

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2011
Prepared August 9, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: 8

SUBJECT: Staff Closures

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This Action: Information/Discussion

This staff report summarizes information for one Central Coast Water Board staff-closed Underground Storage Tank (UST) case. Central Coast Water Board staff closed this site because the wastes in soil do not pose a threat to human health and the environment and the groundwater beneath the site has reached water quality goals that are protective of beneficial uses. No Central Coast Water Board action is necessary for this item.

For the site listed in this report, closure reflects a tangible water quality outcome, meaning groundwater has been restored such that it meets water quality goals sufficient for all of the designated beneficial uses. Table 1 below provides case closure targets for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012) and progress to date in achieving those tangible water quality outcomes.

**Table 1
Case Closure Performance Scoreboard**

Program	2011-2012 Fiscal Year¹ Case Closure Target	2011-2012 Fiscal Year¹ Case Closures To Date^{2,3}
Underground Storage Tanks	17	4
Site Cleanup	12	2

Notes:

¹ Fiscal Year 2011-2012 runs July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

² Final closure letters are not issued for sites until the responsible party submits documentation of proper well abandonment.

³ This total includes sites with pending well destruction and does not include Recommended Closures on the current agenda.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CASE CLOSURE:

Shores Beacon Service Station, 6700 El Camino Real, Atascadero, San Luis Obispo County (Corey Walsh 805-542-4781)

The subject site is an active retail fuel service station located at 6700 El Camino Real near the intersection of East Mall Road and El Camino Real in Atascadero. The surrounding land uses include commercial and open space. Mr. Jim Shores is the current property owner and party

responsible for cleanup of this release at the site. Coincidentally, Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) has cleaned up an earlier petroleum hydrocarbon release (Case No. 523) at this site and Central Coast Water Board staff has recommended that case for closure as part of the Recommended Case Closures item on this agenda.

During facility upgrade activities in January 2004, contractors discovered a release of petroleum hydrocarbons in soil below the fuel dispensers at the site. The identified constituents of concern were gasoline, diesel, and associated constituents including methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) and tributyl alcohol (TBA). Contractors conducted three limited excavations to remove impacted soil below fuel dispensers and piping, and disposed of an estimated 90 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Analytical results of confirmation soil samples collected between 7 feet and 11 ft below ground surface (bgs) indicated the vertical and lateral extent of impacted soils was not fully removed or delineated during this initial excavation, however, contaminated soils were removed to the extent practicable. In February 2007, two soil borings were drilled to further delineate the extent of soil and groundwater impacts, and one boring was completed as a groundwater monitoring well.

In October 2007, a waste oil UST and associated piping were removed and confirmation soil samples indicated a separate release of petroleum hydrocarbons. Contractors excavated and disposed of approximately 10.75 tons of contaminated soil below the waste oil UST and associated vent line. Confirmation soil sample results indicated petroleum hydrocarbon impacted soils were successfully removed from below the waste oil UST and piping.

San Luis Obispo County Environmental Health Services (EHS) referred the UST cleanup case to Central Coast Water Board staff in April 2010 based on groundwater results that indicated MTBE, TBA and other petroleum hydrocarbon constituents of concern were present in groundwater. Continued semi-annual groundwater verification monitoring showed petroleum hydrocarbon constituents of concern, including TBA and MTBE are below the Central Coast Water Board's cleanup goals. Groundwater monitoring results indicate that the constituents of concern have not been detected in the site monitoring well above the cleanup goal for at least one year. Central Coast Water Board water quality objectives for TBA and MTBE in groundwater are 12 micrograms per liter (ug/L) and 5 ug/L, respectively.

The site lies within a groundwater basin designated as having beneficial uses that include domestic and municipal supply, and agricultural supply. The depth to groundwater ranges between approximately 10 and 22 feet bgs, and generally flows toward the northeast. There are no domestic or municipal water supply wells within one mile of the site. The nearest water well is an Atascadero Unified School District irrigation well located approximately 1,700 ft north-northeast of the site. Atascadero Creek is approximately 150 feet east of site. Any residual petroleum hydrocarbons are unlikely to impact this well or surface water considering the area geology, distance to the well and to surface water, and low remaining soil contaminant concentrations.

Residual petroleum hydrocarbon impacts in soil exist beneath the fuel dispensers at the subject site, and are primarily found within the capillary zone between 7 and 11 feet bgs. Soil hydrocarbon concentrations exceed the Central Coast Water Board and San Luis Obispo County EHS soil cleanup goals for total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH-g) and diesel (TPH-d), MTBE and TBA. Any remaining soil contamination will continue to attenuate over time.

Based on site investigation and groundwater monitoring results, there is no longer a threat to groundwater or surface water quality from this release of petroleum hydrocarbons at this site.

Central Coast Water Board staff has no further requirements for soil or groundwater investigation, monitoring, or cleanup at the site. The San Luis Obispo County EHS agrees with this determination. Central Coast Water Board staff also notified the property owner, adjacent property owners, and other interested parties of the proposed case closure. We have not received any comments or objections to the planned closure of this case. The responsible party has been directed to destroy all monitoring wells. The Central Coast Water Board staff will close this case, and the Executive Officer will issue a final case closure letter, upon receipt of a well destruction report.