



April 3, 2008

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer

Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer's Report is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but rather highlights of Regional Board staff activities from the previous month.

Machado Lake TMDL

Rebecca Veiga Nascimento

On February 7, 2008 Regional Board staff provided public notice of the scheduled Public Hearing for the proposed Total Maximum Daily Load for Eutrophic, Algae, Ammonia, and Odors (Nutrient) in Machado Lake. Copies of the proposed Resolution, Basin Plan Amendment, Staff Report, Technical Memo, and Substitute Environmental Document are available for public review and comment. The public comment period for this TMDL will end on March 24, 2008. This TMDL will be presented to the Regional Board for adoption at the Public Hearing scheduled for May 1, 2008 at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

For additional information on the Machado Lake Nutrient TMDL, please contact Rebecca Veiga Nascimento at (213) 576-6784 or rveiga@waterboards.ca.gov

Los Angeles Region Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands

Rebecca Veiga Nascimento

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) adopted a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands (Order No. R4-2005-0080) on November 3, 2005. The objectives of the program are to monitor the water quality effects, and, if required, mitigate those impacts from runoff from irrigated agriculture facilities in the coastal watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Currently, 75% of the irrigated acreage in the Region is enrolled in the Conditional Waiver program. On November 15, 2007, the Regional Board sent notices of violation to approximately 400 growers who had not yet enrolled in the Conditional Waiver program. The notices of violation generated positive feedback from the stakeholder community and approximately 12,000 additional acres were enrolled in the Conditional Waiver program. In addition, growers in the Los Angeles Region have completed a combined total of 11,187 hours of required water quality education.

The Los Angeles Region Conditional Waiver program requires agriculture dischargers to conduct water quality monitoring. Currently, monitoring is done on a group basis for constituents such as, nutrients, pesticides, salts, and toxicity; there are 37 monitor-

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ing sites located in agricultural areas throughout the Region. The discharger monitoring groups submitted the first annual monitoring reports to the Regional Board in February 2008 for Ventura and Los Angeles Counties. The next step of the Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands Program will be to work with discharger groups and growers to develop Agriculture Water Quality Management Plans targeted to reduce pollutant loads to surface waters.

For additional information on the Los Angeles Region Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands, please contact Rebecca Veiga Nascimento at (213) 576-6784 or rveiga@waterboards.ca.gov

Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL - Groundwater and Surface Water Interaction (GSWI) model

C.P. Lai and Yanjie Chu

Draft Task 2B-1 of the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL, a report on the Numerical Model Development and Scenario Results for East and Piru Sub-basins of the GSWI Study was submitted to the Regional Board for review on February 4, 2008. This report described the development, calibration, and application of a numerical flow and transport model that was used to aid evaluations related to the GSWI Study. The report included application of the numerical model to simulate 17 future water use scenarios. Regional Board staff has reviewed the draft report and sent the review comments to the facilitator of the Working Group for the study on February 21, 2008.

The general observations from simulated scenario results are described as follows. None of the scenario results indicated that simulated surface-water chloride concentrations were less than the surface-water chloride water quality objective of 100 mg/L at all times and locations in Reach 5. None of the scenario results indicated that simulated groundwater chloride concentrations exceeded the groundwater chloride water quality objective of 200 mg/L east of Piru Creek and were less than the groundwater chloride objective of 100 mg/L west of Piru Creek at all times at selected well locations. Overall, this report can meet the purpose of the GSWI Study. Regional Board staff will decide the chloride concentrations of surface water and groundwater for TMDL compliance based on the simulated chloride gradients for the selected averaging periods.

In combination with the results of the other TMDL studies, the GSWI study will provide information to assist the Regional Board in consideration of a site-specific chloride objective for the Upper Santa Clara River that is protective of surface and groundwater resources, and if so, lend data to the discussion of the appropriate number. The GSWI will also provide information to evaluate the implementation alternatives. One of the implementation alternatives, the alternative water resources management schemes, will be assessed by the calibrated model in April, 2008 and a workable implementation plan will be discussed and provided by then.

