STATE OF CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

ORDER WQ 2013-0038-UST

In the Matter of Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25296.40 and the Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy

BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR1:

By this order, the Executive Director directs closure of the underground storage tank (UST) case at the site listed below, pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 25296.40 of the Health and Safety Code.² The name of the petitioner, the site name, the site address, the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (Fund) claim number if applicable, the lead agency, and case number are as follows:

Mr. Steven Anenberg
Palm Springs Oil Company No. 4
166 North Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, Riverside County
Fund Claim No. 12744
Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board, Case No. 7T2263001

I. STATUTORY AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

Upon receipt of a petition from a UST owner, operator, or other responsible party, section 25296.40 authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to close or require closure of a UST case where an unauthorized release has occurred, if the State Water Board determines that corrective action at the site is in compliance with all of the

¹ State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0061 delegates to the Executive Director the authority to close or require the closure of any UST case if the case meets the criteria found in the State Water Board's Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy adopted by State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0016.

² Unless otherwise noted, all references are to the California Health and Safety Code.

requirements of subdivisions (a) and (b) of section 25296.10. The State Water Board, or in certain cases the State Water Board Executive Director, may close a case or require the closure of a UST case. Closure of a UST case is appropriate where the corrective action ensures the protection of human health, safety, and the environment and where the corrective action is consistent with: 1) Chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety Code and implementing regulations; 2) Any applicable waste discharge requirements or other orders issued pursuant to division 7 of the Water Code; 3) All applicable state policies for water quality control; and 4) All applicable water quality control plans.

State Water Board staff has completed a review of the UST case identified above, and recommends that this case be closed. The recommendation is based upon the facts and circumstances of this particular UST case. A UST Case Closure Summary has been prepared for the case identified above and the basis for determining compliance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closures (Low-Threat Closure Policy or Policy) are explained in the Case Closure Summary.

A. Low-Threat Closure Policy

In State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0016, the State Water Board adopted the Low-Threat Closure Policy. The Policy became effective on August 17, 2012. The Policy establishes consistent statewide case closure criteria for certain low-threat petroleum UST sites. In the absence of unique attributes or site-specific conditions that demonstrably increase the risk associated with residual petroleum constituents, cases that meet the general and media-specific criteria in the Low-Threat Closure Policy pose a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment and are appropriate for closure under Health and Safety Code section 25296.10. The Policy provides that if a regulatory agency determines that a case meets the general and media-specific criteria of the Policy, then the regulatory agency shall notify responsible parties and other specified interested persons that the case is eligible for case closure. Unless the regulatory agency revises its determination based on comments received on the proposed case closure, the Policy provides that the agency shall issue a uniform closure letter as specified in Health and Safety Code section 25296.10. The uniform closure letter may only be issued after the expiration of the 60-day comment period, proper destruction or maintenance of monitoring wells or borings, and removal of waste associated with investigation and remediation of the site.

Health and Safety Code section 25299.57, subdivision (I)(1) provides that claims for reimbursement of corrective action costs that are received by the Fund more than 365 days

after the date of a uniform closure letter or a letter of commitment, whichever occurs later, shall not be reimbursed unless specified conditions are satisfied.

II. FINDINGS

Based upon the UST Case Closure Review Summary Report prepared for the case attached hereto, the State Water Board finds that corrective action taken to address the unauthorized release of petroleum at the UST release site identified as:

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ensures protection of human health, safety, and the environment and is consistent with chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety Code and implementing regulations, the Low-Threat Closure Policy and other water quality control policies and applicable water quality control plans.

Pursuant to the Low-Threat Closure Policy, notification has been provided to all entities that are required to receive notice of the proposed case closure, a 60-day comment period has been provided to notified parties, and any comments received have been considered by the State Water Board in determining that the case should be closed.

The UST case identified above may be the subject of orders issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Water Board (Regional Water Board) pursuant to division 7 of the Water Code. Any orders that have been issued by the Regional Water Board pursuant to division 7 of the Water Code, or directives issued by a Local Oversight Program (LOP) agency for this case should be rescinded to the extent they are inconsistent with this Order.

III. ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

A. The UST case identified in Section II of this Order, meeting the general and media-specific criteria established in the Low-Threat Closure Policy, be closed in accordance with the following conditions and after the following actions are complete. Prior to the issuance of a uniform closure letter, the Petitioner is ordered to:

- 1. Properly destroy monitoring wells and borings unless the owner of real property on which the well or boring is located certifies that the wells or borings will be maintained in accordance with local or state requirements;
- 2. Properly remove from the site and manage all waste piles, drums, debris, and other investigation and remediation derived materials in accordance with local or state requirements; and
- 3. Within six months of the date of this Order, submit documentation to the regulatory agency overseeing the UST case identified in section II of this Order that the tasks in subparagraphs (1) and (2) have been completed.
- B. The tasks in subparagraphs (1) and (2) of Paragraph (A) are ordered pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25296.10 and failure to comply with these requirements may result in the imposition of civil penalties pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25299 subdivision (d)(1). Penalties may be imposed administratively by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board.
- C. Within 30 days of receipt of proper documentation from the Petitioner that requirements in subparagraphs (1) and (2) of Paragraph (A) are complete, the regulatory agency that is responsible for oversight of the UST case identified in Section II of this Order shall notify the State Water Board that the tasks have been satisfactorily completed.
- D. Within 30 days of notification from the regulatory agency that the tasks are complete pursuant to Paragraph (C), the Deputy Director of the Division of Water Quality shall issue a uniform closure letter consistent with Health and Safety Code, section 25296.10, subdivision (g) and upload the uniform closure letter and UST Case Closure Review Summary Report to GeoTracker.
- E. Pursuant to section 25299.57, subdivision (I) (1), and except in specified circumstances, all claims for reimbursement of corrective action costs must be received by the Fund within 365 days of issuance of the uniform closure letter in order for the costs to be considered.

F. Any Regional Water Board or LOP agency directive or order that directs corrective action or other action inconsistent with case closure for the UST case identified in Section II is rescinded, but only to the extent the Regional Water Board order or LOP agency directive is inconsistent with this Order.

Executive Director





State Water Resources Control Board

UST CASE CLOSURE SUMMARY

Agency information

Agency Name: Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board)	Address: 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260
Agency Caseworker: Robert E. Jones	Case No.: 7T2263001

Case Information

USTCF Claim No.: 12744	Global ID: T0606501052	
Site Name: Palm Springs Oil Company No. 4		
	Palm Springs, CA 92263 (Site)	
Petitioner: Steven Anenberg	Address: 3410 East Foothill Boulevard,	
	Pasadena, CA 91107-3113	
USTCF Expenditures to Date: \$566,055	Number of Years Case Open: 16	

URL: http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0606501052

Summary

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 Site meets all of the required criteria of the Policy. A summary evaluation of compliance with the Policy is shown in Attachment 1: Compliance with State Water Board Policies and State Law. The Conceptual Site Model upon which the evaluation of the case has been made is described in Attachment 2: Summary of Basic Site Information. Highlights of the Conceptual Site Model of the Site follow:

There is currently an operating service station on site. Long-term vapor extraction testing/remediation commenced in July 2006 and was completed in November 2006. The system removed an estimated 6,632 pounds of petroleum constituents from the subsurface. Results from the long-term vapor extraction testing/remediation indicated that the majority of residual petroleum constituents had been removed and that the installation/operation of a fixed soil vapor extraction system did not appear warranted.

Water table has declined more than 40 feet since 2000. Historically, the depth to groundwater is greater than 240 feet below ground surface (bgs). All wells are currently dry. Two replacement wells were constructed to replace wells that had gone dry. Evaluating the impact to the groundwater for all wells has yielded the same result showing nearly no impact to the groundwater. Elevated levels of petroleum constituents are limited to fine-grained soil with low permeability at 30 to 80 feet bgs.

Analytical data from groundwater samples have demonstrated that total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg), methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE), and benzene have been either non-detect or have established a decreasing concentration trend in all monitoring wells prior to going dry.

Rationale for Closure under the Policy

- General Criteria Site meets all eight general criteria under the Policy.
- Groundwater Site meets the Policy Groundwater-Specific Class "1".
- Petroleum Vapor Intrusion to Indoor Air Site meets the exception for vapor intrusion to indoor air. The Site is operated an active commercial fueling facility and has no release characteristics that can be reasonably believed to pose an unacceptable health risk.
- Direct Contact and Outdoor Air Exposure Site meets the Policy Class "a". Maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil are less than or equal to those listed in Table 1 of the Policy. The estimated naphthalene concentrations in soil meet the thresholds in Table 1 for direct contact by a factor of eight. It is highly unlikely that naphthalene concentrations in the soil, if any, exceed the threshold.

