

State Water Resources Control Board

**UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) CASE CLOSURE SUMMARY**

**Agency Information**

Agency Name: Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board)	Address: 320 West 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013
Agency Caseworker: Noman Chowdhury	Case No.: R-10316

**Case Information**

UST Cleanup Fund (Fund) Claim No.: 4225	Global ID: T0603704927
Site Name: G & M Oil #16	Site Address: 12559 Lambert Road Whittier, CA 90606 (Site)
Responsible Party: G & M Oil Company Attention: Liz Samano-Goff	Address: 16868 A Street Huntington Beach, CA 92647
Fund Expenditures to Date: \$1,259,239	Number of Years Case Open: 28

**URL:** [http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=T0603704927](http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0603704927)

**Summary**

**This case has been proposed for closure by the State Water Resources Control Board at the request of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, which concurs with closure.**

The Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy (Policy) contains general and media-specific criteria, and cases that meet those criteria are appropriate for closure pursuant to the Policy. This case meets all of the required criteria of the Policy.

The Site currently operates as a retail fueling station in the city of Whittier. A release was identified in 1991 during exploratory drilling to evaluate the feasibility of installing a vadose zone UST monitoring system. In March 1996, spill and overflow prevention devices were installed on three gasoline and one diesel USTs. In May 1999, a 550-gallon waste-oil UST and its associated piping were removed from the Site. Tightness tests conducted on the USTs in September 2001 resulted in repairs to one of the gasoline USTs. A reported total of 6,834 gallons of impacted groundwater containing an estimated total of 69 gallons of free product were removed by hand bailing from four monitoring wells between 1997 and 2001. An additional 96.6 gallons of impacted groundwater containing 5 gallons of free product were hand bailed from three wells between June 2012 to April 2015. Oxygen release compound filter socks were installed for a one-year period from February 2003-March 2004 at two monitoring wells and an in-situ submerged oxygen curtain pilot study was conducted from June 2008 to October 2009. Monitoring wells indicate groundwater near the source release area contained

benzene and methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) concentrations above regional Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) as of December 2017.

Residual petroleum constituents in soil are limited to deeper than 30 feet bgs, indicating a low risk via direct contact and air exposure pathways. Groundwater monitoring data indicate benzene and MTBE remain higher than WQOs in source area but have shown declining trends and water quality objectives are projected to be met within a reasonable time period. Remaining petroleum constituents are limited, stable, and decreasing. Additional assessment would be unnecessary and will not likely change the conceptual model. Any remaining petroleum constituents do not pose significant risk to human health, safety, or the environment under current conditions.

### Rationale for Closure Under the Policy

- General Criteria – Site **MEETS ALL EIGHT GENERAL CRITERIA** under the Policy.
- Groundwater Media-Specific Criteria – Site meets the criteria in **Class 4**. The contaminant plume that exceeds water quality objectives is less than 1,000 feet in length. There is no free product. The nearest existing water supply well or surface water body is greater than 1,000 feet from the defined plume boundary. The dissolved concentration of benzene is less than 1,000 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), and the dissolved concentration of methyl-tert butyl ether is less than 1,000  $\mu\text{g/L}$ .
- Petroleum Vapor Intrusion to Indoor Air – Site meets **Criteria 2 (a), Scenario 2**. There is a bioattenuation zone that provides a separation of at least 30 feet both laterally and vertically between the Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid in soil and the foundation of existing or potential buildings. Concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline and diesel combined in soil are less than 100 milligrams per kilogram throughout the entire depth of the bioattenuation zone.
- Direct Contact and Outdoor Air Exposure – Site meets **Criteria 3 (a)**. Maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil from confirmation soil samples are less than or equal to those listed in Table 1 of the Policy.

There are no soil sample results in the case record for naphthalene. However, the relative concentration of naphthalene in soil can be conservatively estimated using the published relative concentrations of naphthalene and benzene in gasoline. Taken from Potter and Simmons (1998), gasoline mixtures contain approximately 2% benzene and 0.25% naphthalene. Therefore, benzene concentrations can be used as a surrogate for naphthalene concentrations with a safety factor of eight. Benzene concentrations from the Site are below the naphthalene thresholds in Table 1 of the Policy. Therefore, estimated naphthalene concentrations meet the thresholds in Table 1 and the Policy criteria for direct contact with a safety factor of eight. It is highly unlikely that naphthalene concentrations in the soil, if any, exceed the threshold.

G & M Oil #16  
12559 Lambert Road, Whittier

**Recommendation for Closure**

The corrective action performed at this Site ensures the protection of human health, safety, the environment. The corrective action performed at this Site is consistent with chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, implementing regulations, applicable state policies for water quality control and applicable water quality control plans. Case closure is recommended.



Matthew Cohen, PG No. 9077  
Senior Engineering Geologist



1/11/19  
Date