On February 14, 2008, a Trash TMDL for the Malibu Creek Watershed was released for public review. This complete TMDL contains documents of Notice of Filing, Notice of Hearing, the Substitute Environmental Document (SED), Tentative Resolution, Proposed Basin Plan Amendment, and a staff report. All these documents are available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/basin_plan_amendments/technical_documents/bpa_63_New_td.shtml

The public comment period for this Trash TMDL will end at 12:00 p.m. on April 1, 2008. Responses to public comments will be prepared and may be incorporated in the TMDL if appropriate. The finalized Trash TMDL is scheduled to be presented for Regional Board Members' consideration on May 1, 2008.

The previous Regional Board adopted and State Board approved five Trash TMDLs separately for Machado

Lake, Revolon Slough and Beardsley Wash in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, Ventura River Estuary, Lake Elizabeth, Munz Lake and Lake Hughes in the Santa Clara River Watershed, and Legg Lake in the San Gabriel River/Los Angeles River Watersheds, have passed the Office of Administrative Law review by February 11, 2008 and have been approved by United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on February 27, 2008. Meanwhile, State of California Department of Fish and Game has determined on March 6, 2008 that these trash TMDLs have no potential effect on fish, wildlife and habitat, and do not require payments of CEQA filing fees. Therefore, all these 5 trash TMDLs are effective as of March 6, 2008. A Notice of Determination and a Notice to stakeholders of the Trash TMDL effectiveness for each watershed will be prepared.

City of Long Beach – Trash TMDL Efforts

Sara Michael

City of Long Beach is working to contribute to the achievement of the Los Angeles River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) numerical target of zero trash by implementing three projects along the LA River, and to decrease toxicity in water quality measurements and improve habitat conditions and positive response of bio-indicators. These three projects will receive a total \$1.7 million in grant funding, to subsidize the efforts of the City to reduce the discharge of trash into the river and comply with the LA River trash TMDL. To reduce trash loading, the City is installing three variations of trash separation devices: a Trash Net System (TNS) in the Forebay of pump station Storm Drain (SD) 11, a the Vortex Separation System (VSS) as proposed at the Forebay of pump station SD 12; and a full capture Trash Separation Device on a large storm drain leading to pump station 13. All of these projects are located along the LAR; one drains the local free-way transportation corridor and the others drain urban areas.

The City requested amendments to the grant agreements because during the preliminary hydraulic analysis of the VSS as proposed for the Forebay of pump station SD 12, insufficient pipe size and inadequate hydraulic depth leading to installation problems were discovered. It was found that the VSS unit, as proposed, would not fit to operate effectively and efficiently in SD 12; however suitable dimensions were found at SD 11. The same held true for the TNS proposed for SD 11; while the TNS design did not meet the prevailing measurements at SD 11, it was found to match the overall dimensions of SD 12. The First Grant Amendment, to switch the VSS unit location from SD 12 to SD 11, also included a one-year extension, has been finalized and signed. The other Grant Amendment, to switch the TNS from SD 11 to SD 12, has been finalized and is currently being distributed for signatures.

At this time, accomplishments are further hindered by the discovery of an engineering shortfall associated with the third project, requiring an additional \$300,000 to complete the project. The City has secured additional funding from its General Fund, but this delay has led to the request for a one-year extension, which is currently being processed by Regional Board staff. Regional Board staff anticipates the submission of two invoices for expenditures associated with the work completed thus far.

Enforcement Unit

NPDES Facility Inspections

Jose Morales

Enforcement Unit NPDES inspectors conducted inspections at 12 facilities with NPDES Permits since **March 6, 2008**. Inspection of these facilities is a required part of the NPDES program.

Mandatory Minimum Penalty issued to the Harris Water Conditioning, INC.

Russ Colby

Complaint No. R4-2008-0004 for Mandatory Minimum Penalty in the amount of \$138,000 against Harris Water Conditioning, INC. on February 4, 2008 for violation of waste discharge requirements contained in Regional Board Orders No. R4-2002-0093, R4-2004-0073, and R4-2004-0074. On February 27, 2008 Harris Water Conditioning waived its right to a hearing on this matter and also signed a promise to pay the civil liability of \$138,000 in twelve (12) quarterly payments to the Cleanup and Abatement Account over a period of three consecutive years.