Objections to Closure

Regional Water Board staff objected to underground storage tank (UST) case closure because:

1. Residual soil contamination may have the potential to threaten groundwater quality and public health.

Response: Soil analytical data indicated that elevated levels of petroleum constituents are limited to fine-grained soil with low permeability at 30 to 80 feet bgs and that concentrations decrease to residual or non-detect at depth greater than 80 feet bgs. The remaining mass of residual petroleum constituents is limited to soil below the former USTs. In addition, the water table is now greater than 240 feet bgs. TPHg, benzene, and MTBE in groundwater have been either non-detect or have established a decreasing concentration trend at or near water quality objectives (WQOs) in all wells prior to going dry. These facts indicate that the plume of petroleum constituents emanating from the UST excavations is degrading. Two replacement wells were constructed to replace wells that had gone dry to evaluate the impact to the groundwater and have yielded results showing nearly no impact to the groundwater.

Based on these conditions, the residual petroleum constituents that remain only pose a low threat to human health, safety, or the environment and will not adversely affect the beneficial use of the groundwater in the area.

2. Current groundwater conditions are unknown.

Response: Analytical data from soil and groundwater samples indicated that petroleum constituents in soil and groundwater have been degraded through natural attenuation processes. TPHg, benzene, and MTBE in groundwater have been either non-detect or have established a decreasing concentration trend at or near WQOs in all monitoring wells prior to going dry. All

monitoring wells are currently dry and therefore, continuation of groundwater sampling is not necessary. Replacement wells were constructed twice to keep up with dropping water table and each time before going dry, these replacement wells showed little to no groundwater impact.

3. Additional remediation is needed.

<u>Response:</u> Additional remediation is not necessary because the remedial actions undertaken by the petitioner, including excavation and soil vapor extraction, have removed approximately 6,632 pounds of petroleum constituents. The remaining mass of residual petroleum constituents will be difficult and costly to remove. It is limited to soil above the water table and in the immediate vicinity of the former USTs.

Based on groundwater analytical data from the record, TPHg, benzene, and MTBE in groundwater have been either non-detect or have established a decreasing concentration trend in all monitoring wells prior to going dry. Therefore, remedial actions have mitigated any threat to public health, safety, or environment that may have existed.

Recommendation for Closure

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

Prepared By:

Trinh Pham

Water Resource Control Engineer

Reviewed By:

George Lockwood, PE#59556

Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

4/11/

Date

Date



ATTACHMENT 1: COMPLIANCE WITH STATE WATER BOARD POLICIES AND STATE LAW

The Site complies with the State Water Resources Control Board policies and state law. Section 25296.10 of the Health and Safety Code requires that sites be cleaned up to protect human health, safety, and the environment. Based on available information, any residual petroleum constituents at the Site do not pose significant risk to human health, safety, or the environment.

The Site complies with the requirements of the Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure Policy as described below.¹

Is corrective action consistent with Chapter 6.7 of the Health and Safety Code and implementing regulations? The corrective action provisions contained in Chapter 6.7 of the Health and Safety Code and the implementing regulations govern the entire corrective action process at leaking UST sites. If it is determined, at any stage in the corrective action process, that UST case closure is appropriate, further compliance with corrective action requirements is not necessary. Corrective action at this Site has been consistent with Chapter 6.7 of the Health and Safety Code and implementing regulations and, since this case meets applicable case-closure requirements, further corrective action is not necessary, unless the activity is necessary for case closure.	⊠ Yes □ No
Have waste discharge requirements or any other orders issued pursuant to Division 7 of the Water Code been issued at this Site?	☐ Yes ☒ No
If so, was the corrective action performed consistent with any order?	□ Yes □ No ☒ NA
General Criteria General criteria that must be satisfied by all candidate sites:	
Is the unauthorized release located within the service area of a public water system?	⊠ Yes □ No
Does the unauthorized release consist only of petroleum?	⊠ Yes □ No
Has the unauthorized ("primary") release from the UST system been stopped?	☑ Yes □ No
Has free product been removed to the maximum extent practicable?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA
Has a conceptual site model that assesses the nature, extent, and mobility of the release been developed?	⊠ Yes □ No
	⊠ Yes □ No

¹ Refer to the Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy for closure criteria for low-threat petroleum UST sites.

