

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER R5-201X-XXXX
COUNTY OF TULARE
POSTCLOSURE MAINTENANCE
WOODLAKE LANDFILL
TULARE COUNTY

The County of Tulare (Discharger) owns and maintains the closed Woodlake Landfill (Facility), located in Tulare County, approximately one mile southwest of the City of Woodlake. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 5-01-199 on 27 July 2001. The Central Valley Water Board issued Order No. 96-044 in which the facility was classified as Class III waste disposal site as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 27 (Title 27), section 20005 et seq. On 27 July 2001, the Central Valley Water Board issued Order No. 5-01-199, which continued to classify the facility as Class III waste disposal site. The proposed revised Order provides for continuing postclosure maintenance.

The 25.5-acre Facility consists of one unlined waste management unit (WMU) covering approximately 16.4 acres. The Facility was operated using burn and bury disposal methods between 1969 and 1971. After 1971, trench and area fill methods were utilized for disposal within the WMU. Disposal operations ceased in 1981. The Facility is a “closed, abandoned, or inactive” (CAI) unit because closure occurred prior to 27 November 1984, in accordance with Title 27, section 20164.

The Facility may be located in a transitional zone between areas of unconfined groundwater to the west and northwest and an area where groundwater is separated by a clayey-silt/silty-clay layer into an upper and lower zone to the north, northeast, and south. However, it does not appear that the clayey-silt/silty-clay layer is contiguous beneath the Facility and separates groundwater into confined and unconfined groundwater zones. Groundwater elevations range between 372 and 382 feet above mean seas level (MSL) depending on location at the Facility. The first encountered groundwater is unconfined.

Groundwater sampling conducted in 1988 resulted in detections of 1,1-dichloroethane (1,1-DCA) and methylene chloride. Subsequent sampling in 1992 and 1993 resulted in detections of dichlorofluoromethane (Freon 12), cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene (PCE), and trichloroethylene (TCE). Subsequent to these detections, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have only been detected on rare occasions. With the exception of bis(2-ethylhexyl)phythalate (which was detected in 2013 but not in confirmation samples) and methyl chloride (a common laboratory contaminant), the only VOCs detected in the last ten years are Freon 12 (in 2007) and PCE (in 2007 and 2011) at trace concentrations. The Discharger was issued a Notice of Violation on 20 May 2009 in response to reported exceedances of inorganic compounds in groundwater at the Landfill. In November 2009, a Demonstration Report was subsequently prepared and submitted. The Demonstration Report stated that the causes of the reported inorganic exceedances were the result of seasonal changes in groundwater conditions across the facility and misinterpretation of the statistical analyses. The Demonstration Report recommended maintaining the Detection Monitoring Program.