

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF MAY 23-24, 2007
LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA**

- ITEM:** 6
- SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
- DISCUSSION:** The Executive Officer's report includes the following:
- Enclosure 1: Report on Status of Standing Items (May 2007)
 - Enclosure 2: Executive Officer's Written Report (May 2007)
 - Enclosure 3: Notification of Spills (Pursuant to Section 13271, California Water Code and Section 25180.7, California Health and Safety Code)
 - Enclosure 4: Notification of Closure of Underground Storage Tank Cases (Pursuant to Article 11, Division 3, Chapter 16, Title 23, California Code of Regulations)

ENCLOSURE 1

Report on Status of Standing Items (May 2007)

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

REPORT ON STATUS OF STANDING ITEMS

May 2007

The Regional Board has requested that it be kept informed of the status of a number of issues. The following table lists the items, the reporting frequency and where the report can be found.

| ISSUE | REPORT FREQUENCY | STATUS/COMMENT |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles - District No. 14 | Monthly | Due June 2007 Board Meeting |
| County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles - District No. 20 | Monthly | Due June 2007 Board Meeting |
| Tahoe Municipal Permit | Annually | Due June 2007 Board Meeting |
| Searles Valley Minerals Operations - Compliance Status | Semi-Annual | Due September 2007 Board Meeting |
| Mojave River/El Mirage Dairy Issues | Semi-Annual | Due September 2007 Board Meeting |
| Status of Basin Plan Amendments | Semi-Annual | Due September 2007 Board Meeting |
| Status of Grants | Semi-Annual | Due September 2007 Board Meeting |
| Wetland Restoration Progress in Mono County | Annually | Due November 2007 Board Meeting |
| Caltrans Statewide General Permit/Tahoe Basin | Annually | Due November 2007 Board Meeting |

| <u>Frequency</u> | <u>Board Meeting Month</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Quarterly</i> | January, April, July, & October. |
| <i>Bi-Monthly</i> | Varied |
| <i>Semi-Annual</i> | March & September |
| <i>Annually</i> | Varied |

ENCLOSURE 2

Executive Officer's Written Report (May 2007)



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

May 2007

NORTH BASIN

1. Former Meyers Landfill, Lake Tahoe Basin, El Dorado County – James Brathovde

In accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, the U.S. Forest Service is in the final stages of preparing a Supplemental Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Meyers Landfill cap. Once completed, the Forest Service will open a 30-day public comment period for the Proposed Plan for remedial landfill capping activities.

The Meyers Landfill was closed in 1971. The original native sandy soil cap placed over the 11-acre landfill is inadequate and has allowed landfill leachate to degrade groundwater. Precipitation and snowmelt permeate the landfill mass and carry volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into the shallow groundwater aquifer. One VOC degradation product of particular concern is vinyl chloride, which is toxic and has been detected in groundwater nearly 1,500 feet beyond the footprint of the landfill and threatens Saxon Creek, a tributary of Trout Creek.

In the summer of 2006, the Forest Service, as lead agency under CERCLA, separated the Meyers Landfill Site into two operable units (OUs), the Landfill OU, which includes the landfill itself, and the Groundwater OU, which consists of the groundwater underlying the landfill and the

associated plume of volatile organic compounds moving off the landfill. The Forest Service anticipated that this separation would fast-track the capping remedy and hopefully would preclude additional leachate from being generated and entering the groundwater. Board staff worked closely with the Forest Service during the supplemental investigation through periodic technical workgroup meetings.

The Forest Service has not yet determined remedial alternatives for the groundwater plume other than monitored natural attenuation. The Supplemental RI/FS from which the Proposed Plan will be drafted currently does not adequately address the probability that there is an inadequate separation between the base of landfill waste and seasonal high groundwater, resulting in a reasonable potential discharge of dissolved waste constituents to groundwater. However, based on monitoring data collected in 2006, the plume is gradually declining in concentration and the "hottest" portion now ranges from about 30-50 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) of vinyl chloride during the fall to 5 $\mu\text{g/L}$ during the spring snowmelt.

The current Forest Service schedule is to identify the proposed remedy in the Record of Decision in July 2007. Board staff will provide comments on the Proposed Plan.

2. Staff Conducts Outreach Sessions on Renewed Timber Waiver with USFS and Private Sector Stakeholders – Douglas Cushman

Water Board staff member Douglas Cushman met with representatives of the Tahoe National Forest and Tahoe Basin area fire chiefs and consulting foresters to explain the newly adopted revision of the Lahontan Water Board's Timber Waiver. During the outreach session, the Waiver was explained and means of compliance were discussed. The various Waiver Categories were evaluated and the appropriate forms that must be submitted were presented to stakeholders. The monitoring component was of particular interest for the meeting attendees. Feedback from the stakeholders was positive and they expressed appreciation for Board staff taking the time to explain implementation of the Waiver. More meetings are scheduled during and May for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Modoc, Lassen, Humboldt-Toiyabe, Angeles, and San Bernardino National Forests, as well as with Fire Safe Councils throughout the Lahontan Region.

