

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
August 12, 2009

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: Information Item: Mission Valley Terminal Cleanup Status Report. Kinder-Morgan Energy Partners is in the process of cleaning up gasoline constituents in soil and groundwater that leaked from the Mission Valley Terminal to the adjacent Qualcomm Stadium property. The Board will hear reports from Regional Board staff, Kinder-Morgan Energy Partners, and the City of San Diego on the status of the cleanup. (Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 92-01) (Sean McClain)

PUBLIC NOTICE: There are no public noticing requirements for this item.

DISCUSSION: The Mission Valley Terminal (MVT) is a fuel storage facility and pipeline transfer station for all of the fuel (gasoline, diesel fuel, and jet fuel) that is supplied to San Diego and the surrounding areas. As a result of historical petroleum storage and distribution operations since the 1960's, soil and groundwater in the vicinity of the MVT have been impacted by accidental releases of gasoline (Supporting Document 1). While these leaks and spills originated on the Terminal property, the impacts to soil and groundwater extend off the terminal property, including the area beneath the Qualcomm stadium and surrounding parking lots.

The City of San Diego (City) is in the planning stages of developing a water supply project using groundwater in the alluvial aquifer of the Mission Valley. The location of the project may be in the area impacted by the gasoline spill. The City is concerned that the cleanup be completed as quickly as possible and not impede its development of the aquifer for local water supply.

The Regional Board issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. 92-01 in 1992 to direct the investigation and cleanup of the contamination at MVT. The CAO required the Discharger, Kinder-Morgan Energy Partners (Kinder-Morgan), to remove gasoline and install the multi-phase system that is currently removing dissolved, liquid, and vapor

phase gasoline constituents from the subsurface on and off of the MVT property. The Regional Board adopted Addendum No. 5 to the CAO in 2005 which required compliance dates for cleanup and abatement of groundwater pollution beyond the terminal property (Supporting Document 2). By December 31, 2010, the Dischargers must remove residual gasoline from soil and groundwater and, by December 31, 2013, the Dischargers must reduce concentrations of dissolved phase fuel constituents to attain background water quality conditions.

To meet the cleanup deadlines, Kinder-Morgan is implementing a Corrective Action Plan as required by the CAO. Extensive cleanup activities have taken place since 1999. As of January 30, 2009, the remediation and monitoring system consists of:

#### **Hydraulic Containment and Groundwater Extraction (GWE) Wells**

Three groundwater extraction wells are located on the terminal/Qualcomm stadium property boundary. These three groundwater extraction wells provide a hydraulic barrier to prevent further migration of contamination from the terminal to off-terminal areas.

Sixteen groundwater extraction wells are located in the off-terminal area. The purpose of these wells is to remove contaminated groundwater and lower the water table to expose contaminated soil and enhance the effectiveness of the vapor extraction system. Approximately 500,000 gallons of groundwater per day is pumped, treated, and discharged to Murphy Canyon Creek.

#### **Soil Vapor Extraction Wells**

A total of 172 soil vapor extraction wells are being used to remove hydrocarbons from soil.

#### **Groundwater Monitoring Wells**

A total of 79 groundwater monitoring wells are located on-terminal and 141 are located off-terminal to evaluate the effectiveness of the multi-phase cleanup and to evaluate compliance with CAO directives for off-terminal areas.

Kinder-Morgan is providing detailed quarterly groundwater monitoring and cleanup progress reports. Additionally, it provides annual reports evaluating the cleanup progress. As

of January 30, 2009, Kinder-Morgan reported a total of 661,098 pounds of hydrocarbons had been removed from soil and groundwater.

The City is a key stakeholder in this cleanup because it owns property (Qualcomm Stadium) overlying contaminated soil and groundwater, and because it plans to develop a water supply project in the area impacted by the gasoline spill. The City submitted a letter to Regional Board Chair Richard Wright at the July 2009 Board meeting in Dana Point requesting intervention by the Regional Board. Specifically, the letter requested the Regional Board to direct staff to work with City representatives to explore the feasibility of re-injecting treated groundwater to accelerate the remediation of the contaminated aquifer (Supporting Document 3).

The Regional Board Assistant Executive Officer responded to the City in a letter dated July 16, 2009 (Supporting Document 4). Although the City discounts the many meetings and levels of communication between the City and Regional Board staff, the City's central issue appears to be over a technical disagreement whether the treated groundwater re-injection approach would enhance and expedite the existing cleanup project. Regional Board staff, the Regional Board's expert consultants, and Kinder-Morgan and its consultants do not agree on a technical basis that the City's re-injection approach will enhance or accelerate the cleanup process.

- LEGAL CONCERNS: On August 14, 2007, the City of San Diego filed a lawsuit against Kinder-Morgan Energy Partners.
- SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:
1. Mission Valley Terminal Cleanup Status Report and Site Map.
  2. Addendum No. 5 to the CAO.
  3. City of San Diego Letter to Dr. Richard Wright, Chairman dated June 25, 2009.
  4. Assistant Executive Officer's Letter of Response to City of San Diego dated July 16, 2009.
- RECOMMENDATION(S): The Board will not be taking action on this informational item.