

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2005

Contact: Tom Pinkos
916-464-3291

Regional Water Board Settles Dry Cleaning Pollution Case

Sacramento-The Federal Court for the Eastern District of California Wednesday approved a settlement between the City of Lodi and others to clean up dry cleaning solvent found in the soil and groundwater at the Busy Bee dry cleaning site in Lodi.

The \$475,000 settlement removes the dry cleaning parties from the lawsuit brought by the city in 2000, against area businesses for groundwater contamination throughout the city.

"Good things happen when people work together to improve water quality. The Busy Bee parties, the City of Lodi and our Regional Water Board staff have focused in on this goal. They are making real progress in environmental clean up and are to be commended," said Bob Schneider, Chairman of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Under the settlement, current and former owners and operators of the Busy Bee site will place \$475,000 in a trust account to fund a "Pay for Performance" contract with E2C Remediation.

The contract requires E2C Remediation to clean up the site and to meet the Central Valley Regional Water Board's cleanup goals.

The settlement includes a \$100,000 contingency fund if cleanup costs exceed \$475,000. If cleanup costs are more than \$575,000, the City of Lodi will take responsibility for cleaning up the site.

###