CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. R2-2012-0076

RESCISSION OF CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER (ORDER NO. 95-143) and SITE CLEANUP REQUIREMENTS (ORDER NO. 96-010) for:

ATCHISON, TOPEKA and SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY

for the property located at:

RICHMOND RAILYARD
101 GARRARD BOULEVARD (AKA 303 GARRARD BOULEVARD and 980 HENSLEY STREET) RICHMOND, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter the Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. **Regional Water Board Orders:** The Regional Water Board adopted a Cleanup and Abatement Order (Order No. 95-143) for this site on July 11, 1995, and Site Cleanup Requirements (Order No. 96-010) on January 17, 1996. Tasks 1 and 2 of Order No. 95-143 were completed in 1995 and the remaining tasks were superseded or included with Order No. 96-010. Both orders name the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company (AT & SF) as the discharger. On December 31, 1996, AT & SF merged with Burlington Northern Railway to form BNSF Railway. BNSF Railway is the successor company.

2. **Summary of Investigation and Remediation Activities:** This approximately 150-acre site is an operating railroad switching yard that includes intermodal and freight car switching, locomotive fueling, maintenance, and repair. This location has operated as a railyard since about 1900.

   Documented remediation of this site under the oversight of the Regional Water Board began when the Santa Fe Railway Company removed a Bunker C fuel oil aboveground storage tank and 4,278 cubic yards of oily soil in 1981. Subsequent to the aboveground storage tank removal, a preliminary environmental assessment was conducted during 1987/1988. This assessment found soil impacted with hydrocarbons and floating product on shallow groundwater.

   In 1989, an additional soil and groundwater investigation was conducted and an interim oil recovery system was installed to initiate recovery of floating product near the turntable. By June 27, 1996, a total of 7,874 gallons of oil had been removed from the perched groundwater by this interim product recovery system.

   The site has gone through multiple rounds of investigations, and multiple areas were found to be impacted with diesel or heavy bunker oil in the soil and groundwater. Locomotive sideswipes occurred in 1990 and 1994 that resulted in punctured diesel tanks

and the release of about 5,100 gallons of fuel. About 550 gallons of fuel from these sideswipes were recovered and approximately 2,000 cubic yards of impacted soil were excavated and bioremediated.

The Cleanup and Abatement Order (Order No. 95-143) dealt specifically with the fueling area. The Site Cleanup Requirements (Order No. 96-010) addressed all areas of the site and identified several remedial tasks to be completed. Additional investigations and remedial actions have taken place since the Order No. 96-010 was issued. A total of approximately 10,500 cubic yards of impacted soil and debris have been remediated or removed from the site as part of the investigations, remediation, or trenching operations. Total documented liquids removed during recovery and cleaning operations are approximately 90,000 gallons.

The site is surrounded by a locked fence. The monitoring wells at the site were properly destroyed. BNSF also prepared a soil management plan to be followed if soil-disturbing activities are performed in the future. Finally, a deed restriction was prepared and recorded to prevent the use of the site for residential or other higher risk uses.

3. **Basis for Rescission:** Rescission of Order No. 96-010 is appropriate because the Order's tasks have been completed and the site qualifies for low-threat closure.

The Order's tasks have been completed:

Task 1- Submittal of a work plan to identify sources of pollution.
Task 2- A technical report documenting the source areas.
Task 3- Submittal of a remedial investigation work plan.
Task 4- A report documenting the completion of remedial investigations.
Task 5- Submittal of an Interim Remedial Action work plan.
Task 6- Submittal of an implementation report on Interim Remedial Actions.
Task 7- Submittal of a proposed Remedial Action Plan.

The Remedial Action Plan proposed institutional and engineering controls, a soil and groundwater management plan, restricting site access, recording a deed restriction, and an additional year of product recovery and sampling, all of which have been implemented. All 18 monitoring wells and piezometers at the site were destroyed by March 1, 2012.

The site qualifies for low-threat closure for the following reasons:

- The site has been adequately characterized, and areas with residual petroleum contamination are well defined.
- Exposure pathways, receptors, and potential risks, threats, and other environmental concerns have been adequately evaluated.
- The groundwater plume is restricted to the site.
- There are no unacceptable risks to human health, ecological health, and sensitive receptors, considering current and reasonable future land and water uses.

- Remaining soil and groundwater impacts are addressed with a soil and groundwater management plan, deed restriction, limited access, and natural attenuation.

4. **CEQA**: This action rescinds an order to enforce the laws and regulations administered by the Regional Water Board. Rescission of the Order is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). There is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 §§ 15378 and 15061, subd. (b) (3).)

5. **Notification**: The Regional Water Board has notified the dischargers and all interested agencies and persons of its intent under California Water Code section 13304 to rescind site cleanup requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments. No written comments were received.

