STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2006

Prepared on February 21, 2006

ITEM NUMBER: **10**

SUBJECT: **Low Threat and General Discharge Cases**

KEY INFORMATION

This Action: **Informational items, Status Reports, and Board Concurrence**

LOW THREAT GENERAL PERMIT

City of Santa Maria, Hydrant Flushing Program [Sorrel Marks 805/549-3695]

Upon receipt of an appropriately filed Notice of Intent (application), staff reviewed the submittal to ensure compliance with permit condtions and enrolled the City of Santa Maria's Hydrant Flushing Program under the General NPDES Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (Low Threat General Permit) on January 17, 2006. The City of Santa Maria intermittently discharges to stormdrains ultimately draining to the Santa Maria River. Intermittent discharges include dechlorinated supply water, typical of municipal fire hydrant flushing. Enrollment under the Low Threat General Permit requires the City of Santa Maria to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-119. The Monitoring and Reporting Program includes annual monitoring of discharges and receiving waters. Public notification of the enrollment was provided through publication in the Santa Maria Times.

Dewatering of Underground Utility Trenches at Dove Creek Development, Centex Homes, Atascadero [Allison Millhollen 805/549/3882]

Staff enrolled Centex Homes under the General NPDES Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (Low Threat General Permit) on February 9, 2006. High groundwater must be drawn out of underground utility trenches to facilitate construction. Groundwater will be pumped daily for 8 to 24 hours at 40 to 160 gallons-per-minute for a maximum total daily flow of 115,200 gallons, for up to 3 months. Groundwater, filtered by dirt bags, will be discharged into Paloma Creek near El Camino Real box culvert and the North Fork of Paloma Creek.

Enrollment under the Low Threat General Permit requires the discharger to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-119 (MRP), which has been modified specifically for this discharge. The MRP requires daily monitoring of discharge flow and turbidity, weekly monitoring of pH, and one-time monitoring of petroleum compounds. The discharger is required to immediately cease the discharge and contact staff if any contamination is discovered in the discharge.

Los Osos CSD Under-drain System Discharge, San Luis Obispo County [Allison Millhollen 805/549-3882]

As described in the July 2004 Staff Report regarding Los Osos enforcement options, there are several low-lying areas in Los Osos where the Los Osos CSD collects shallow ground water (at or near ground surface) and discharges it to Morro Bay via the storm drain system. The County

installed the dewatering system in 1996, prior to formation of the CSD, to prevent surfacing groundwater from flooding surrounding homes and streets. At the time of installation, the system was expected to be a short-term temporary measure, which would not be needed after construction of the wastewater project (then scheduled for 1997). However, with each project delay, surfacing groundwater (in contact with flooded septic systems) continues to be carried into Morro Bay. Los Osos CSD filed a Notice of Intent for discharge authorization under the *General Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality.*

Information submitted indicates that shallow groundwater drain systems seasonally discharge variable amounts (ranging from zero to 2.3 million gallons per month) of combined groundwater and storm runoff to Morro Bay. Additionally, wet weather conditions causing flooding in the vicinity of Paso and 16th Streets, result in discharges of shallow groundwater and storm runoff to Los Osos Creek. Based upon historical water quality problems in Los Osos, we expect that shallow groundwater discharges may contain levels of coliform bacteria in excess of water quality standards. Water quality objectives specified in the Basin Plan and Pathogen TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) for Morro Bay include fecal coliform bacteria of 200 MPN/100 ml log mean and no more than ten percent of samples exceeding 400 MPN/100 ml. A specific surface water quality objective for nitrate in Morro Bay Estuary does not currently exist. However, nitrogen in the form of ammonia is toxic to marine organisms. Therefore, groundwater discharges must not cause receiving water concentrations of ammonia to exceed 24 mg/l (as N). This criterion is based upon U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Ambient Water Quality Criteria for waters with pH 7. Shallow groundwater monitoring data submitted indicate that such standards can be met and it is therefore appropriate to cover the discharge under the Order No. 01-119. However, due to the potential to exceed bacterial standards, shallow groundwater discharges must be monitored to ensure compliance with the fecal coliform bacteria limits. If the discharge fails to comply with the bacterial limitations, alternate disposal (such as disposal to land), treatment (disinfection) or individual permitting will be required.

