
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pending Case Closure
Polonio Pass Pipeline #1
0 HIGHWAY 46, CHOLAME

GeoTracker Case No.
SL0607918941
February 25, 2026

The California 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 petroleum hydrocarbons released from the crude oil pipeline at the above referenced site. Phillips 66 Company is the party responsible for investigation and cleanup of the site. We are notifying the site property owner, surrounding property owners, and other potentially interested parties of the proposed closure of this case. Please provide your comments or concerns regarding closure of this crude oil pipeline case to this office by **April 26, 2026**. It is not necessary to respond if you have no comments. Information on the investigation and cleanup is available for review on the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker database at:

https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SL0607918941

You can view a site location map at:

https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?global_id=SL0607918941

Site Background

In 2003, petroleum-impacted soil was encountered during the replacement of a two-mile section of the former underground petroleum pipelines near the intersection of California State Highways 41 and 46 in Cholame. The area impacted by petroleum was subsequently excavated in September 2003. Following remedial excavation, site investigations were conducted in 2003, 2005, 2014, 2015 and 2020 to characterize the residual petroleum hydrocarbon impacts to soil and groundwater. As part of site assessment activities, numerous soil samples were collected, and six groundwater monitoring wells were installed in 2014. Groundwater monitoring was conducted between March 2014 and February 2016.

A draft Case Summary Form is available at:

https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/view_documents_all?global_id=SL0607918941&doc_id=6144037

After reviewing the soil investigation, groundwater monitoring, soil vapor sampling, and cleanup results, Central Coast Water Board staff determined that this site does not pose a significant threat to groundwater resources, human health, or the environment. Assessment results indicate that petroleum-impacted soil was defined to the extent feasible with concentrations below commercial/industrial Environmental Screening Levels (ESLs) in shallow soil (equal to or below 10 feet below ground surface). The residual petroleum impacts in soil can be characterized as weathered crude oil with little or no volatile or semi-volatile organic components. Groundwater monitoring results indicate that dissolved phase constituents are either not detected greater than the applicable laboratory reporting limit or at concentrations below applicable Tier 1 ESLs and California Maximum Contaminant Limits (MCLs). The pollutant mass has been removed from the site to the maximum extent practicable, is localized and limited in extent, and historical monitoring data indicate pollutant concentrations in groundwater are expected to continue decreasing to below cleanup goals in a reasonable time. Following the public comment period and resolution of any comments, and pending proper monitoring well destruction, the Executive Officer may issue a case closure letter.

If you wish to obtain additional information, provide comments, or if you need assistance accessing GeoTracker, please contact **Megan Mortimer-Lamb at (805) 549-3395**, or Joey Sisk at (805) 542-4638. Email addresses are provided below.

GeoTracker ID: SL0607918941

Cc via email:

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Cc via Standard Mail:

Adjacent Landowner/Occupant:	Adjacent Landowner/Occupant:
HEARST CORP 5 3RD ST STE 200 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94103-3203	Current Occupant DAVIS RD SHANDON CA 93461

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