

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2011
Prepared January 7, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: 8
SUBJECT: Staff Case Closures
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, if applicable, 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 the designated beneficial uses. Table 1 below provides case closure targets for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011) and progress to date in achieving those tangible water quality outcomes.

**Table 1
Case Closure Performance Scoreboard**

Program	2010-2011 Fiscal Year¹ Case Closure Target	Case Closures To Date^{2,3}
Department of Defense	15	7
Underground Storage Tanks	17	10
Site Cleanup	12	4

Notes:

- ¹ Fiscal Year 2010-2011 runs July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.
- ² Final closure letters are not issued for sites until documentation of proper well abandonment has been provided.
- ³ This total includes sites with pending well destruction and does not include Recommended Closures on current agenda.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CASE CLOSURES:

Ski's Marketplace, 589 Main Street, Cambria, San Luis Obispo County (Corey Walsh 805-542-4781)

Central Coast Water Board staff plans to close this underground storage tank (UST) case where groundwater sample results indicate petroleum hydrocarbon constituents of concern, including tributyl alcohol (TBA), and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) are below the Central Coast Water Board's cleanup goals. Groundwater monitoring results indicate MTBE has not been detected in any monitoring wells since April 2008, and TBA has not been detected above the cleanup goal in any on-site wells since December 2009. However, TBA concentrations in an off-site well have fluctuated above and below the cleanup goal since July 2006, ranging from <10 micrograms per liter (ug/L) to 110 ug/L. Currently, TBA is below the laboratory minimum detection limit (<10 ug/L) in all monitoring

wells. Central Coast Water Board water quality objectives for TBA and MTBE in groundwater are 12 ug/L and 5 ug/L, respectively. The historic trend of TBA concentration is downward.

The subject site is an active retail fuel service station, car wash and market located on the north side of Main Street near Kent Street in Cambria. The property is surrounded by mixed commercial and residential properties. Mr. John Hallvik, Petrocam, Ltd. is the property owner and party responsible for cleanup of the subject site.

During April 2001, under the direction of the San Luis Obispo County, Environmental Health Services (EHS) the responsible party commissioned a preliminary assessment prior to the anticipated fuel dispenser and UST piping system upgrade. The results of the assessment indicated that soil beneath the fuel dispenser islands had been impacted by petroleum hydrocarbons. Excavation efforts removed approximately 237 tons of contaminated soil, which was disposed off-site at an appropriate landfill. Soil beneath the dispenser islands was excavated to the maximum extent possible without jeopardizing the canopy footings and other structures. Soil excavation samples collected between 5 and 11 feet below ground surface contained concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons greater than San Luis Obispo County EHS cleanup goals.

On November 13, 2001 Central Coast Water Board requested additional soil and groundwater assessment. Three soil borings were drilled and subsequently converted to groundwater monitoring wells. Initial groundwater sample analytical results showed up to 24,000 ug/L of TBA, and 1,200 ug/L of MTBE. A subsequent assessment included the installation of two additional groundwater monitoring wells. Currently, there are four on-site monitoring wells and one off-site monitoring well. Residual contamination attenuated naturally to below Water Board cleanup goals.

Some residual soil contamination exists beneath the subject property below the fuel dispenser islands. Soil sample analysis during September 2001 indicated residual benzene, and MTBE at concentrations above Central Coast Water Board and San Luis Obispo County EHS cleanup goals. Any remaining soil contamination will continue to attenuate over time.

The site lies within a groundwater basin designated as having beneficial uses for domestic and municipal supply and agricultural supply. The depth to groundwater is between approximately six and ten feet below ground surface. Currently groundwater flows southward at a gradient of 0.004 ft/ft. San Luis Obispo County Parks Department operates an irrigation water well located approximately 2,000 feet west of site. Two inactive Cambria Community Service District wells are located along Santa Rosa Creek approximately ½ mile east of site. No other water supply wells were identified within ½ mile of the site. These wells are unlikely to be impacted by any residual contamination considering the groundwater flow direction, well distances, well construction, and low contaminant concentration remaining. Santa Rosa Creek is located approximately 200 feet south of the site. The residual contamination does not threaten the creek for many of the same reasons.

Based on site investigation, soil cleanup, and groundwater monitoring results, there is no longer a threat to groundwater or surface water quality from the 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. Central Coast Water Board staff also notified the San Luis Obispo County EHS, the site property owner, 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 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 documenting the proper destruction of monitoring wells.