Has soil or groundwater been tested for MTBE and results reported in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 25296.15?	☑ Yes ☐ No
Nuisance as defined by Water Code section 13050 does not exist at the site?	⊠ Yes □ No
Are there unique site attributes or site-specific conditions that demonstrably increase the risk associated with residual petroleum constituents?	□ Yes ⊠ No
Media-Specific Criteria Candidate sites must satisfy all three of these media-specific criteria:	
Groundwater: To satisfy the media-specific criteria for groundwater, the contaminant plume that exceeds WQOs must be stable or decreasing in areal extent, and meet all of the additional characteristics of one of the five classes of sites:	
Is the contaminant plume that exceeds WQOs stable or decreasing in areal extent?	⊻ Yes □ No □ NA
Does the contaminant plume that exceeds WQOs meet all of the additional characteristics of one of the five classes of sites?	⊠ Yes □ No □ NA
If YES, check applicable class: 図1 □2 □3 □4 □5	
For sites with releases that have not affected groundwater, do mobile constituents (leachate, vapors, or light non-aqueous phase liquids) contain sufficient mobile constituents to cause groundwater to exceed the groundwater criteria?	□ Yes □ No ⊠ NA
2. Petroleum Vapor Intrusion to Indoor Air: The site is considered low-threat for vapor intrusion to indoor air if site-specific conditions satisfy all of the characteristics of one of the three classes of sites (a through c) or if the exception for active commercial fueling facilities applies.	
Is the site an active commercial petroleum fueling facility? Exception: Satisfaction of the media-specific criteria for petroleum vapor intrusion to indoor air is not required at active commercial petroleum fueling facilities, except in cases where release characteristics can be reasonably believed to pose an unacceptable health risk.	⊠ Yes □ No
a. Do site-specific conditions at the release site satisfy all of the applicable characteristics and criteria of scenarios 1 through 3 or all of the applicable characteristics and criteria of scenario 4?	□Yes □ No ⊠ NA
If YES, check applicable scenarios: 1 1 2 3 4	
b. Has a site-specific risk assessment for the vapor intrusion pathway been conducted and demonstrates that human health is protected to the satisfaction of the regulatory agency?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

	C.	As a result of controlling exposure through the use of mitigation measures or through the use of institutional or engineering controls, has the regulatory agency determined that petroleum vapors migrating from soil or groundwater will have no significant risk of adversely affecting human health?	□ Yes	□ No	⊠ NA
3	Th	rect Contact and Outdoor Air Exposure: le site is considered low-threat for direct contact and outdoor air exposure if e-specific conditions satisfy one of the three classes of sites (a through c).			
	a.	Are maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil less than or equal to those listed in Table 1 for the specified depth bgs?	⊠ Yes	□ No	□NA
	b.	Are maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil less than levels that a site specific risk assessment demonstrates will have no significant risk of adversely affecting human health?	□ Yes	□ No	⊠ NA
	c.	As a result of controlling exposure through the use of mitigation measures or through the use of institutional or engineering controls, has the regulatory agency determined that the concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil will have no significant risk of adversely affecting human health?	□ Yes	□ No	⊠ NA

ATTACHMENT 2: SUMMARY OF BASIC INFORMATION (Conceptual Site Model)

Site Location/History

- The Site is located in a business park area on the east side of Sunrise Way, approximately 200 feet north of the intersection of North Sunrise Way and Tahquitz Canyon Way. The Site is an operating petroleum fueling facility.
- Nature of Contaminants of Concern: Petroleum hydrocarbons only.
- Primary Source of Release: UST System.
- Discovery Date: October 1996.
- Release Type: Petroleum².
- Ten groundwater monitoring wells and 14 soil borings have been constructed at the Site.
- Free Product: None reported.