Staff notified the Los Osos CSD of enrollment under Order No. 01-119 for the shallow ground water discharge on February 7, 2006, subject to the discharges maintaining compliance with permit requirements. Monitoring for volume, pH, fecal and total coliform bacteria, enterococcus, iron, manganese, ammonia, nitrate, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, and receiving water impacts is required. If monitoring indicates compliance with water quality objectives is not being met, then treatment or elimination of the discharges is required.

LOW THREAT GENERAL WAIVER

Osierlea Horse Stable, San Juan Bautista, San Benito County [Cecile DeMartini 805/542-4782]
Staff, in accordance with the Regional Board's waiver policy, recommends the Osierlea Horse Stable be enrolled into General Waiver Resolution R3-2002-0115. The waiver policy allows staff to tentatively waive discharge requirements for certain categories of discharges. Discharge requirements for confined animal waste discharges can be waived when the discharger complies with the Basin Plan and no federal NPDES permit is required. These criteria are applicable for this particular facility, as described below.

The facility is on an eleven-acre parcel located at 334 Mission Vineyard Road in the City of San Juan Bautista. San Juan Creek is located approximately 1,200 feet to the west of the property. Land uses surrounding the property consist of small rural agricultural activities, including livestock raising, irrigated row crops and orchards, dry land farming, and dry land pasture.

The primary activity conducted on the property is breeding of horses, with secondary uses consisting of horse training, riding lessons, and occasional one or two-day horse shows on an invitational basis only. Approximately 25 horses on average are kept on the property for breeding and training purposes. A maximum of 20 horses may be brought on-site temporarily for horse shows, although only about six of those would be boarded overnight. Domestic wastewater is discharged to a septic tank/leachfield system.

A *Manure Management Plan and Storm Water Drainage Plan* was prepared for this site by Bruce Eisenman of the U. S. Department of agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. Manure management practices include removal of manure

and bedding material from corrals and paddocks on a regular basis for off-site composting or land application. Vegetated buffer strips are maintained throughout the site to prevent runoff from the site and aid in absorption of nutrients by plants. Storm water runoff is directed away from areas with potential pollutants. Staff reviewed the plan and believes it will be protective of water quality and beneficial uses.

Regional Board staff conditioned enrollment into the General Waiver on continued implementation of the *Manure Management Plan and Storm Water Drainage Plan*, notification by the property owners of any proposed modifications in operations that would result in changes in waste discharge volume, nature, or location, or of any public health threat.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

Under existing law, projects or existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use are exempt from CEQA because as a class they do not have a significant effect on the environment. This site is categorically exempt from CEQA under CEQA Guideline 15301.

RECOMMENDATION

Enroll Osierlea Horse Stable into General Waiver Resolution No. R3-2002-0115

STAFF CLOSED CASES

Kristich-Monterey Pipe Company, 225 Salinas Road, Pajaro, Monterey County [John Goni 805/542-4628]

The property owner removed a 550-gallon diesel tank and related piping and dispenser from this site on March 11, 1998. Diesel-contaminated soil was observed in the excavation and a subsequent investigation detected contaminated soil and groundwater near the former tank. Total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel were detected at 2300 milligrams per kilogram in soil, and at 330 milligrams per liter in groundwater. The responsible party commissioned excavation of approximately 37 cubic yards of contaminated soil and oxygen releasing compound was placed into groundwater to promote bioremediation of the contaminants. Groundwater monitoring of five monitoring wells from April 2000 though March 2002 confirmed that all contaminant concentrations are less than groundwater cleanup goals.

Based on the tank removal, excavation and groundwater monitoring results, there is no threat to groundwater quality and no further investigation or cleanup is necessary. The property owner, Kristich-Monterey Pipe Company, destroyed the monitoring wells in December 2005, at the direction of Water Board staff. The Executive Officer issued a case closure letter on January 31,2006.

Chemical Lime Natividad Plant, 11771 Old Stage Road, Salinas, Monterey County [John Goni 805/542-4628]

A leak was discovered during removal of two 10,000-gallon gasoline and two 10,000-gallon diesel fuel underground storage tanks in 1998. Subsequent investigations detected gasoline contaminants in soil and groundwater near the former tanks, and later in an off-site private water supply well. The responsible party's consultant installed a cleanup system consisting of soil vapor extraction near the former tanks and operated it from May 2001 to August 2004. Approximately 43,000 pounds of hydrocarbons were removed from the subsurface. Confirmation soil sampling did not detect petroleum hydrocarbon constituents above cleanup goals. Monterey County closed the soil portion of the case in a letter dated September 5, 2005. Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) was first detected in an off-site private supply well in April 2003 at 1.6 micrograms per liter (µg/L). Concentrations of MTBE rose to 6.4 µg/L in March 2004, and then declined to below 4.7 µg/L, and have remained below the secondary maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5 µg/L.

