
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

This will serve as notice that the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the following project in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Project Title: General Waste Discharge Requirements for In-Situ Groundwater Remediation and Groundwater Re-injection.

Project location: Throughout the Regional Board's jurisdiction, including portions of Los Angeles, Ventura, and Kern Counties.

Project Description: The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), proposes to adopt General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for groundwater remediation at sites impacted by discharges of waste, including petroleum hydrocarbon fuel, volatile organic compounds and inorganic contaminants. Pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Cal. Water Code §§ 13000 et seq.), the Regional Board adopted General Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R4-2002-0030 (General WDRs) on January 24, 2002, that regulated discharges of waste associated with groundwater remediation at petroleum hydrocarbon fuel, volatile organic compound and/or hexavalent chromium impacted sites. Those General WDRs have been revised by Order No. R4-2005-0030 adopted on May 5, 2005, and by Order No. R4-2007-0019, adopted on March 1, 2007. Order No. R4-2007-0019 authorized the use of a variety of materials allowed for in-situ remediation purposes, including oxidation/aerobic degradation enhancement compounds, reducing/reductive degradation enhancement compounds, inorganics/nutrients, carbon sources/electron donors, and study tracer compounds. Subsequent to adoption of the initial General WDRs, these WDRs have been revised to include the use of additional treatment compounds, including ozone and use of trace materials. This Regional Board intends to adopt revised General WDRs to accommodate the new materials that have been effectively used to remediate wastes in groundwater and soil.

Wastes, including petroleum hydrocarbon fuel, volatile organic compounds and inorganic contaminants, have impacted groundwater at various sites throughout the Los Angeles Region and cause or threaten to cause adverse impacts to existing and potential beneficial uses of the region's groundwater resources. Remediation/cleanup of groundwater at these sites includes the use and application of chemical, biological, and physical treatment processes, such as oxygen enhanced process, chemical oxidation, chemical reduction, nutrient or chemical addition for enhanced biodegradation, or groundwater pump and treat technology with the return of treated groundwater to the same aquifer zone in some cases. The application of these materials may result in discharges of waste that could impact the beneficial uses. The proposed general WDRs authorize the application of these materials and contain conditions to minimize impacts caused by

the application of the materials and require compliance with water quality standards. The adoption of general WDRs for in-situ groundwater remediation/cleanup or the extraction of polluted groundwater with above ground treatment and the return of treated groundwater to the same aquifer zone would: (a) simplify the application process for dischargers, (b) allow more efficient use of Regional Board staff time, (c) reduce Regional Board time by enabling the Executive Officer to notify the discharger of the applicability of the General WDRs, (d) enhance the protection of surface water quality by eliminating the discharge of treated groundwater to surface waters, (e) preserve water resources by re-injection of treated groundwater into aquifers, and f) provide a level of protection comparable to individual, site-specific WDRs.

An Initial Study has been conducted by the Regional Board, which documents the reasons to support the Finding of the Mitigated Negative Declaration that the project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. The Initial Study and the Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file at the address above and are available for public examination at the Regional Board, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All interested agencies, groups and persons wishing to respond to the finding of Mitigated Negative Declaration are invited to submit written comments to 320 West 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California, 90013, for consideration by this Regional Board on or before July 21, 2014. For information, please call Dr. Eric Wu at (213) 576-6683 or email him at eric.wu@waterboards.ca.gov.

Samuel Unger, P.E.
Executive Officer
Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region