

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 7-8, 2005**

Prepared on June 15, 2005

**ITEM: 14**

**SUBJECT: LOW THREAT AND GENERAL DISCHARGE CASES**

**DISCUSSION**

**General Waste Discharge Requirement for Fertilizer and Pesticide Facilities:**

**California Liquid Fertilizer, LLC [Sandy Cheek 805/542-4633]**

Regional Board staff enrolled California Liquid Fertilizer, LLC in the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Fertilizer and Pesticide Handling Facilities, Order No. R3-2005-0001 on April 12, 2005. The Regional Board has not previously regulated California Liquid Fertilizer, LLC. This facility manufactures organic fertilizers from plant, seafood and liquid compost materials. Enrollment requires California Liquid Fertilizer, LLC to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2005-0001.

**Western Farm Service - Greenfield [Sandy Cheek 805/542-4633]**

Regional Board staff enrolled Western Farm Service - Greenfield in the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Fertilizer and Pesticide Handling Facilities, Order No. R3-2005-0001 on May 27, 2005. Western Farm Service - Greenfield was previously regulated by Order No. 90-062. This facility is an agricultural chemical facility specializing in fertilizer and pesticide sales, application and service. Enrollment requires the facility to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2005-0001.

**General Waste Discharge Requirements for Wineries:**

**Linne Calodo Winery, San Luis Obispo County, [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]**

Regional Board staff enrolled Linne Calodo Winery under the General Waste Discharge

Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste (General WDRs) on April 12, 2005. Linne Calodo Winery was previously unregulated by the Regional Board. Linne Calodo Winery's waste discharge is described as follows:

The winery is located at 3845 Oakdale Road, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County.

Approximately 100 tons of grapes are processed and 7,200 cases of wine are produced annually. Peak winery process wastewater flows are approximately 1,000 gallons per day during the crush season.

Process wastewater will be screened by floor drain screens, clarified in a septic tank, and treated in a subsurface treatment constructed wetland. The treatment-constructed wetland will be lined with plastic, filled with pea gravel, and planted with hydrophytic plants. Treatment will occur subsurface in the plant root zone. The treatment-constructed wetland is expected to remove 98% of biochemical oxygen demand and 99% of suspended solids from process wastewater. Treated wastewater will be disposed of via evaporation and percolation in an approximately 10,000 square ft by 6 ft deep evaporative constructed wetland. The evaporative constructed wetland will be located at least 100 feet from any watercourse.

Pomace and screenings will be composted at a dedicated composting area for at least six months and then incorporated into surrounding soils.

Enrollment under the General WDRs requires Linne Calodo Winery to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Water supply quality, wine production, chemical usage, effluent flow and quality, and disposal area monitoring are required. Groundwater and disposal

area soils monitoring are not required as the treatment and disposal method presents little or no threat to underlying groundwater quality. Regional Board staff will begin regular inspections of Linne Calodo Winery this fall to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

**Mersoleil Winery, Monterey County [Sandy Cheek 805/542-4633]**

Water Board staff enrolled Mersoleil Winery's Phase I operation in the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste, Order No. R3-2002-0084 on June 6, 2005. The Water Board has not previously regulated Mersoleil Winery. Mersoleil Winery is located at 1290 River Road in Salinas. Wine production is currently 140,000 cases per year. No crushing or bottling occurs on the site. Process wastewater is generated from barrel and floor washing only and is disposed to a 10,000-gallon septic tank with dual subsurface absorption system. Enrollment requires the facility to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2002-0084.

**General Waiver for Specific Types of Waste Discharges:**

**Former Power Up Gasoline Station, 4085 State Street, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County [John Mijares 805/549-3696]**

On April 21, 2005, Central Coast Water Board (Water Board) staff enrolled the responsible party for the Former Power Up Gasoline Station site into the general waiver Resolution No. R3-2002-0115. This enrollment expires on April 30, 2010.

