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## Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

### **PUBLIC NOTICE Pending Case Closure FAA Santa Barbara Remote Transmitter/Receiver 6551 Hollister Avenue, Santa Barbara**

**GeoTracker Case No. T10000005841**

***Si desea obtener información en español, póngase en contacto con Karyn Steckling al  
(805) 549-3465.***

**March 24, 2025**

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) is the state regulatory agency responsible for the protection of groundwater and surface water quality within the central coast region. As such, we are overseeing the investigation and cleanup of a diesel spill at the above-referenced site. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is the party responsible for the investigation and cleanup of the site located at the Santa Barbara Airport. Please see Figure 1 for a Site Layout Map of the Site. We are notifying the site property owner, surrounding property owners and tenants, and other potentially interested parties of the proposed closure of this case to provide you and others with an opportunity to comment on the Central Coast Water Board's intent to close this case.

Please provide your comments or concerns regarding the closure of this case to the Central Coast Water Board by **April 24, 2025**. It is not necessary to respond if you have no comments.

Information on the Site Cleanup Program case investigation and cleanup is available for review at the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker database at the following:

<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?gid=T10000005841>

You can view the site's location on the GeoTracker map at the following:

[https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?global\\_id=T10000005841](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?global_id=T10000005841)

### **Site Background**

In June 2011, the FAA discovered a leak in the pipes between a diesel storage tank and a generator that powers the Santa Barbara Remote Transmitter/Receiver. FAA repaired the pipes to stop the leak and estimated that the leak released approximately 60 gallons of diesel fuel. Through site investigations, the FAA identified elevated levels of diesel

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JANE GRAY, CHAIR | RYAN E. LODGE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

fuel in the groundwater and soil. In June 2013, FAA excavated 204 tons of contaminated soil to the maximum extent practicable and removed 3,800 gallons of polluted groundwater. Following excavation, groundwater was treated with an Oxygen Release Compound (ORC) to aid in natural aerobic biological transformation of remaining groundwater petroleum impacts. In 2021, the FAA collected 30 additional soil samples to evaluate residual soil impacts and installed four permanent groundwater monitoring wells to evaluate groundwater cleanup progress. Soil sampling results indicate that only a very limited and inaccessible area of soil is still impacted with residual petroleum pollutants. Groundwater sampling results indicate that groundwater cleanup is complete.

### **Proposed Site Closure**

After reviewing the soil investigation, groundwater monitoring, and cleanup results, Central Coast Water Board staff has determined that this site does not pose a significant threat to groundwater resources, human health, or the environment. Residual petroleum pollutants remaining in the soil (if any) are well characterized, are localized and limited in extent, and are not impacting groundwater quality. The pollutant mass has been removed from the site to the maximum extent practicable, and historical monitoring data indicate pollutant concentrations in groundwater are below applicable cleanup levels.

A draft Case Summary Form that summarizes the case is available at the following:  
<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=umbnw>

Following the public comment period and resolution of any comments, and pending proper monitoring well destruction, the Executive Officer plans to issue a case closure letter.

If you wish to obtain additional information, provide comments, or if you need assistance accessing GeoTracker or the Case Summary Form, please contact Karyn Steckling by phone at **(805) 549-3465** (or by email at [karyn.steckling@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:karyn.steckling@waterboards.ca.gov)) or Amber Sellinger by phone at (805) 549-3866 (or by email at [amber.sellinger@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:amber.sellinger@waterboards.ca.gov)).

CR#: 2030159

GeoTracker ID: T10000005841

**Figure 1: Site Layout Map<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Figure 1: Site Layout Map is adapted from: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=t0kl6>