NOVs and 13267 Letters

- A 13267 Requirement to Submit Information Letter was issued to the City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works on January 31, 2008 for the January 29, 2008 unpermitted discharge of raw sewage at 689 Moulton Avenue, Los Angeles, CA. The Discharger has until March 3, 2008 to submit the required information and report to the Regional Board.
- A 13267 and Requirement to Submit Information Letter was issued to the City of Pomona on February 13, 2008 for the January 19, 2008 unpermitted discharge of raw sewage at 81 Rainbow Ridge Road, Pomona, CA. The Discharger has until March 17, 2008 to submit the required information and report to the Regional Board.
- A 13267 and Requirement to Submit Information Letter was issued to the City of Alhambra on February 15, 2008 for the February 4, 2008 unpermitted discharge of raw sewage at 3220 Balzac Street, Alhambra, CA. The Discharger has until March 19, 2008 to submit the required information and report to the Regional Board.
- A Notice of Violation was issued to KB HOME, located at 5353 River Street, Fillmore, CA, on March 3, 2008, for failing to comply with provisions of Order No. R4-2003-0111, NPDES No. CAG994004, and CI-8999. The Permittee has until April 7, 2008, to submit a report to the Regional Board.
- A Notice of Violation was issued to Maywood Mutual Water Company No. 2, located at 4421 E. 52nd Street, Maywood, CA, on February 29, 2008, for failing to comply with provisions of Order No. R4-2003-0108, NPDES No. CAG994005, and CI-9172. The Permittee has until March 31, 2008, to submit a report to the Regional Board.
- A Notice of Violation was issued to Rose Avenue Corporation (French Pioneer Bakery), located at 512 Rose Avenue, Venice, CA, on March 10, 2008, for failing to comply with the provisions of Order No. R4-2003-0111, NPDES No. CAG994004, and CI-9116. The Permittee has until April 14, 2008, to submit a report to the Regional Board.

Environmental Crimes Task Forces

Enforcement Staff

Staff continued to participate in the USEPA, LA County, Ventura County and the City of LA Environmental Crimes Task Force meetings.

Storm water Compliance Unit

Notice of Violations (NOVs) and Denial of Notice of Terminations (NOTs) – Stormwater Compliance and Enforcement

Ejigu Solomon

In February 08, unit staff issued 9 notices of violation (NOVs):

Date issued	Facility Name	Type
2/15/2008	One Carter Avenue	Construction
2/15/2008	New Century Companies, Inc.	Industrial
2/21/2008	Grand Central Recycling & Transfer Station, Inc. City of Industry construction site located at 17300 Chestnut St, Industry	Industrial, 2nd NOV Construction
2/21/2008	East LA College utility construction site	Construction
2/22/2008	State of CA construction site located at 6300 Hetzler Rd, Culver City	Construction
2/25/2008	Pardee Homes	Construction
2/27/2008	DR 66, LLC	Construction
2/28/2008	La Canada Property construction site	Construction

During the same time, staff denied a NOT application by Air Force One Museum, an industrial permittee. The industrial site was not in compliance with termination criteria set by the permit.

Watershed Management

Watershed Management Initiative Chapter

Each Regional Board has a "chapter" in a statewide document which describes the Region's watersheds and their priority water quality issues. The last update occurred in December 2007. The consolidated statewide document can serve as the basis for many funding decisions including allocating money for monitoring, TMDL development, and grant monies disbursement. Updates occur on an as-needed basis. The 2007 document can be downloaded at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regional_program/index.shtml#Watershed . In addition, there is a clickable map of the region's watersheds for information specific to each one.

