
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 4, 2014

Mr. Mohammad Ahmad
Tahoe Tom's Gas Station
4029 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

DIRECTIVE TO SUBMIT REMEDIATION PLAN, TAHOE TOM'S GAS STATION, 4029 LAKE TAHOE BOULEVARD, SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, EL DORADO COUNTY— CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. R6T-2007-0038

INVESTIGATIVE ORDER NO. R6T-2014-0018

This Investigative Order requires Mr. Mohammad Amad, as current owner of the Tahoe Tom's Gas Station, to submit remediation technical reports to this agency for soil and groundwater contamination.

BACKGROUND

On January 31, 2014, the Water Board received the electronic document, "Fourth Quarter 2013 Groundwater Monitoring Report (Monitoring Report)." The Monitoring Report contains the results of limited groundwater sampling from December 2013 for monitoring wells located adjacent to the underground storage tank basin. Laboratory results of monitoring well samples from RW-10 and VE-13 show hydrocarbon concentrations increased in both locations. Total hydrocarbons as TPH-gasoline were at least 62,000 ppb in both samples. Volatile constituents in VE-13, represented by BTEX, increased to their highest levels since 2010 with benzene detected at 2,400 ppb. MTBE was detected up to 11 ppb in VE-13, which is a decrease from reported levels in prior years. Groundwater elevation data for both wells reflect a decrease in water table of 4 feet since 2011.

COMMENTS

High petroleum hydrocarbon concentrations detected in on-site monitoring wells warrant the resumption of corrective actions to protect nearby domestic wells and protect human health from vapors inside buildings. Increasing hydrocarbon concentrations in groundwater during lowering of the water table indicates a continued petroleum source with depth within and beneath the tank basin. Corrective actions targeting the tank basin in recent years apparently affected shallower zones or limited areas of petroleum in soil and groundwater. Furthermore, the increase in BTEX concentrations, which are volatile, pose an indoor air risk for occupants in the Tahoe Tom's building. Additional actions are needed to remediate contamination in soil, groundwater and soil vapors.

DIRECTIVE

Pursuant to Water Code sections 13267, Mr. Mohammad Amad is required to submit technical reports to the Water Board referenced below.

1. **By March 24, 2014**, submit a remediation plan for soil and groundwater contamination and soil vapors that either proposes to re-start the remediation system on site, or operate an alternate system, by April 30, 2014. The plan shall describe the fate of waste water and vapors generated from the project.
2. In the first tri-annual sampling event to occur in April 2014, include ethanol analysis to water samples.
3. Starting with the April 2014 sampling event and every four months thereafter, collect a water sample from the Mark Twain Motel and include the results in monitoring reports. If any constituent exceeds its respective drinking water standard, notify the Water Board within 5 days of receiving the laboratory results.
4. **Within 2 days of starting to operate a remediation system at the site**, you are to submit a written notification to the Water Board that the on-site remediation system, or similarly effective system, has been started for remediating hydrocarbons in groundwater, soil, and soil vapor. Remedial system operation data and description shall be provided in tri-annual monitoring reports. Such information shall include: site map, operational time, volume and fate of extracted and treated water and vapor, laboratory results, and effectiveness of remediation.

ENFORCEMENT

Technical reports required by this order are necessary to investigate potential release(s) from an underground storage tank system affecting groundwater quality in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The need for this investigation outweighs the burden on the responsible party to produce the information since hydrocarbons in groundwater exceed drinking water standards and affect potential beneficial uses, such as municipal and domestic water supply.

Pursuant to section 13268 of the Water Code, a violation of Water Code Section 13267 requirement may subject you to civil liability of up to \$1,000 per day for each day in which the violation occurs.

You may contact Lisa Dernbach of this office at (530) 542-5424 or ldernbach@waterboards.ca.gov, if you have any questions.



LAURI KEMPER, P.E.
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Enclosure: Section 13267 Fact Sheet

C: El Dorado County Dept of Environmental Management, John Ried
City of South Lake Tahoe, Nancy Kerry
South Tahoe Public Utility District, Richard Solbrig
LRM Consulting, Mehrdad Javaherian

LSd/adw/T: Tahoe Toms remediation order 2-14
Send to file: UGT-El Dorado Co, 6T0080A