Soil and groundwater are contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbon constituents from previously removed underground storage tanks. Various remediation technologies including soil excavation, removal of free-phase gasoline, soil vapor extraction, injection of oxygen releasing compounds, and groundwater extraction and treatment have been used to remove petroleum hydrocarbons. The groundwater pump and treat cleanup system is no longer in operation; however, the responsible party currently generates approximately 700 gallons of contaminated groundwater during semiannual post-remediation groundwater monitoring. Contaminants are removed from the purge water using the original

pump and treat system that consists of three activated carbon filters in series. The influent and effluent will be sampled during each groundwater monitoring event and the results submitted to verify compliance. The treated water will be discharged to an onsite grassy area which is more than 200 feet away from an inactive water production well and more than 100 feet away from any surface water body in compliance with the Water Board's general waiver conditions. Water Board staff informed the water purveyor of this proposed enrollment on April 14, 2005, and did not receive comment.

Water Board staff also received a Notice of Termination and has terminated the responsible party's enrollment into the General NPDES Permit for the Discharge of Highly Treated Groundwater to Surface Waters, Order No. 01-134.

**General Low Threat Permit Order No. 01-134:**

**Aera Energy Former Hercules Gas Plant, Canada de la Huerta, Santa Barbara County [Sheila Soderberg 805/549-3592]**

In July 2005, Water Board staff plan to enroll Aera Energy LLC's engineered fill pad discharge project under the Central Coast Water Board's General NPDES Permit for Discharges of Highly Treated Groundwater (General Permit). As described in its Notice of Intent, Aera plans to treat groundwater collected in an underdrain system located beneath an engineered fill pad at the subject site. In March 2005, benzene was detected at six parts per billion in a groundwater sample collected from the underdrain. Total petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, heavy metals, and polychlorinated biphenols were not detected.

Because benzene was detected in the discharge, Aera immediately ceased the discharge from the fill pad. Aera is concerned about the stability of the fill pad due to water impoundment and plans to treat accumulated groundwater prior to discharge to an unnamed creek located south of the fill pad.

Groundwater will be treated by passing it through a sediment filter and then through a double redundant treatment system consisting of three, 200-pound granular activated carbon canisters in series. On June 9, 2005, Water Board staff sent out

written notification to the six property owners located within 300 feet of the site and other interested parties. If no significant comments are received within the two-week required comment period, the Executive Officer will enroll Aera under the General Permit.

**General Low Threat Permit Order No. 01-119:**

**Santa Barbara Airport, Santa Barbara County**  
**[Todd Stanley 805/549-4769]**

The Santa Barbara Airport applied for authorization to dewater impounded rainwater from two well-vegetated basins adjacent to the Airport. The temporary dewatering precedes the construction of two small, experimental tidal basins in the Goleta Slough to increase tidal circulation and wetland enhancement. The rainwater discharge is scheduled to occur during daytime over three to ten days to Tecolotito Creek (one direct discharge to the creek, two indirectly via the Mesa Road Ditch). The proposed discharge will occur through energy dissipation structures to prevent erosion at each discharge point.

The Santa Barbara Airport has secured all other related permits and approvals from the City of Santa Barbara, the Coastal Commission, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Central Coast Water Board (401 Certification).

Staff's review of the Airport's application indicates the proposed discharge is appropriate for enrollment under the General Order. By letter dated June 3, 2005, staff notified the Airport of its enrollment

**Staff Closed Cases:**

**Wylie Property (Commercial Warehouse), 320**  
**Coral Street, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County;**  
**[Tom Sayles 805-542-4640]**

A 600-gallon gasoline underground storage tank (UST) was removed in August 2000. Soil samples and a "grab" groundwater sample were collected from the tank excavation. Analytical results indicated a maximum concentration of 6.3 milligrams per kilograms (mg/kg) total petroleum

hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH-G) and 0.84 mg/kg benzene in soil. A concentration of 30,000 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) TPH-G and 1,600  $\mu\text{g/L}$  benzene were detected in the groundwater sample. Approximately 140 cubic yards of hydrocarbon-impacted soil were excavated and approximately 3,000 gallons hydrocarbon impacted groundwater was removed and properly disposed offsite.

