



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Coast Region



Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

September 1, 2005

Sylvia Hamilton
Perchlorate Community Advisory Group
P.O. Box 886
San Martin, CA 95046

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

SUBJECT: AUGUST 24, 2005 LETTER REGARDING OLIN CORPORATION'S MISSED DEADLINES

Water Board staff received your letter, dated August 24, 2005, conveying the Perchlorate Community Advisory Group's (PCAG) concerns about Olin Corporation's (Olin) missed deadlines. The missed deadlines include a July 1, 2005 date for offsite supply well and piezometer sampling and a July 31, 2005 sample result reporting date. The sampling and reporting are required by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Water Board) Conditional Stipulated Stay of our December 8, 2005 Water Code Section 13267 Order.

Water Board staff share your concern regarding Olin's recent noncompliance. Olin has had many months to prepare and meet the required deadlines. Olin has recently submitted parts of the required information. On August 11, 2005, Olin submitted offsite private supply well perchlorate results. On August 26, 2005, Olin submitted the piezometer perchlorate results. To date, Olin has not provided any justification for late reporting.

One issue we would like to clarify is our ability to take enforcement for delays and missed due dates. Water Board staff member, David Athey, discussed our general late reporting enforcement process at the August 5, 2005 PCAG meeting. It is important to note that the process Mr. Athey outlined is for minor reporting violations at routine cleanup sites. We do not consider this a routine cleanup site. Since Olin's perchlorate release has impacted hundreds of wells and residents, we believe it is important to take whatever action is necessary to keep the project on schedule. The Water Board has the authority to take enforcement against Olin whether the reports are one day or 90 days late. We are committed to taking enforcement when the situation warrants it. We are currently evaluating the facts surrounding Olin's missed due dates and will decide what course of action to take in the very near future. Rest assured, we take this issue very seriously since Olin's perchlorate discharge has negatively affected hundreds of Llagas Groundwater Basin wells.

We appreciate the concerns expressed in your recent letter. We encourage PCAG to keep Water Board staff informed of the community's needs and interests. Certainly, missed reporting dates and project delays do not serve the community's needs.

If you have questions, please call David Athey at (805) 542-4644 or Eric Gobler at (805) 549-3467.

Sincerely,


Roger W. Briggs
Executive Officer

cc via E-mail:

Ms. Lori Okun
Office of the Chief Counsel
State Water Resources Control Board

Olin Interested Party List

cc via U.S. Mail:

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