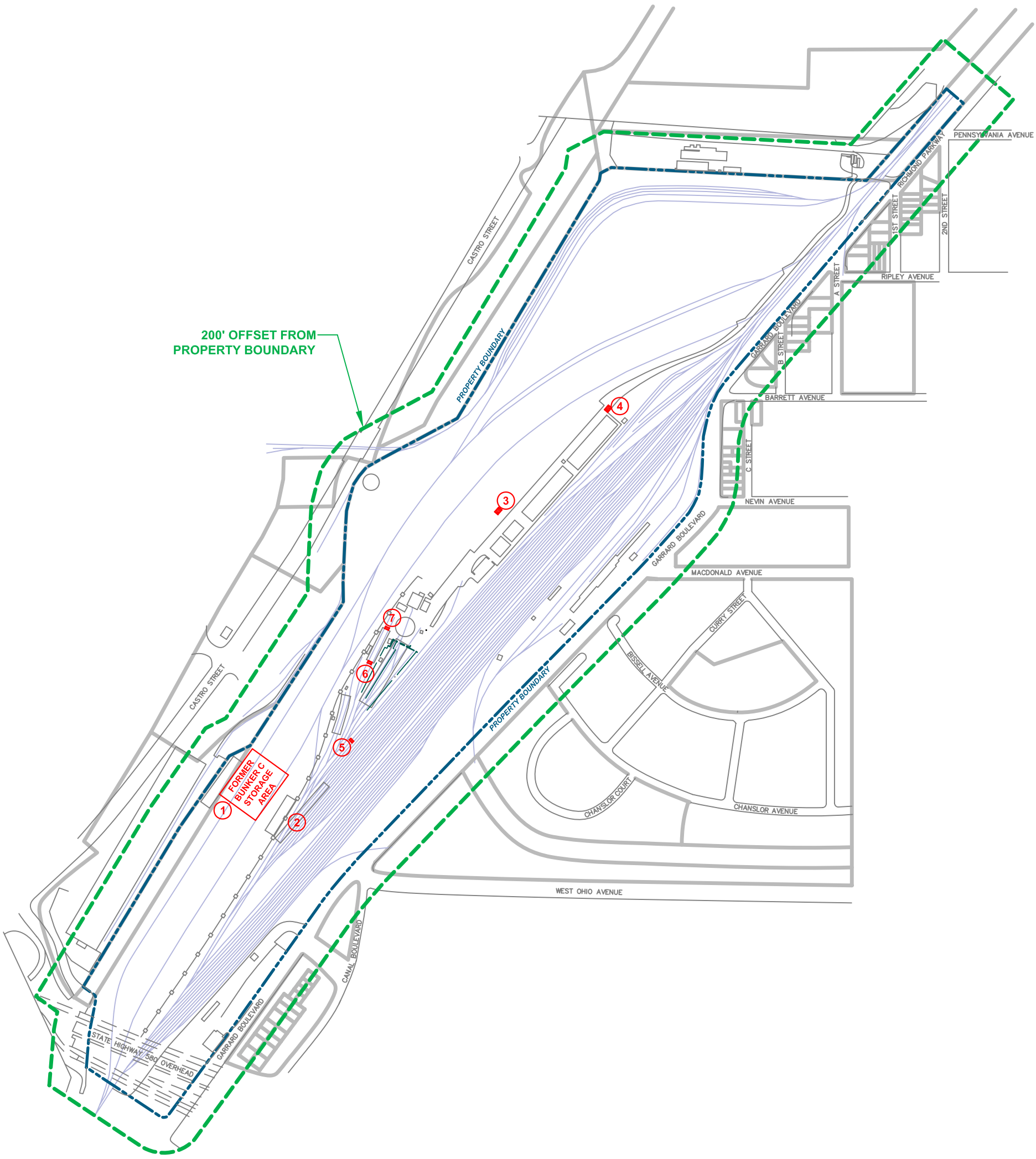
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to section 13304 of the California Water Code, that Order Nos. 95-143 and 96-010 are rescinded.

Digitally signed by Bruce H. Wolfe
Date: 2012.10.03 16:08:21 -07'00'

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer

==========
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO ENFORCEMENT ACTION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY UNDER WATER CODE SECTIONS 13268 OR 13350, OR REFERRAL TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF OR CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY
==========

Attachment: Site Map



HISTORICAL EXCAVATION AND SPILL AREAS

No.	Date	Event	Approximate Amount of Soil Excavated (cubic yards)	Reference
1	1981	Cleanup of Bunker C Storage Area	5113	TRC, 1996b
2	October 1990	Locomotive Sideswipe	2000	TRC, 1996b
3	August 1993	Removal of 5,000-gal. UST	70 to 80	ESI, 1994a
4	October 1993	Removal of 3,000-gal. Journal Oil UST	40	ESI, 1994c
5	August 1994	Locomotive Sideswipe	--	TRC, 1996a
6	July 1995	Excavation of Southwest End of Fueling Pad	24	TRC, 1996b
7	August 1996	Excavation of Northeast End of Fueling Pad	--	TRC, 1996b

LEGEND

- Property Boundary
- Railroad Tracks
- Approximate Parcel Boundary

N

SCALE (FEET)

0 600 1,200

SITE PLAN SHOWING 200' OFFSET FROM PROPERTY BOUNDARY

BNSF Railway Company
Richmond Railyard
Richmond, California

TRC

FIGURE 1

\bnsf_rr\bnsf richmond\bnsf richmond_site plan_with 200ft radius.dwg