Funding

Information on a wide variety of funding sources is available on the California Watershed Funding Database website at <http://calwatershedfunds.org/>. Both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties have developed Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) in order to qualify for funding under Propositions 50 and 84. The Los Angeles County IRWMP may be viewed at <http://www.lawaterplan.org/> while the Ventura County IRWMP is available at <http://www.watershedscoalition.org/> . The Los Angeles County IRWMP does not include the upper Santa Clara River. Stakeholders in that area are currently developing a separate IRWMP. More information may be found at <http://www.ladpw.org/wmd/scr/> .

Site Cleanup IV Unit

ExxonMobil Refinery, Torrance

Mohammad Zaidi

ExxonMobil is a 750-acre petroleum refining and bulk storage facility located in the City of Torrance. As a result of uncontrolled releases of petroleum fuel contaminants to the environment that have contaminated soil and groundwater, ExxonMobil is subject to Cleanup and Abatement Order Nos. 88-43, 89-136, and 95-116 for investigation and cleanup of the contamination. And to facilitate cleanup of a small area in the southeastern portion of the refinery that has high levels of hexavalent chromium, ExxonMobil is further subject to Waste Discharge Requirements specified in Order No. R4-2007-49.

In response to high levels of methane and benzene in shallow soil vapor in a residential and commercial area along Del Amo Boulevard (located along the southeastern boundary of the refinery), ExxonMobil has focused initial efforts on delineating the contamination in shallow soil and on testing for possible intrusion of contaminated vapors into buildings. In early March, one round of indoor air testing was completed on all nine residential buildings in the area of concern; staff from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (which has toxicologic expertise) has supported the Water Board by ensuring that the tests for potential indoor air intrusion were appropriately designed, conducted, and evaluated. The preliminary results of the March testing indicate that vapors are not accumulating at significant levels in indoor air due to subsurface vapor intrusion. At least two further rounds of testing are scheduled. Two community meetings, on February 19th and February 28th, have been held to inform residents of these efforts and provide status reports. Another meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-April, to brief residents on the results of indoor air testing conducted in early March.

Furthermore, staff is working with ExxonMobil on deeper investigations (of deeper soil matrix and vapor, free product, and contaminated groundwater), to clarify and update its conceptual site model and identify and abate the source of contamination. Also, the Executive Officer issued, on March 5, 2008, an addendum to the reporting requirements under the three Cleanup and Abatement Orders for ExxonMobil that directs ExxonMobil to provide additional information that will help communicate the extent of contamination and status of investigations to the community.

Landfills Unit

Notice of Violation to Vulcan Materials Company

Wen Yang

On January 30, 2008, the Regional Board Executive Officer issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Vulcan Materials Company (Vulcan) for a spill of petroleum at Vulcan's Durbin Aggregate Plant, a 335-acre aggregate quarry in the City Irwindale, California. The NOV was issued in response to an Arrest/Investigation Report prepared by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) that was forwarded to the Regional Board by the California Attorney General's Office (AG's Office) on January 7, 2008. The DFG Report documented that on January 10, 2007, at about 4:30 PM, approximately 400 gallons of Chevron Clarity Hydraulic Oil AW, a highly refined mineral oil, was spilled into a lake of exposed groundwater at the site. It took eight days before the incident was reported to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES). In response to the OES report, DFG staff inspected the Site on January 19, 2007, and observed an oil sheen on the entire surface of the lake and dead birds in the water that were later confirmed to have been killed by hydraulic oil contamination.

The Durbin site is currently regulated by waste discharge requirements (WDRs) that allow the site to be operated as an inert landfill concurrently with mining operations. Although landfill activities have not been

started, requirements of the WDRs are applicable to operations at the site. The NOV informed Vulcan that it was in violation of the WDRs for discharging a hazardous, designated, or liquid waste at the site, causing pollution and nuisance at the site, and failing to report the incident to the Regional Board as required by the WDRs. As requested by the AG's Office, who has filed criminal charges against Vulcan because of the incident, Regional Board staff will hold any further enforcement actions until the criminal case is resolved.