The responsible party's consultant conducted quarterly groundwater sampling of monitoring wells in the immediate area of the former tanks from March 3, 1999, until February 13, 2001, when the wells became dry. These monitoring wells were completed to a depth of 60 feet below ground surface, the approximate depth to bedrock in this area. Water bearing well-graded sands generally occur to a depth of approximately 55 feet below ground surface, and are underlain by a non-water bearing clayey-sand from 55 feet to bedrock. Soil borings in October 1998 and March 1999

confirm that groundwater does not occur in the clayey sand, or at the soil/bedrock interface. The soil borings also confirmed that contaminants were not present within the soil matrix of the clayey-sand. The drop in groundwater elevation enhanced the soil vapor extraction system's ability to remove gasoline hydrocarbons from the former water bearing well-graded sand unit, and allowed for a more thorough soil cleanup.

When the soil vapor extraction unit was removed in 2004, Water Board staff agreed to consider case closure if groundwater samples collected from the former tank area confirmed that contaminants were not present. An additional year of monitoring has indicated the wells are still dry. Water Board staff and the consultant hypothesize that the groundwater formerly in the monitoring wells was a perched-water zone caused by rainfall during the 1997-1998 winter. Since soil cleanup has been achieved and groundwater is not present, Water Board staff believes cleanup goals have been met at the site and is proceeding to close this case.

As mentioned previously, MTBE was detected in one off-site supply well serving a private residence. Bi-weekly and duplicate samples collected from the well during March 2004 detected MTBE at concentrations 5.9 µg/L, 6.4 µg/L, 5.2 µg/L, and 5.1 µg/L. MTBE concentrations then declined below, and has remained below the secondary MCL. The last sample, collected on May 31, 2005, contained 3.0 µg/L. A video inspection of the well appeared to indicate an intact sanitary seal, and the well appeared to be in good condition. Depth discrete samples collected from within the well indicated consistent MTBE concentrations throughout the length of the well, suggesting that the concentration at the well-head is indicative of the MTBE concentration in any separate water bearing units intercepted by the well. Analyses of twenty-one samples collected from a production well 500-feet downgradient of the private water supply well detected MTBE twice, at 1.0 µg/L and 1.9 µg/L in April 2003 and March 2004, respectively, suggesting the contaminant mass and plume extent are limited. Sampling after March 2004 through May 2005 has not detected MTBE. Water Board staff has concluded that the beneficial use of groundwater is not impaired by the former leaking underground storage tanks.

Water Board staff notified the responsible party/fee title holder of the former tank site and the owner of the private water supply well, and both concur with case closure. The Executive Officer will issue a case closure letter upon receipt of a report documenting the proper destruction of the monitoring wells.

CASES RECOMMENDED FOR CLOSURE

Former Chevron Service Station, 1130 Mission Street, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County [Tom Sayles 805/542-4640]

Staff recommends closure of this underground storage tank (UST) case where groundwater sample results indicate groundwater pollution remains in groundwater at concentrations greater than the Central Coast Water Board's cleanup goal for benzene at 7.8 micrograms per liter (µg/L) and 4.4 µg/L in two monitoring wells. All other petroleum hydrocarbon constituents, including MTBE, were not detected or were below this Water Board's cleanup goals. A review of historical case file documents indicates that two, 8,000-gallon gasoline USTs and one, 10,000-gallon UST were removed in 1974. No information is available regarding soil sampling during the removal and excavation of the USTs and such information would not be expected for tank removals from this time period.

The responsible party's consultant installed four groundwater monitoring wells and two soil borings in April 1993. The initial groundwater investigation results indicated maximum concentrations of 170,000 µg/L total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH-g) and 24,000 µg/L benzene in a "grab" groundwater sample; the grab sample was collected from a boring and not from a monitoring well.

