

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

August 2024

EMPLOYEE: Deborah Kemp
UNIT: Federal and Private Sites Cleanup
TITLE: Scientific Aid
SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Nathan Casebeer, Senior Engineering Geologist

Deb Kemp joined the Site Cleanup Program as a Scientific Aid October 2023. Since joining the Water Board, Deb has been a key team player in supporting Site Cleanup staff including responding to PRA requests, supporting field sampling, document preparation and making GIS maps.

Deb spent many hours helping inventory, scan, and discard Aerojet and other Site Cleanup paper files from the secure file room. To help organize electronic files on the R-drive, Deb identified a process to quickly create thousands of folders to exactly match the naming of both Site Cleanup and UST cases as entered onto GeoTracker. Our old file system organized by unit and staff with case names often different from GeoTracker has made it difficult to find older electronic files.

Deb also led this year's Annual Estimate Letter project, preparing over 200 letters for cost recovery cases for the new fiscal year. Deb identified several process improvements that will help further automate transfer of estimated tasks and hours to the letters going forward. She also kept program staff on schedule to provide the case information for the letters and confirmed all letters were sent out and uploaded to GeoTracker.

As part of a PRA file review, which covered a significant area of Solano County, Deb noticed that many of our historical natural gas condensate and compressor station cases were incorrectly located on GeoTracker, sometimes off by many miles. Deb reviewed file room documents, historic aerial photos, street view photos, and topographic maps for dozens of natural gas cases throughout the Region to move the GeoTracker markers to the correct locations. She even identified a stalled unknown source case found during housing development as a natural gas company case. Having identified the responsible party, we are working to re-activate the stalled case to complete the cleanup.

Deb is a highly valuable and versatile member of the Site Cleanup team and has successfully improved the efficiency of the program. For all of this and more, Deb is very deserving of this Employee Recognition Award.