

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 93-028
AGAINST
SUNLINE TRANSIT AGENCY
SUNLINE TRANSIT BUS WASH
Thousand Palms - Riverside County

The Regional Board's Executive Officer of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. Sunline Transit Agency, owner of Sunline Transit Bus Wash (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), P.O. Box 398, Thousand Palms, CA 92276 discharges wastewater from the steam cleaning of engines into an oil and grease interceptor that flows into two seepage pits. The facility is located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, T4S, R6E, SBB&M, with a street address of 32505 Harry Oliver Trail in Thousand Palms.
2. The Regional Board staff conducted a site investigation of this bus wash and bus engine steam cleaning facility on November 9, 1992. The bus wash discharges into an entirely closed system that is regularly maintained and cleaned by an authorized hazardous waste hauler. However, the engine steam cleaning operation discharges into two seepage pits. One of the pits was sampled and the wastewater was analyzed for total dissolved solids (TDS) heavy metals, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) employing EPA Methods 601 and 602. The analytical results revealed an unacceptably elevated TDS content of 3,540 mg/L, barium at 1,088 μ g/L, chromium at 141 μ g/L, lead at 344 μ g/L, and naphthalene at 425 μ g/L. The California Drinking Water Standards list the maximum contaminant levels for barium at 1,000 μ g/L, chromium at 50 μ g/L and lead at 50 μ g/L. Also, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Health Advisory Standards list naphthalene at 20 μ g/L. These high levels of contaminants are suspected to be the result of the steam cleaning of engines using cleaning solvents to remove grease, oil, gasoline, radiator fluids, and other petroleum hydrocarbons that accumulate in the oil and grease interceptor, and overflow into the seepage pits. Other volatile organic compounds and heavy metals were detected in concentrations below regulatory limits.
3. The EPA "Handbook of Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals and Carcinogens" lists naphthalene, lead, and chromium as hazardous compounds contained in motor fuels, cleaning solvents, detergents, lubricants and radiator anti-rust agents.
4. Coachella Valley Water District reports that the nearest well is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile southeast and downgradient of the facility, which has a ground water depth of about 135 feet and TDS of approximately 185 mg/L.
5. The site is located on relatively flat terrain consisting of a sandy alluvial floodplain. The soil is known to be very permeable.
6. The hazardous constituents noted in Finding No. 2 indicate soil contamination, which threatens to pollute ground water.

7. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California was adopted May 15, 1991 and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this Region.
8. The beneficial uses of ground waters in the Coachella Hydrologic Subunit are:
 - a. Municipal supply (MUN)
 - b. Industrial supply (IND)
 - c. Agricultural supply (AGR)
9. Contamination of ground water at this site would adversely impact the above listed beneficial uses.
10. Section 13304 of the California Water Code states, in part, that:

"Any person...who has caused or permitted...any waste to be discharged or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged into the waters of the State and creates, or threatens to create, a condition of pollution or nuisance, shall upon order of the regional board cleanup such waste or abate the effects thereof, or, in the case of threatened pollution or nuisance, take other necessary remedial action."
11. Section 13267 of the California Water Code states in part that:

"...any person discharging... waste within its (the Board's) region...that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, those technical or monitoring program reports as the board may specify."
12. This enforcement action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15308 and 15321, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that pursuant to Section 13304 of Division 7 of the California Water Code, the discharger shall comply with the following:

1. Cleanup and abate all contaminated soil in addition to contaminated wastes in the treatment and disposal system to levels which are determined acceptable to the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
2. By May 1, 1993, submit to the Regional Board's Executive Officer for approval a workplan and time schedule for remedial action to remove all wastewater and contaminated soil. The workplan must include design specifications for a ground water monitoring system. The time schedule should provide a schedule for testing the soil to determine aerial and vertical extent of pollution, and propose a schedule for remedial actions to cleanup polluted wastewater and soil. Also, a statement is to be submitted by this date confirming that wastewater from the steam cleaning operation has ceased to the seepage pits along with a statement of intentions for continued operation and waste disposal.
3. By June 3, 1993, submit to the Regional Board's Executive Officer a progress report describing the cleanup investigation.

4. By August 30, 1993, complete all remediation and cleanup work, and submit a final technical report containing the results of the cleanup work.
5. All technical reports submitted to the Regional Board office for consideration shall be prepared by a professional who is registered as a civil engineer, or certified as an engineering geologist in the State of California.

If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, this Order is not complied with in a reasonable and timely manner, the Executive Officer will recommend additional enforcement action by the Regional Board which may include the imposition of administrative civil liabilities, or referral to the State Attorney General for such legal action as may be deemed appropriate.

ORDERED BY: Phil Guenzburg
Executive Officer

2-5-93
Date