The responsible party's consultant implemented a quarterly monitoring program. Natural attenuation and removal of the source of the contaminant (the USTs) has reduced benzene concentrations in site monitoring wells from a maximum of 2,200 µg/L in May 1994 to a current maximum level of 7.8 µg/L on November 11, 2005. All other petroleum hydrocarbon constituents, including MTBE, were not detected or were below this Water Board's cleanup goals.

The site lies within the Santa Cruz Hydrologic Unit, which the "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Region" (Basin Plan) designates groundwater as having beneficial uses for domestic and municipal supply, agricultural supply, and industrial supply. Therefore, cleanup goals for common hydrocarbon constituents are as follows: 1,000 µg/L –TPH, 1 µg/L – benzene, 1, and 5 µg/L – MTBE.

Depth to groundwater is approximately 5 to 6 feet below ground surface. Groundwater flow is generally to the east with a gradient of 0.01 feet per foot. The nearest water supply well is located more than ½ mile north of the site.

Our recommendation for closure is based on the following:

1) The source of the leak, the former USTs, have been removed,
2) The extent of contamination remaining above the cleanup goal is localized in extent, confined to the site, and contained in only two onsite monitoring wells,
3) Historic groundwater monitoring trends indicate that natural attenuation processes have been successful in reducing benzene concentrations to levels that are approaching the cleanup goal (from a maximum of 2,200 µg/L benzene in MW-1 in May 1994 to 7.8 µg/L in November 2005),
4) The remaining benzene concentrations will continue to decline and the contamination is unlikely to reach a drinking water supply well,
5) Closure is consistent with Section III.G. State Board Resolution No. 92-49, allowing consideration of cost effective abatement measures for a site where attainment of reasonable objectives less stringent than background water quality does not unreasonably affect present or anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, and will not result in water quality less than prescribed by the Basin Plan.

In addition, Water Board staff has evaluated remaining groundwater concentrations with respect to possible indoor air impacts, and soil concentrations with respect to direct human exposure, indoor air impacts, and potential leachability to groundwater. Comparison of these soil and groundwater concentrations with corresponding environmental screening levels for residential land use and construction worker direct exposure scenarios indicate no significant threat to human health or the environment.

Water Board staff has notified all current fee titleholders of the subject site and neighboring properties potentially impacted by releases from the USTs, allowing for public comment prior to case closure. To date, Water Board staff received one telephone call regarding the proposed case closure and addressed the callers concern regarding who would be liable for cleanup of potential residual soil contamination if discovered at some time in the future.

Based on the removal of the tanks, natural attenuation processes, and groundwater monitoring data, there is no threat to groundwater quality and no further groundwater investigation or cleanup is necessary. The Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services Agency agrees with this determination. The responsible party and fee titleholder has been notified of this proposed case closure.

Unless the Water Board objects, and pending proper monitoring well destruction, the Executive Officer will issue a formal case closure letter.

<u>C & N Tractors, 496 Salinas Road, Watsonville (Pajaro), Monterey County [John Goni 805/542-4628]</u>

Staff recommends closure of this leaking underground storage tank case where concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbon constituents have attenuated to concentrations less than or near water quality objectives. Groundwater sampling results from 2005 indicate methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) from 6.3 to 11 micrograms per liter (µg/L). MTBE is not considered to be a significant constituent of concern at this site, as the fuel tank was removed before the widespread use of MTBE as a fuel oxygenate. MTBE was discovered in 2005, and its presence in groundwater is thought to be from inadvertent surface spillage associated with tractor maintenance. The extent of MTBE above the cleanup goal is contained onsite and involves two monitoring wells. Other petroleum hydrocarbon

constituents have been analyzed and have not been detected, or are below cleanup goals.

The site is an active tractor sales and servicing business near Union Pacific Railroad's Watsonville Junction, approximately one mile south of the Pajaro River. C & N commissioned removal of one 550-gallon gasoline underground storage tank, and approximately 100 cubic yards of contaminated soil in 1987. Another 550-gallon waste oil tank and an unknown volume of soil were removed in 1989. Groundwater monitoring conducted by consultants on behalf of the responsible party in 1988 indicated maximum concentrations of 0.850 milligrams per liter (mg/L) total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH) and 31 µg/L benzene. TPH concentrations have varied in this well, reaching a high of 7.5 mg/L in 1997 and decreasing to 0.065 mg/L in October 2005. Benzene attenuated to non detectable concentrations in 2004 an has remained below 0.5 µg/L. Three other monitoring wells on the site have not detected gasoline constituents, except for the MTBE discovered in 2005 as discussed previously.

