
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

PUBLIC NOTICE CLOSURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CASE

This will serve as notice that the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) staff (Staff) is soliciting comments from the public regarding the pending closure of an environmental case for a developed property located at 537 Meyers Avenue, Gridley, Butte County.

SUBJECT SITE:

537 Meyers Avenue, Gridley, Butte County (Site).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENT PERIOD:

21 July 2026 – 20 August 2026.

SUMMARY:

Based on analysis of site-specific conditions under current and reasonably anticipated near-term future scenarios the Site does not pose a significant threat to human health and the environment.

SETTING:

The Site consists of a residence with a domestic well on the north side of the property and a workshop and truck yard on the south side. An office building was formerly located north of the workshop and south of the residence. There is an above ground fuel storage tank between the workshop and the truck and trailer yard.

Adjacent properties include an orchard and fruit packing facility to the east across Meyers Avenue, a residence to the northeast across Meyers Avenue, a residence and dog rescue facility north of the Site, an orchard across Highway 99 to the west, and a restaurant across Turner Avenue to the south. These adjacent properties have domestic, supply, and/or irrigation wells. The Morrison Slough is approximately 1,070ft to the northwest of the Site at the shortest distance between a Site boundary and the nearest part of the Slough.

The Site geology consists of topsoil overlying clay that extends down to at least 80 ft below ground surface based on the well log for the Site. There are lenses of sand and silt in other neighboring well logs.

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Regional groundwater generally flows to the southeast according to 2024 and 2025 groundwater elevation data from the [SGMA Data Viewer](https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#gwlevels) website at (<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#gwlevels>).

INVESTIGATION AND REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES:

Staff opened this case in 2018 in response to detections of 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) concentrations above the 5 part per trillion (ppt) California Maximum Contaminant Level in the Manzanita Elementary School supply well located 1.3 miles northeast of the Site. Staff began investigating fertilizer and pesticide companies in southeast Gridley to determine if their sales or handling practices could have resulted in a spill of TCP.

At the request of Staff, Geosyntec prepared the 30 August 2018 Historical Activities Report (Report) on behalf of Wilbur-Ellis Company, LLC (Wilbur-Ellis).

According to the Report, Wilbur-Ellis Feed Division operated the Site from 2010 to 2015, but never owned the property. Wilbur-Ellis employee, Brannon Byrne leased the Site from the property owner, Leigh Ann Jones, and subleased the south side of the property to Wilbur-Ellis Feed Division. The Report states that the Feed Division operations are separate from the Agribusiness Division that handles pesticides.

According to the Report, Byrne used the workshop on-Site for personal vehicle maintenance and other unspecified personal uses.

The Report states that Byrne was not aware of any agricultural chemical storage or handling on Site during Wilbur-Ellis operations.

Past owner and operation information for the Site are unknown according to the Report.

In an 8 October 2024 email, Geosyntec requested case closure and removal of the case from GeoTracker for the Site, referencing the Report that states that no agricultural chemicals have been used or stored on-Site. For transparency, Staff does not remove cases from GeoTracker, even after being closed, therefore, Staff denied that request.

In October 2025, Staff sampled the domestic well on-Site to determine the eligibility for case closure. The samples were analyzed for TCP by Environmental Protection Agency Method SRL 524M-TCP, a method commonly used for drinking water with a reporting limit of 5 ppt of TCP. TCP was not detected in the sample at or above the reporting limit and MCL of 5ppt.

Upon review of the laboratory report and data, Staff concurs with the Geosyntec recommendation to close the case due to a lack of threat to human health and the environmental associated with current and reasonably anticipated near-term future scenarios of the Site.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

General information regarding the Site can be obtained from the State Water Resources Control Board's [GeoTracker Website](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/). (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/). Please enter **T10000017079** into the search bar for more information about this case.

All interested agencies, groups and persons wishing to comment on the pending case closure must provide these comments in writing. The comments should be submitted by **20 August 2026** to the Central Valley Water Board's office at 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002.

Please contact me at (530) 224-4852, William.Bergmann@Waterboards.ca.gov, or the footer address with questions or comments.