a) Municipal And Domestic Supply
 - b) Agricultural Supply
 - c) Industrial Service Supply
 - d) Industrial Process Supply
 - e) Groundwater Recharge
 - f) Freshwater Replenishment
 - g) Navigation
 - h) Hydropower Generation
 - i) Water Contact Recreation
 - j) Non-Contact Water Recreation
 - k) Commercial And Sport Fishing
 - l) Warm Freshwater Habitat
 - m) Cold Freshwater Habitat
 - n) Wildlife Habitat
 - o) Rare, Threatened, And Endangered Species
 - p) Migration Of Aquatic Organisms
 - q) Spawning, Reproduction, And/Or Early Development Of Fish
 - r) Shellfish Harvesting
 - s) Aquaculture
11. The Discharger has caused or permitted, causes or permits, or threatens to cause or permit waste to be discharged where it is, or probably will be, discharged into waters of the State and creates, or threatens to create, a condition of pollution or nuisance. The discharge and threatened discharge of contaminants may unreasonably affect water quality in that the discharge or threatened discharge is deleterious to the above described beneficial uses of State waters, and may impair water quality to a degree which creates a threat to public health and public resources and therefore, constitutes a condition of pollution or nuisance. These conditions threaten to continue unless the discharge or threatened discharge is permanently cleaned up and abated.
12. The California Water Code, and regulations and policies developed thereunder, require cleanup and abatement of discharges, and threatened discharges of waste to the extent feasible. Cleanup to background levels is the presumptive standard. Alternative cleanup levels greater than background concentrations shall be permitted only if the Discharger demonstrates that: it is not feasible to attain background levels; the alternative cleanup levels are consistent with the maximum

benefit to the people of the State; alternative cleanup levels will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses of such water; and they will not result in water quality less than prescribed in the Basin Plan and Policies adopted by the State and Regional Water Board. Any proposed alternative that will not achieve cleanup to background levels, must be supported with evidence that it is technologically or economically infeasible to achieve background levels, and that the pollutant will not pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment for the duration of the exceedance of background levels (SWRCB Res. Nos. 68-16 and 92-49; California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2550.4, subds. (c), and (d)).

13. Discharge prohibitions contained in the Basin Plan apply to this discharge. State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-16 (Non-Degradation Policy) applies to this discharge. State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 92-49 applies to this discharge and sets out the "Policies and Procedures for Investigation and Cleanup and Abatement of Discharges under section 13304 of the California Water Code."
14. Reasonable costs incurred by Regional Water Board staff in overseeing cleanup or abatement activities are reimbursable under Water Code section 13304(c)(1).
15. Any person affected by this action of the Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and title 23, California Code of Regulations, section 2050. The petition must be received by the State Water Board within 30 days of the date of this Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided upon request. In addition to filing a petition with the State Water Board, any person affected by this Order may request the Regional Water Board to reconsider this Order. To be timely, such request must be made within 30 days of the date of this Order. Note that even if reconsideration by the Regional Water Board is sought, filing a petition with the State Water Board within the 30-day period is necessary to preserve the petitioner's legal rights. If the Discharger chooses to appeal the Order, the Discharger is advised that they must comply with the Order while the appeal is being considered.
16. The issuance of this cleanup and abatement order is an enforcement action being taken for the protection of the environment and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of CEQA in accordance with sections 15308 and 15321, title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.
17. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order may result in enforcement under the Water Code. Any person failing to provide technical reports containing information required by this Order by the required date(s) or falsifying any information in the technical reports is, pursuant to Water Code section 13268, guilty of a misdemeanor and may be subject to administrative civil liabilities of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for each day in which the violation occurs. Any person failing to cleanup or abate threatened or actual discharges as required by this Order is, pursuant to Water Code section 13350(e), subject to administrative civil liabilities of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per day or ten dollars (\$10) per gallon of waste discharged.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No 2011-0086 be rescinded, and that pursuant to California Water Code sections 13267(b) and 13304, the Discharger shall cleanup and abate the discharge and threatened discharges forthwith and shall comply with the following provisions of this Order:

- A. Conduct all work under the direction of a California registered civil engineer or professional geologist experienced in surface water, soil, and groundwater investigation and remediation.
- B. Coordinate investigation and cleanup activities associated with soils, surface waters, and groundwater with Regional Water Board staff, Mendocino County Environmental Health staff, California Department of Transportation, California Department of Fish and Game, and other regulatory agencies involved in the cleanup. All workplans and reports submitted to the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board shall be signed and stamped by a licensed professional as specified in Provision A, above.

Groundwater Contaminant Delineation/Definition

- C. Submit an acceptable workplan within 45 days from the date of this Order, to propose complete site characterization activities including delineation of all source and release areas, and definition of the vertical and lateral extent of contamination.
- D. Implement the workplan described in Task C within 30 days of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer's concurrence with the workplan.
- E. Submit a report of findings for work completed under Task D within 90 days of workplan implementation. The report shall include an adequate workplan for any additional effort necessary to complete site characterization activities.

Interim Remediation

- F. Submit an acceptable workplan within 30 days from the date of this Order, to propose interim remediation to address source area contamination.
- G. Implement the workplan described in Task F within 30 days of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer's concurrence with the workplan.
- H. Submit a report for work completed under Task G within 90 days of workplan implementation. The report shall include recommendations on continuing or changing the interim remediation.

Remedial Action Plan

- I. Submit an acceptable Remedial Action Plan (RAP) within 90 days of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer's determination that Tasks C through E have been adequately completed.
- J. Implement the RAP described in Task I within 60 days of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer's concurrence with the RAP.

- K. Submit a report of RAP implementation for work completed under Task J within 90 days of completion.

Other

- L. Submit an acceptable Contingency Plan within 45 days for remedial actions if any contaminants from the spill are detected in surface water.
- M. Pay all cost recovery invoices within 30 days of issuance of the invoice.
- N. Complete any additional work deemed reasonably necessary by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer to abate and cleanup the discharge of waste or threatened discharge of waste, and to protect beneficial uses of surface and groundwater, human health and the environment.
- O. If, for any reason, the Discharger is unable to perform any activity or submit any documentation in compliance with the directives contained in this order or submitted pursuant to this order and approved by the Executive Officer, the Discharger may request in writing, an extension of time as specified. The extension request must be submitted five days in advance, if possible, of the due date and shall include justification for this delay including the good faith effort performed to achieve compliance with the due date. The extension request shall also include a proposed time schedule with new performance dates for the due date in question and all subsequent dates dependent on the extension. A written extension may be granted for good cause, in which case the order will be revised accordingly.
- P. This Order in no way limits the authority of this Regional Water Board to institute additional enforcement actions or to require additional investigation and cleanup at the site consistent with state and federal law. This Order may be revised by the Executive Officer as additional information becomes available.

Ordered by: _____
Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

June 14, 2012