

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO.
LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT
EASTLAKE SANITARY LANDFILL
LAKE COUNTY

Lake County Public Services Department (Discharger) owns and operates the Eastlake Sanitary Landfill located at the eastern edge of the City of Clearlake in Lake County. Approximately 35-acres are dedicated to refuse disposal. The facility serves all of Lake County and has been in operation as a landfill since 1972. The facility consists of an unlined Class III landfill unit, a lined Class III landfill unit and a lined Class II surface impoundment used for leachate storage. Other site features include a clean closed burn dump, a clean closed empty pesticide container area, and a closed triple-rinsed empty pesticide container area.

During 1998, the Board approved an engineered alternative single composite liner system design that uses a geosynthetic clay liner in place of two-feet of compacted clay for the lined Area II landfill unit that is immediately adjacent to the unlined Area I landfill unit. The Discharger installed the approved liner system in Module 1 of the Area II landfill during 1999. Module 1 includes the entire base liner system for Area II and the side-slope liner up to the first bench. The Discharger installed Module 2 (which is entirely an extension of the side slope liner) during 2003 following Regional Water Board approval of the liner performance demonstration for the Module 2 in 2002.

During July 2006, the Discharger proposed to begin accepting treated wood waste and non-friable asbestos at the landfill. This Order allows the discharge of treated wood waste provided it is handled and disposed of in accordance with the provisions outlined in Sections 25143.1.5, 25150.7, and 25150.8 of the Health and Safety Code, and is discharged only to the Area II landfill that is equipped with a composite liner system and an leachate collection and removal system. This Order also allows the discharge to non-friable asbestos at the landfill.

Low levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are currently present in four groundwater monitoring wells at concentrations of less than one microgram per liter. This situation became significantly more evident during 2005 when the VOCs increased significantly in number, and were detected in four wells (MW-5, MW-8, MW-13, and MW-14) up from previously being detected in two wells (MW-5 and MW-13). At the request of Regional Water Board staff, the Discharger began investigating the source and transport mechanism for the VOCs during the Fall of 2005. Although the results showed that soil gas inside and outside of the unlined landfill unit contained high levels of methane and up to 30 VOCs, the Discharger concluded that there was not a clear correlation between the presence of VOCs in soil gas and those in groundwater. During June 2006, Regional Water Board staff approved a work plan submitted by the Discharger to conduct another investigation to more precisely determine the transport mechanism of VOCs to groundwater (leachate, landfill gas, or both). The investigation consists of installing two groundwater monitoring wells and two landfill gas probes within the unlined landfill and monitoring them quarterly for a one-year period. Following this investigation, the Discharger will analyze the results and assess corrective action options to control the source of the VOCs and remediate impacted groundwater. This Order includes a time schedule for the Discharger to assess the transport mechanism of the VOCs and to implement source control and groundwater remediation.

Surface water drainage from the landfill is to Molesworth Creek that is tributary to Clear Lake.

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