Grants & Loans Unit

Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program

Maryann Jones

A scoping meeting for the Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant Program (SWGP) was held at the Los Angeles Regional Board on Monday, March 10. Staff from the Los Angeles Regional Board addressed the meeting and discussed the grants program from a regional perspective. The talk emphasized the importance of having proposals that are well thought out and that meet TMDL goals and contain measurable goals, realistic timelines and target high priority pollutants. In the past grants that have not had these characteristics have tended to flounder. Problems with the grants have sometimes resulted in cancellation of the grants and on a few occasions a demand for repayment of some of the funds. Staff emphasized that it is important to be working with the Regional Board grants staff in putting together proposals.

Groundwater Permitting Program

Consultation with California Department of Public Health on Malibu WDR/WRRs.

Elizabeth Erickson

The new public works in the City of Malibu's Civic Center will require Waste Discharge and Water Reclamation Requirements with the prompt review of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) during the period when the Regional and State Boards is considering a State Policy for Recycled Water (irrigation). The CDPH personnel responsible for this collaboration were identified during a meeting between agency staffs on February 25, 2008. As a result, staff and CDPH agreed that developers for the Malibu La Paz project should provide CDPH a preliminary Title 22 Engineering Report for irrigation with recycled water based on conceptual design for review while the Report of Waste Discharge is being finalized for the Board. Without sacrifice of accuracy or detail, this agreement will allow staff to include CDPH's views while a Waste Discharge Requirement is being considered for this and other projects which utilize the remaining assimilative capacity for tertiary treated water disposal in the Civic Center.

Paradise Cove (Malibu)

Elizabeth Erickson

During the most recent inspection on February 20, 2008, the wastewater treatment system was not fully operational because the disinfection system is off-line. Due to significant design flaws, construction problems, and less than anticipated disposal capacity, plant modifications are needed. Also, part of the Regional Board's jurisdiction is shared with the CA Housing Community Development (HCD), and more interagency coordination is needed.

A spill occurred on the March 3, 2008, when non-disinfected effluent left a poorly performing seepage pit. Board staff continues to receive reports of odors from residents, most recently on March 12, 2008.

The preliminary "as-built" diagrams, which were delivered on March 5, 2008, do not document the pending modifications. The next technical meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at Paradise Cove.

Underground Storage Tanks

Charnock Sub-basin MTBE Cleanup

Weixing Tong/Jay Huang

MTBE cleanup in the Charnock Sub-basin has been ongoing. In 1996, the discovery of MTBE contamination of the City of Santa Monica's Charnock wellfield resulted in shutdown of the wellfield and consequently a loss of over 6 million gallons per day of groundwater supply – an amount equal to approximately half of the City's daily water demand. On November 21, 2003, the City of Santa Monica and three oil companies (Shell, Chevron, and ExxonMobil) reached a settlement that promises the construction of a treatment plant to restore the drinking water supply to the residents of Santa Monica from the Charnock Sub-Basin. In 2006, the city re-negotiated with the settling major oil companies (Shell, Chevron, and ExxonMobil). Under the new agreement, the city has undertaken full responsibility to build and operate the treatment plant and bring the Charnock wellfield back to productive service.

Since 1996, this Regional Board, working along with USEPA, has diligently investigated and overseen cleanup of the regional and site-specific contamination. As of October 2007, a total of 649 million gallons of groundwater in the Charnock Sub-Basin Investigation Area have been treated. To date, a total of 2,243 pounds of MTBE have been removed from groundwater and 4,258.1 pounds of MTBE from soil. In addition, 15,469 pounds of gasoline have been removed from groundwater and 245,472 pounds from soil.

To date, the site-specific cleanup is still ongoing. The construction of the treatment plant combining with source site cleanup will ensure the full restoration of groundwater production from the Charnock Sub-Basin.

In the meantime, staff have also been conducting low risk review for those Charnock sites where cleanup has been completed. From February 2004 to August 2007, staff issued "No Further Action" letter to eleven sites (PRP sites #5, #15, #16, #19, #20, #21, #24, #29, #30, #36, #37, #42 and #44). Since November 2005, vadose zone cleanup using vapor extraction system has been initiated at PRP#12, PRP#18, PRP#35 and PRP#40. Recently, soil remediation (SVE) has been completed at PRP #6 and PRP #10 sites.