On May 1, 2003, three groundwater monitoring wells were installed to evaluate the extent of soil and groundwater contamination. No groundwater sample results indicated the presence of TPH-G, benzene, or methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE). The elevated concentrations detected in the initial "grab" groundwater sample do not appear to have been a representative of natural groundwater quality conditions, as it was collected from the excavation at the time of tank removal. The detected soil contamination identified during the tank removal activities was subsequently excavated and disposed of offsite. A quarterly groundwater monitoring program was implemented to confirm the initial results of the permanent monitoring wells. The most recent sampling was conducted during the second quarter 2005 concluding that all hydrocarbon constituents are below cleanup goals and laboratory detection limits.

Depth to underlying groundwater is approximately 1 to 3 feet below ground surface. Groundwater flow is generally to the east with a gradient of 0.03 feet per foot. The nearest water supply well is located greater than 1/2 mile north and upgradient of the site.

Based on the results of the tank removal, cleanup actions, and groundwater monitoring, there is no threat to groundwater quality and no further investigation or cleanup is necessary. The Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services Agency agrees with this determination. The property owner/site operator has been notified of case closure and has been directed to destroy all monitoring wells. Staff will close this case and the Executive Officer will issue a final case closure letter upon receipt of a well destruction report documenting the proper destruction of all monitoring wells.

Galaxy III Theater, 475 Union Street,  
Watsonville, Santa Cruz County [A John  
Mijares 805/549-3696]

The site is occupied by a former theater building currently used as a furniture retail store in a commercial and industrial area. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) conducted in November 2000 indicated that a service station and repair shop operated at the site from approximately 1932 to 1979. The theater was subsequently developed between 1980 and 1988. The contractors who built the theater building reportedly excavated the entire footprint of the building to 12 feet below ground surface (bgs) and removed four underground storage tanks (UST) in 1981.

Based on the Phase I ESA findings, the property owner advanced five borings and collected "grab" groundwater samples. Total petroleum hydrocarbon as gasoline (TPHg), total petroleum hydrocarbon as diesel (TPHd) and benzene were detected at maximum concentrations of 16,000 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/l}$ ), 500,000  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , and 61  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , respectively. Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) was not detected. An unauthorized leak report was submitted in January 2001.

A geophysical survey conducted in May 2001 discovered an additional 750-gallon steel UST on the property northeast of the theater building. The UST was removed and disposed under appropriate permit with the Santa Cruz County health department. The UST cavity was over-excavated to approximately 11.5 feet bgs and petroleum hydrocarbons or fuel oxygenates were not detected in a confirmation soil sample.

In June 2002, the responsible party conducted an additional site investigation that included installation of eight additional soil borings and four permanent groundwater monitoring wells. TPHg, TPHd, and benzene were detected in groundwater at maximum concentrations of 1,200  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 440  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , and 2.1  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , respectively; MTBE was not detected. In November 2003, two additional monitoring wells were installed to fully delineate the petroleum hydrocarbon plume. Results of routine quarterly groundwater monitoring conducted from September 2002 through the second quarter of 2004, indicate maximum concentrations of TPHg, TPHd, and benzene at 1,200  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , 690  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , and 4.8  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , respectively. MTBE has never been detected in any monitoring wells associated with this case. TPHg, TPHd, and benzene have either not been detected, or have been below respective groundwater cleanup goals in all monitoring wells since May 2004.

Groundwater underlying the site generally occurs between 9 and 16 feet bgs in an unconfined sand and gravel unit that is underlain by silts and clays. The predominant flow direction is to the south. The nearest municipal water supply well is located approximately 2,000 feet to the south.

Based on the tank removals, excavation, and groundwater monitoring results, there is no threat to groundwater quality and no further investigation or cleanup is necessary. In February 2005 the RP destroyed monitoring wells MW-1 through MW-6 as directed by Water Board staff and the Executive Officer issued a case closure letter on May 16, 2005.