

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600**

**Public Notice No. 21-007
NPDES No. CA0064114**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PROPOSED TERMINATION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
(National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)**

<u>DISCHARGER</u>	<u>DISCHARGE LOCATION</u>	<u>RECEIVING WATER</u>
Northrop Grumman Space and Mission Systems Corp. (Formerly TRW Inc.), Benchmark Facility	200 S. Turnbull Canyon Road, City of Industry, California	San Jose Creek

Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation owns and operates the Former TRW Benchmark Site (Facility) located at 200 South Turnbull Canyon Road, City of Industry, California. The Facility is regulated by Order R4-2004-0169, which was adopted on December 13, 2004, and expired on October 10, 2009. Order Number R4-2004-0169 was administratively continued until reissuance of a new permit. In a letter dated March 15, 2021, the Discharger requested termination of the NPDES permit because no further discharge will occur at this site.

A groundwater treatment system was previously installed at the Facility to treat groundwater contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and 1,4-dioxane that resulted from accidental spills, leaks, and routine handling of chlorinated solvents, acids, bases, heavy metals and other chemicals used as part of the manufacturing process for printed circuit boards at the location from 1955 until its closure in 1989. The site has been redeveloped and is currently used as a warehousing facility for a furniture wholesaler. The Facility is permitted to discharge up to 0.216 million gallons per day (MGD) of treated groundwater to the San Jose Creek. The groundwater treatment system at the Facility has not operated nor discharged since 2008; when the water levels had dropped, such that pumping and remediation operations ceased. The treatment system was dismantled in 2013, but the piping infrastructure remains intact. The Discharger retained the NPDES permit for when a downgradient groundwater treatment system is installed.

On August 6, 2020, the U.S. EPA approved the design for the Shallow Zone (SZ) South Interim Remedy Treatment Facility (new treatment system). The construction of the new treatment system will start in January 2021, under the direction of U.S. EPA as part of the San Gabriel Valley (Area 4) Superfund Site, Puente Valley Operable Unit (PVOU). The new treatment system will be located at 111 Hudson Avenue in the City of Industry, downgradient from the Facility to treat and discharge groundwater impacted by VOCs and 1,4-dioxane attributable to the former TRW Benchmark site located at 200 S.

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Turnbull Canyon Road. Northrop Grumman owns the property located at 111 Hudson Avenue and has an existing NPDES permit (General NPDES Permit No. CAG994004, Order No. R4-2008-0032, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater from Construction and Project Dewatering to Surface Waters*), for the discharge of treated groundwater for the Intermediate Zone Interim Remedy. The General NPDES permit provides regulatory coverage for the discharge of treated groundwater from the new treatment system located at 111 Hudson Avenue in the City of Industry. Therefore, no further discharge will occur at the Facility located at 200 S. Turnbull Canyon Road in the City of Industry.

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the Los Angeles Water Board proposes to terminate Order R4-2004-0169.

HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

Date: May 13, 2021
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Virtual only; no physical location. Details available on website at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_info/agenda/

Please check the Board's website (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/>) for the most up-to-date public hearing information as it is subject to change.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The tentative termination of Order R4-2004-0169, any comments submitted and other information received regarding the discharge are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by emailing the Los Angeles Water Board at losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov. The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are specifically referenced during the hearing. Should any interested persons desire staff to send any particular documents prior to the hearing, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business hours, not later than 10 business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

The tentative termination of Order R4-2004-0169, any comments received and the response to comments will also be available on the Los Angeles Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml

NATURE OF HEARING

This will be a formal adjudicative proceeding pursuant to Section 648 et seq. of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) does not apply to this proceeding.

Ex Parte Communications Prohibited: As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Los Angeles Water Board must be directed to staff.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF BEFORE THE HEARING

The lead staff member responsible for this item is:

Rosario Aston
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 576-6756
rosario.aston@waterboards.ca.gov

PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

1. The applicant/permittee

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff not later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment upon the tentative termination of Order R4-2004-0169 or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing. To be evaluated and responded to by staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Board, written comments and evidence must be submitted to the Board by mail to the address above or by email to losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov with a copy to rosario.aston@waterboards.ca.gov, and received at the Board's office by **5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2021**. Please reference the comments as "Comments on tentative termination of Order R4-2004-0169, Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation, Former TRW Benchmark Facility, CA0064114".

Pursuant to section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, written comments or evidence submitted after the comment deadline will not be allowed or accepted into the Administrative Record without a showing of good cause for the delay, and in no event if any party or the Board would be unduly prejudiced by the late submittal including if staff or the Board would not have an adequate opportunity to review, consider, and respond to the comments or evidence.

Additionally, if the Board receives only supportive comments, the permit may be placed on the Board's consent calendar and approved without oral testimony.

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HEARING PROCEDURE

The meeting, in which the hearing will occur, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. Staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. To present oral testimony, parties and interested persons must register for the Zoom meeting via the link on the Board's agenda webpage here:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_info/agenda/

Oral testimony may be limited to 3 minutes maximum or less for each speaker, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Parties or persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will render a decision.

Parties or persons with special procedural requests should contact staff. Any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing not later than close of business 15 business days prior to the date of the hearing. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, this matter will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

Date: April 6, 2021