For more information on the Charnock Sub-Basin cleanup, visit

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/programs/ust/charnock_mtbe.html

Or www.epa.gov/region09/charnock.

Completion of Corrective Action at Leaking Underground Fuel Storage Tank Sites

Yue Rong

Regional Board staff have reviewed corrective actions taken for soil and/or groundwater contamination problems from leaking underground storage tanks for the time of **January 30, 2008** through **March 7, 2008**, and determined that no further corrective actions are required for the following sites:

- Former Thrifty Service Station #1, Maywood (I-10921)
- Southern Wine & Spirits, Cerritos (I-15675A)
- Power Rated/Franciosi Trust, Norwalk (906500025)

For the case closure sites above, a total of **34,361** pounds of hydrocarbons were removed by the soil vapor extraction system. In addition, a total of **20** gallons of groundwater were treated.

Executive Officer issued general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)

Yue Rong

The Executive Officer, on behalf of the board, issued 2 general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) to the following two sites: (1) Nix Automotive, located in Woodland Hills (2/25/08), and (2) Jim's Texaco Facility, located in Oxnard, Ventura County (3/4/08). The WDRs issued for injection of oxygen release compounds to the impacted aquifers for in-situ groundwater cleanup, which is designed to save water resources by avoiding discharging the treated water to the ocean.

Well Investigation Program

Status Report of the San Fernando Valley Chromium VI Investigation

Dixon Oriola

Regional Board staffs of the Well Investigation Program (WIP) are close to concluding *Phase II of the Chromium VI Investigation in San Fernando Valley*. This phase of the investigation, involved sending out 106 letters were sent out on March 15, 2004, directing facilities to submit soil assessment work-plans. Staff focused on identifying specific sites that have impacted the soil with chromium and other heavy metal contaminants. Sites deemed to pose a threat to the quality of the underlying groundwater have been issued Cleanup and Abatement Orders, with more pending. Impacted site have been ordered to cleanup the soil and those with no impact have been closed.

On March 10, 2008, Regional Board staff along with other Federal, State and local agencies presented their findings to the public and the regulated community. There still remains a number of sites undergoing assessment and cleanup, but for the most part, Phase II is now transitioning into Phase III, the strictly remediation phase. More agency meeting are scheduled for later this month to address the threats posed to drinking water treatment plants in North Hollywood, Burbank and Glendale.

San Fernando Valley Inter-Agency Management Meeting

Dixon Oriola

On March 20, 2008, USEPA will host the quarterly San Fernando Valley Inter-agency Management meeting in the offices of the City of Glendale to discuss groundwater contamination issues, focusing on Chromium VI and other emergent chemicals such as 1,2,3-trichloropropane and 1,4-dioxane. Other issues discussed by Regional Board staff relate to follow-up activities on the *Chromium VI Investigation*. Resource issues that had once delayed the launch of the investigation have been resolved with the funding assistance of USEPA along with the cities of Los Angeles, Burbank and Glendale.

Status Report on Honeywell Activities in the North Hollywood Operable Unit

Larry Moore

Total chromium concentrations are still being reported above the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 50 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) well designated NHE-2. The August 2007 chromium concentration was reported at 358 $\mu\text{g/L}$. This site is under a Regional Board Cleanup & Abatement Order for past releases of VOCs, Chromium and several other chemicals. The letter approving the discharger's proposed Wellhead Treatment remedy was sent July 20, 2007. The short term remedy includes the use of ion exchange treatment combined with an Advanced Oxidation Process with the treated groundwater being discharged to a Los Angeles City owned drain connected to a sanitary sewer system. The short term remedy is tentatively scheduled to be operating by April 2008.

Honeywell is required to perform an additional site assessment work onsite and delineate the groundwater plumes offsite. The installation work on the wells was completed in February 2008. To move the cleanup forward, the discharger submitted a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) on September 17, 2007 and obtained a General Waste Discharger Requirements (WDR) permit to treat for VOCs and chromium impacted areas – onsite and offsite.