Table A: USTs

Tank No.	Size	Contents	Status	Date
1.	10,000	Gasoline	Removed	October 1996
2	10,000	Gasoline	Removed	October 1996
3	10,000	Gasoline	Removed	October 1996
4	10,000	Diesel	Removed	October 1996
5	10,000	Diesel	Removed	October 1996

Receptors

- Groundwater Basin: Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin (Indio Sub-Basin).
- Groundwater Beneficial Uses: Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN), industrial service water supply (IND), industrial process water supply (PRO), and agricultural water supply (AGR).
- Designated Land Use: Commercial and industrial.
- Public Water System: Desert Water Agency.
- Distance to Nearest Supply Wells: Greater than 1,000 feet.

Geology/Hydrogeology

- Average Groundwater Depth: Greater than 240 feet bgs.
- Geology: Fine- to coarse-grained sand with varying amounts of gravel and silty sand with localized interbeds of sandy silt, silt, and clayey silt. The silts are typically laterally discontinuous, but two generally continuous silty zones have been identified beneath the Site between approximately 25 and 50 feet bgs and 165 and 185 feet bgs.
- Hydrology: Historically, the groundwater flow direction is to the southwest. Regionally, the groundwater flow direction is from the northwest to southeast.

² "Petroleum" means crude oil, or any fraction thereof, which is liquid at standard conditions of temperature and pressure, which means at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and 14.7 pounds per square inch absolute. (Health & Saf. Code, § 25299.2.)

Corrective Actions

- October 1996: Removal of USTs and soil excavation.
- October 2005: One-day vapor extraction testing.
- July 2006- November 2006: Long-term vapor extraction testing and remediation.
 - o Approximately 6,632 pounds of petroleum constituents were removed.
- August 2007: Installation of soil borings.

Table B: Concentrations of Petroleum Constituents in Soil

Constituent	Maximum 0-5 feet bgs (mg/kg)	Maximum 5-10 feet bgs (mg/kg)
Benzene	ND	ND
Ethylbenzene	ND	0.004
Naphthalene	NA NA	NA

ND = Non-detect NA = Not available

Table C: Groundwater Sampling Results before Wells Had Gone Dry

Well No.	Last Sampling Date	TPHg (µg/L)	Benzene (µg/L)	MTBE (µg/L)	
MW-1	3/2003	ND	ND	ND	
TSG-MW-1R	11/2008	ND	ND	ND -	
MW-2	5/2003	ND	ND	ND	
MW-3	3/2003	ND	ND	50	
MW-4	6/2005	ND	ND	ND	
MW-5	3/2005	ND	ND	ND	
MW-6	6/2005	ND	ND	ND	
TSG-MW-7	2/2009	ND	ND	ND	
TSG-MW-8	11/2007	ND	ND	ND	
TSG-MW-9	2/2009	ND	ND	ND	
WQO		5 ¹	12	5 ³	

Taste and Odor threshold (McKee and Wolf)

Evaluation of Risk Criteria

- Maximum Petroleum Constituent Plume Length above WQOs: MTBE groundwater plume is less than 30 feet.
- Petroleum Constituent Plume Determined Stable or Decreasing: Yes.
- Soil/Groundwater Sampled for MTBE: Yes, see Table C above.
- Residual Petroleum Constituents Pose Significant Risk to the Environment: No.
- Residual Petroleum Constituents Pose Significant Vapor Intrusion Risk to Human Health: No. Site meets exception for active fueling facility. Petroleum constituents most likely to pose a threat for vapor intrusion were removed during soil excavation, over-excavation, and vapor extraction. The

² California Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

³ California Secondary MCL

ND Non-detect

residual petroleum constituents in soil and groundwater are acceptable because site conditions are protective of human health.

- Residual Petroleum Constituents Pose a Nuisance³ at the Site: No.
- Residual Petroleum Constituents in Soil Pose Significant Risk of Adversely Affecting Human Health: No.
- Residual Petroleum Constituents Pose Significant Direct Contact and Outdoor Air Exposure to Human Health: No. Maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil 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 percent benzene and 0.25 percent naphthalene. Therefore, benzene concentrations can be directly substituted for naphthalene concentrations with a safety factor of eight. Benzene concentrations from the Site are below the naphthalene thresholds in Table 1. Therefore, estimated naphthalene concentrations meet the thresholds in Table 1 for direct contact by a factor of eight. It is highly unlikely that naphthalene concentrations in the soil, if any, exceed the threshold.

³ Nuisance as defined in California Water Code, section 13050, subdivision (m).

PLOT PLAN