Groundwater depth below ground surface varies from four to nine feet and flows in a southwesterly direction at a gradient of 0.001 ft/ft. The site is underlain by fill material for two to three feet, a two-foot thick clay unit, two–foot thick saturated silty-sand, and then a clay unit. The nearest water supply well is reportedly 1300 feet to the southeast, and is perforated from 160 feet to 200 feet below the ground surface. The residual petroleum hydrocarbons are unlikely to impact this well considering the distance, groundwater flow direction, well construction and concentrations of the MTBE.

The site is within the Watsonville Hydrologic Area of the Pajaro River Hydrologic Unit (305.10), for which the "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Region" (Basin Plan) designates groundwater as having beneficial uses of domestic and municipal supply, agricultural supply, and industrial supply. Therefore, current cleanup goals for common hydrocarbon constituents are as follows: 1.0 mg/L–TPH, 1 µg/L-benzene, and 5 µg/L–MTBE. Cleanup goals for MTBE and TPH have been established based on taste and odor thresholds and not health risks.

The groundwater plume extent has been adequately characterized and is contracting or declining in size and concentration, the contaminant mass has been removed from the site to the extent practical, and historical monitoring data indicate the petroleum hydrocarbon concentrations are expected to continue to decrease with time. Therefore, based on the information provided, we have no further requirements for groundwater monitoring, investigation or cleanup of the site.

Our recommendation for closure is based on the following:

(1) The majority of contaminant mass has been removed,
(2) Remaining groundwater pollution above cleanup goals is limited in extent and decreasing in concentration,
(3) Remaining hydrocarbon constituents are unlikely to reach a drinking water supply well,
(4) MTBE concentrations above the taste and odor threshold of 5.0 µg/L are limited, on site, and not associated with the former underground storage tank.
(5) The maximum MTBE concentration is below the primary maximum contaminant level of 13 µg/L, and
(6) Closure is consistent with Section III.G. of State Board Resolution No. 92-49, allowing the consideration of cost effective abatement measures for a site where attainment of reasonable objectives less stringent than background water quality does not unreasonably affect present or anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, and will not result in water quality less than that prescribed by the Basin Plan.

In addition, Water Board staff has evaluated remaining groundwater concentrations with respect to possible indoor air impacts, and soil concentrations with respect to direct human exposure, indoor air impacts, and potential leachability to groundwater. Comparison of these soil and groundwater concentrations with corresponding environmental screening levels for residential land use and construction worker direct exposure scenarios indicate no significant threat to human health or the environment.

Based on the soil and groundwater cleanup actions and groundwater monitoring results, there is no threat to groundwater resources and no further soil or groundwater investigation or cleanup is necessary. In addition, Monterey County Health Department, as the lead agency for soil investigation and cleanup activities, agrees with case closure. The property owner and fee title holder has been notified of the proposed case closure.

Unless the Water Board objects, and pending monitoring well destruction, the Executive Officer will issue a case closure letter pursuant to California Underground Storage Tank Regulations.

Smith Volvo, 1219 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo County [Corey Walsh 805/542-4781]

Staff recommends closure of this underground storage tank (UST) case where groundwater sample results indicate groundwater pollution remains at concentrations greater than Central Coast Water Board (Water Board) cleanup goals for methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE). A concentration of 13 micrograms per liter (µg/L) remains in one monitoring well (MW-3). Attachment 1, *Well Location Map,* presents groundwater contaminant concentrations for samples collected on November 30, 2005. Tri-butyl alcohol (TBA), the only other constituent detected in monitoring wells at this site, has been below the cleanup goal since October 2004. Other petroleum hydrocarbon constituents of concern have been analyzed and have not been detected.

The site formerly contained a service station that reportedly closed in the late 1960's. The site was later used as an automobile dealership and the two former gasoline USTs were reportedly used for storing waste oil until the mid-1980's. A December 1986 note to City Fire Department files indicates that the USTs were "abandoned" on site. Smith Volvo removed the two USTs in 2000; both tanks contained waste oil. Approximately 33 tons of hydrocarbon-impacted soil was removed in conjunction with removal of the USTs. A grab groundwater sample collected from the tank excavation indicated a maximum of 17,000 µg/L total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) as motor oil, 1,500 µg/L TPH as gasoline, 16 µg/L benzene, and 460 µg/L MTBE. The responsible party's consultant subsequently drilled five soil borings on October 2, 2001; three borings were converted to monitoring wells. A fourth monitoring well was installed on June 17, 2003. No soil contamination was detected during well installation.