PRC-DeSoto (Courtaulds Aerospace), Glendale Operable Unit, San Fernando Valley

Larry Moore

The former PRC-DeSoto facility (Site) is under an active Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) to address past VOC and chromium releases. The Courtaulds Aerospace Corporation (discharger) will soon vacate the site by the end of 2008 because the property has been purchased for redevelopment by the Target Corporation. However, the discharger's environmental liability will remain until the site is cleaned up. The discharger (Courtaulds Aerospace) submitted a soil gas investigation workplan which was approved in October 2007. The investigation has been completed and the final report was submitted in January 2008.

The discharger has submitted a *Remedial Action Plan (RAP)* and secured Region Board staff approval for their General Waste Discharger Requirements (WDR) permit. On January 15, 2008 a meeting was held with the discharger and Target to discuss cleanup and a redevelopment schedule involving future decommissioning, demolition and remediation steps to be taken at the site, including a health risk assessment. This first phase of work is scheduled to begin sometime in March 2008.

Perchlorate Public Advisory Group Meeting

Dixon Oriola

The Los Angeles Regional Board staff continue to participate in the monthly *Perchlorate Public Advisory Group* meetings with other state-wide Regional Boards, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), USEPA, the Departments of Public Health (DPH), Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Office of Environmental Health hazard Assessment (OEHHA) and representatives of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CALEPA). We discuss regulatory developments on perchlorate and exchange information on health effects, cleanup, new laboratory analytical methods, groundwater remediation case studies and legislative actions nation-wide.

Composite Structures (Former ALCOA), Monrovia

Bizuayehu Ayele

A Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) was issued on March 12, 2003 to Composite Structures, ALCOA, Whittaker Corporation and United Technologies Corporation, jointly called the Dischargers are responsible for the contamination of the site as a result of their past operations. The Discharges were directed in the CAO to delineate soil and groundwater contamination and complete remediation.

After a series of site investigations, the major contaminants of concern (COC) in the soil were Trichloroethylene (TCE), its degradation products and chromium. Cleanup of the soil is ongoing using a Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system. The latest report for October, 2007, shows a decreasing trend for VOCs since the system was put into operation on July 1, 2003.

The groundwater was also found to be contaminated with chromium, TCE, Tetrachloroethylene (PCE), but delineation efforts are ongoing. At issue are 18 down-gradient drinking water wells that remain threatened.

San Gabriel Valley Superfund (Area 3), Alhambra, South Pasadena, and Temple City

Curt Charmley

Current regulatory USEPA and Regional Board staff work in Area 3 involves soil cleanups and identifying sites that have polluted the soil and impacted the groundwater in this Superfund area. This work, which includes investigations at over 365 sites, continues in an effort to eventually name potentially responsible parties under the Federal *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)*.

Site Cleanup Unit II

Former Clayton Industries

Carlos Ortez

This 22-acre Brownfield site has been under Regional Board oversight since 1987, when VOCs were detected in an onsite water production well as part of a USEPA Superfund investigation in the San Gabriel Valley. Since then, the site has undergone several soil and groundwater investigations, followed by soil remediation activities that continued until 1999. Clayton Industries has since been released from any obligations with respect to the groundwater contamination by USEPA for the *El Monte Operable Unit* of the San Gabriel Valley. Since then, the property has been purchased by Wohl Penwood El Monte Partners, LLC. The new property owner is finalizing cleanup activities and plans to request closure for the site within six months to a year. The existing industrial buildings and facilities are scheduled for demolition after which, the property will be redeveloped into a commercial/industrial condominium complex. Some public participation activities may be necessary due to adjacent residential areas to west of the site.

ConocoPhillips Terminal No.0381, Los Angeles

Pinaki Guha-Niyogi

Regional Board staffs have issued directive letters requesting expedited soil gas and groundwater assessments, an indoor-air survey and continued free product recovery at this site where a large gasoline plume exists. The site was recently re-inspected and down-gradient property owners informed about the ongoing investigations. Staff also discussed potential health threats posed to them as well as the occupants of their buildings due to the migration of free product from the adjoining oil terminal.

