

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 31 2009

Prepared August 3, 2009

ITEM NUMBER: 7

SUBJECT: Staff Closures

Background:

This staff report summarizes a cleanup site that Central Coast Water Board staff has closed because the groundwater beneath the site has attained water quality goals that are protective of present and future beneficial uses.

Tosco 76 Service Station No. 5798, 2015 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo County; [Corey Walsh (805) 542-4781]

The subject site is an active retail service station located on the south side of High Street between Broad Street and Story Street in the City of San Luis Obispo. The property is surrounded by commercial and residential properties. ConocoPhillips Company is the party responsible for cleanup of the site, however the property is owned by Mr. Adel Bichay.

During facility upgrade activities in March 1999, contractors discovered a release of gasoline and associated constituents including methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) below the fuel dispensers. Soil was excavated below one dispenser to approximately five feet below ground surface (bgs). The City of San Luis Obispo Fire Department (City) directed further soil and groundwater investigation in February 2002. The City referred the case to Central Coast Water Board staff after verifying groundwater impacts in March 2003.

Historic groundwater analytical results show the primary constituents of concern were MTBE and tertiary-butyl alcohol (TBA). The maximum concentrations for MTBE, and TBA were 370 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), and 330 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively. ConocoPhillips used enhanced bioremediation and limited soil excavation to cleanup the site. ConocoPhillips removed and disposed of 18 cubic yards of contaminated soil. The most recent groundwater monitoring showed all constituents of concern are below cleanup goals. Attachment 1, Dissolved-Phase MTBE Concentration Map, presents concentrations for samples collected on October 6, 2008.

The site lies within a groundwater basin designated as having beneficial uses for domestic and municipal supply and agricultural supply. The depth to groundwater at the site currently ranges from approximately 1 to 13 feet bgs. Groundwater flows toward the west/northwest at an average gradient of 0.06 feet per foot. The nearest active municipal supply water well is the City of San Luis Obispo "Mitchell Park Well" located approximately 2,500 feet north of the site. The City of San Luis Obispo Utilities Department indicates the Mitchell Park well has been idle since August 2000. The nearest surface water body is San Luis Obispo Creek, which is located approximately 3,700 feet west of site. Any residual petroleum hydrocarbons are unlikely to impact this well or surface water considering the groundwater flow direction, distance to well and surface water and very low contaminant concentration.

Based on site investigation and groundwater monitoring results, there is no longer a threat to groundwater or surface water quality from the release of petroleum hydrocarbons at this site. Central Coast Water Board staff has no further requirements for soil or groundwater investigation, monitoring, or cleanup at the site. The City of San Luis Obispo, City Fire Department agrees with this determination. Central Coast Water Board staff also notified the property owner, adjacent owners

and other interested parties of the proposed case closure. We have not received any comments or objections to the planned closure of this case. The responsible party has been directed to destroy all monitoring wells. The Central Coast Water Board 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.

ATTACHMENT

Dissolved-Phase MTBE Concentration Map

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