Groundwater samples collected on November 30, 2005, detected MTBE with a maximum concentration of 13 µg/L, which is slightly above the cleanup goal of 5 µg/L. Previous site-wide monitoring results indicated TBA and MTBE at maximum concentrations of 240 µg/L and 440 µg/L (MW-2 in October 2001), respectively. As previously indicated, TBA concentrations have been below the cleanup goal since October 2002. Shallow groundwater generally occurs at approximately 4 feet below ground surface and generally flows to the southwest at approximately 0.01 ft/ft.

The site lies within the San Luis Obispo Creek Hydrologic Subarea (3-10.24) of the Estero Bay Hydrologic Unit. The "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Region" (Basin Plan) designates groundwater beneficial uses to be domestic and municipal supply, agricultural supply, and industrial supply. Therefore, the groundwater cleanup goals for common petroleum hydrocarbons are as follows: 1,000 µg/L total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), 1.0 µg/L benzene, and 5.0 µg/L MTBE, and 12 µg/L for TBA. The TPH and MTBE cleanup goals have been established based on taste and odor thresholds, not health risks. The benzene goal is based on the California Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), which is based on health effects data, but also contains other information relating to technical and economic feasibility of attainment in a water distribution system. The TBA goal is based on California Department of Health Services (DHS) Notification Level, which is a health-based advisory level used by DHS for chemicals in drinking water that lack MCLs.

The nearest active water well is the San Luis Obispo High School irrigation well located approximately 1,500 feet east of the site. The City of San Luis Obispo also maintains the Mitchell Park municipal supply well located approximately 1,700 feet south; however, this well is not currently operating. The residual petroleum hydrocarbons remaining are unlikely to impact these wells considering the groundwater flow direction, well distances, and low remaining contaminant concentrations. The site is currently used as an

automobile sales lot, and does not operate underground storage tanks or fuel dispensing equipment.

The groundwater plume extent has been adequately characterized and is contracting or declining in size and concentration, the contaminant mass has been removed from the site to the extent practical, and historical monitoring data indicate the petroleum hydrocarbon concentrations are expected to continue to decrease with time. Therefore, based on the information provided, we have no further requirements for groundwater monitoring, investigation or cleanup of the site.

Our recommendation for closure is based on the following:

(7) The majority of contaminant mass has been removed,

(8) Remaining groundwater pollution above cleanup goals is limited in extent and decreasing in concentration,

(9) Remaining hydrocarbon constituents are unlikely to reach a drinking water supply well,

(10) MTBE concentrations above the taste and odor threshold of 5.0 µg/L are limited to only one well onsite. The MTBE concentration of 13 µg/L in MW-3 has declined from a maximum concentration of 400 µg/L since October 2004,

(11) The concentration of 13 µg/L MTBE in MW-3 is equal to the primary MCL of 13 µg/L, and

(12) Closure is consistent with Section III.G. of State Board Resolution No. 92-49, allowing the consideration of cost effective abatement measures for a site where attainment of reasonable objectives less stringent than background water quality does not unreasonably affect present or anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, and will not result in water quality less than that prescribed by the Basin Plan.

In addition, Water Board staff has evaluated remaining groundwater concentrations with respect to possible indoor air impacts, and soil concentrations with respect to direct human exposure, indoor air impacts, and potential leachability to groundwater. Comparison of these soil and groundwater concentrations with corresponding environmental screening levels for residential land use and construction worker direct exposure scenarios indicate no significant threat to human health or the environment.

Based on the soil and groundwater cleanup actions and groundwater monitoring results, there is no threat to groundwater resources and no further soil or groundwater investigation or cleanup is necessary. In addition, San Luis Obispo City, Fire Department, as the lead agency for soil investigation and cleanup activities, has concurred with site closure. The property owner has been notified of the proposed case closure.

Unless the Water Board objects, and pending monitoring well destruction, the Executive Officer will issue a case closure letter pursuant to California Underground Storage Tank Regulations.

Attachments

1. Site Map