Cerro Metal Products Company, Paramount

Pinaki Guha-Niyogi

This Brownfield site was a former brass manufacturing facility, which involved the fabrication of copper and brass products. Buildings at the site were demolished in 2004. It is currently vacant and fenced dirt lot planned for redevelopment in late 2008. Soil assessment and remediation activities have been completed at the site, and groundwater remediation is in progress.

Regional Board staff sent a letter to the responsible party (RP) approving modifications to the groundwater extraction and remediation well-field in order to pave the way for redevelopment of the 26-acre site and the construction of a new 550,000 square-foot building, proposed to be used as a highly specialized warehouse facility.

Former Sunburst Cleaners, La Puente

Don Indermill

Regional Board staffs have closed the former Sunburst Cleaners site in La Puente, California. The site lies within the Puente Valley Operable Unit (PVOU) of the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Area administered by

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) under the authority of the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)* since 1986. The USEPA is the lead agency for area wide groundwater protection and cleanup.

The new status now allows the City of La Puente to collect \$800,000 in redevelopment agency funds. A major automobile dealership is planned for the site which facilitates the expansion and the retention of significant tax base for the City.

CENCO (Powerine) Refinery, Santa Fe Springs

Don Indermill

Regional Board staffs have approved work-plans for additional investigations of on-site soil, free-phase hydrocarbons, off-site soil gas, including a baseline health risk assessment. The 120-acre site represents the last parcel of former petroleum production within the City of Santa Fe Springs. The City is very interested in facilitating its redevelopment. Because a hospital and an elementary school are present within 1,000 feet of the Site, the DTSC is coordinating regulatory issues with Regional Board staff. A subsidiary of Energy Merchant Corporation now owns the land. The prospective developer is the Sares Regis Group.

Former McMillen Oil Field, City of Gardena

Carlos Ortez

The Brownfield site was once a producing oil field of about 13 acres, but now has been redeveloped into a Federal Express trucking and docking facility. Five oil wells were formerly located at the site along with associated production and storage structures (i.e., ten aboveground storage tanks and product lines all over the site). Site assessment activities began in 1995. Remediation involved limited excavations, offsite treatment and disposal of hydrocarbon impacted soils. Twelve-thousand-four-hundred tons of petroleum hydrocarbon impacted soils were excavated and bio-treated onsite and then used as fill material for grading operations. In addition, two-thousand-four-hundred-eighty tons of impacted soils were removed and treated offsite. Soil closure was recently obtained, but small amounts of residual contamination require Regional Board staff to place a deed restriction on the property until groundwater assessment and cleanup issues have been satisfactorily addressed.

The Former Western Chemical (now All Tex, Inc.), La Mirada

Greg Bishop

This is a small site near the Orange County border that lies between the I-5 Freeway and the Southern Pacific Railroad. A very large release of various hazardous chemicals occurred at this site years ago and delineation efforts geared towards determining the scope of impact to the soil and groundwater continue. Coincidentally, CALTRANS is widening the I-5 Freeway and is coordinating their activities with the Regional Board where shallow groundwater exists.

Personnel Report

As of April 3, 2008 our staff total is 146: 129 technical staff (including 2 part-time staff), 7 permanent analytical staff and 10 permanent clerical staff.

The following appointments were made:

Elisha Wakefield, Environmental Scientist, Regional Programs Section, effective December 14, 2007.

Sara Michael, Environmental Scientist, Groundwater Permits/Cleanup Section, effective January 7, 2008.

Afshin Nick Amini, Water Resource Control Engineer, Remediation Section, effective January 14, 2008.

Daniel Gillette, Engineering Geologist, Remediation Section, effective January 14, 2008.

Ann Chang, Water Resource Control Engineer, Remediation Section, effective January 28, 2008.

Cathy Chang, Water Resource Control Engineer, Watershed Regulatory Section, effective January 28, 2008.

Gregory Bishop, Engineering Geologist, Remediation Section, effective January 29, 2008.

Bizuayehu Ayele, Engineering Geologist, Remediation Section, effective February 19, 2008.