

## INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2011 -XXXX  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC.  
FOR POST-CLOSURE MAINTENANCE AND CORRECTIVE ACTION  
BAKERSFIELD FACILITY  
KERN COUNTY

Chemical Waste Management, Inc. (CWMI), a wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc. of Texas, owns the closed Bakersfield facility. CWMI owns property totaling approximately 1,089 acres, approximately 13 miles northeast of the City of Bakersfield. The closed portion of the facility covers 142.31 acres in the north  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  and a portion of the north  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the northwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 2, T28S, R28E, MDB&M.

Waste, last received in 1985, was primarily related to oilfield development and production activities and consisted of flue-gas desulfurization (scrubber) wastes, drilling mud, tank bottom sludge, wastewater, and petroleum brine, some of which contained hazardous materials. The waste was predominately non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) waste, although the facility was permitted by the DTSC to receive RCRA waste. Municipal solid waste was never discharged at the facility.

The facility lies on a sequence of Tertiary sedimentary rocks. The topography is characterized by two low-lying hills separated by the northeast to southwest trending Central Drainage, with elevations ranging from 670 to 940 feet above mean sea level. The drainage separates the Eastern and Western Waste Management Unit (EWMU and WWMU). The closed portion of the facility is not within the 100-year flood plain. The facility is in the Poso Creek Hydrogeologic Area. Poso Creek, an intermittent stream immediately south of the facility, flows westward and drains into the San Joaquin Valley. Stormwater runoff from the Central Drainage, Northwest Canyon, and other ephemeral drainages flows into Poso Creek.

Groundwater occurs in the Olcese Sand, the main water bearing zone beneath the facility, at depths of 25 to 215 feet. The average hydraulic gradient is 0.001, with groundwater flow to the west-southwest toward Poso Creek at about one foot per year. Groundwater quality in the Olcese is variable with the total dissolved solids (TDS) ranging from 420 milligrams per liter (mg/L) to 3,700 mg/L. Well C02 is the nearest water supply well, located on CWMI's property adjacent to the closed portion of the facility. It is completed in the Olcese Sand and is only used for livestock watering.

Shallow perched groundwater occurs near the contact between the weathered Round Mountain Silt (RMS) and younger alluvium in the WWMU area. There is no shallow perched groundwater in the weathered RMS or younger alluvium in the EWMU area. The groundwater is from winter recharge of the ephemeral streams, where surface water percolates into the subsurface and accumulates at the weathered RMS/younger alluvium contact. Depth to groundwater varies from 20 to 37 feet. The average hydraulic gradient is 0.02, with groundwater flow south towards Poso Creek at a rate of from 13 to 130 feet per year. The RMS background groundwater quality is poor, with the TDS ranging from 4,000 to 5,100 mg/L.

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Localized groundwater degradation occurs in shallow perched groundwater in the WWMU area in the Northwest Canyon Collection Well (NWC well), and in corrective action wells MW01, MW06, and CW10. The impact associated with scrubber waste, has previously been characterized by concentrations of sodium, sulfate, and TDS, constituents that were historically detected at several thousand mg/L above background groundwater quality. Current monitoring data shows a substantial decline in the concentration of each constituent. Volatile organic constituents have not been detected during groundwater or corrective action monitoring. Historical monitoring data from former Poso Creek groundwater monitoring wells indicated that the localized degradation has not affected groundwater offsite. The Corrective Action Program consists of monitoring the attenuation of sodium, sulfate and TDS.

As designated by the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, Second Edition*, revised in January 2004, the present and potential future beneficial uses of the groundwater beneath the facility include municipal and domestic supply (MUN), agricultural supply (AGR), and industrial and process supply (IND).

In March 1989 the Department of Health Services (DHS) certified the facility closed. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 90-264 for Post-Closure and site monitoring. On 30 April 1991, the DHS issued a Post-Closure Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (HWFP). On 11 June 1999, the Central Valley Water Board adopted WDRs Order No. 99-088, which addressed groundwater issues and classified the facility as a Class III landfill containing hazardous waste in accordance with Title 23 and Title 22 California Code of Regulations (CCR).

On 13 October 2009, CWMI petitioned the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to demonstrate that the facility met the closure by removal or decontamination standards in Title 22, Section 66270.1(c)(5) & (6) and does not present a significant risk to human health or the environment. On 25 June 2010, the DTSC issued a Notice of Final Decision that the facility met the requirements for closure by decontamination or removal consistent with Title 22. The decision stated that the Post-Closure HWFP is no longer required and that the facility is not required to renew a Post-Closure HWFP. The DTSC determined that management of the facility through implementation of and compliance with the 8 September 2010 Covenant to Restrict Use of Property – Environmental Restriction (Covenant), and continued oversight by the Central Valley Water Board, is protective of human health and the environment. Waste at the closed facility is considered Class III solid waste which contains some hazardous materials, and is subject to those applicable provisions contained in Title 27, CCR. Central Valley Water Board oversight will continue through implementation of revised WDRs that implement Title 27.

The action to revise WDRs for this existing facility is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resource Code §21000, et seq., and the CEQA guidelines, in accordance with §15301 of Title 14, CCR.