3. Squaw Creek TMDL Monitoring, Placer County – Chuck Curtis

The Lahontan Water Board adopted the Squaw Creek sediment TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) amendment to the Basin Plan in April 2006. In February 2007, the State Water Board approved the amendment and now it awaits approval (expected within a few months) by the Office of Administrative Law and the U.S. EPA. The TMDL specifies that the TMDL monitoring requirements be incorporated into the relevant discharger permits within six months of the TMDL's final approval.

The TMDL identifies a monitoring program that calls for periodic checks of stream substrate and aquatic organisms to determine the overall biologic condition of

the stream. The TMDL requires monitoring every other year at three locations in the meadow reach of Squaw Creek. The TMDL includes substrate targets that reflect the desired condition of fewer fine particles in the streambed, which correlates to improved conditions for fish spawning and benthic (stream bottom) organisms.

The biological monitoring that is required consists of sampling benthic macroinvertebrates (stream-bottom-dwelling insects and worms). The numbers and types of benthic macroinvertebrates in a stream correlate to stream health for aquatic organisms. A composite of seven macroinvertebrate measures, called the biologic condition score (BCS), has been developed for the Squaw Creek bioassessment. The BCS target is 25. The TMDL identifies that attainment of the BCS target will be based on a 3-(sampling) event rolling average. Attainment of the TMDL targets is expected in 20 years.

Water Board staff are currently reviewing the Squaw Creek TMDL's monitoring requirements to evaluate the ability of the monitoring program to discern changes in stream condition. Because the number of sampling points and the frequency of sampling are low, the statistical confidence with which one can say the data indicate a difference is also low. Staff is evaluating what should be considered to be an acceptable level of confidence for the monitoring results. Even with a low level of statistical confidence in detecting differences in bioassessment monitoring results, overall confidence in detecting stream improvements is increased because bioassessment is not the only indicator of stream condition, as there are also two stream substrate indicators that will be monitored. We will plan an agenda item or Executive Officer's report on the results of staff's evaluation at a future Board meeting.

SOUTH BASIN

4. Cleanup of National Guard Plane Crash on Owens Lake – Cindi Mitton

A plane operated by the Air National Guard crashed on Owens Lake in January of this year. The crash occurred in an area that was wet from shallow flooding (covering the surface with a few inches of water) being implemented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for its dust control project. LADWP agreed to temporarily stop dust control operations in the area so that the area could dry out and be accessed for site investigation and cleanup. Results of samples from the site show that soils at the crash site contain jet fuel contaminants. The contaminants appear to be localized in soil near the crash site and are in the upper 12 inches of the soil. The National Guard has hired a cleanup contractor to prepare a cleanup plan and perform the cleanup.

Coordination meetings to discuss site cleanup have been held between interested agencies that include the Great Basin Air Quality Management District, State Lands Commission, the Department of Fish and Game, Inyo County, LADWP, the Air National Guard, and the Lahontan Water Board. On April 18, 2007, the group agreed on sampling that would be done so that dust control operations could resume in areas not affected by the crash. It is expected that dust control operations should be able to be restarted in an area east of the crash site shortly. Water Board staff will expedite review of the cleanup plan once submitted so that the crash site can be cleaned up and dust control operations can resume over the entire area.

5. Birchim Community Services District Well Site Cleanup – Douglas Feay

A Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) was issued to Birchim Community Services District (CSD) and Jensen Drilling Company on February 14, 2007 requiring cleanup of drilling waste discharged during installation of a new water well near Sunnyslope. The drilling waste contained pumice and fine materials that had been discharged to the ground at the site and to a small creek and riparian area next to the drill site.

In response to the CAO, Jensen Drilling and Sierra Geotechnical Services installed controls including straw waddles and hay bails to contain waste at the site and prevent further impacts to the creek area, and they began cleaning up the site. The creek was frozen during most of the time when the site was being cleaned up. Waste frozen in the ice was chipped out of the creek by hand. Riparian vegetation was hosed off with clean water, which then pooled, froze and was also chipped out of the creek. A vacuum truck was used to remove loose waste from grassy areas and the ground and area around the drill hole.

Water Board staff inspected the area on March 21, 2007 and found that the waste was removed from the creek and riparian areas and from the ground at the site. Best management practices, including installing straw waddles and silt fence, were being used to protect the creek from site runoff. Staff plans to inspect the site again soon and will likely recommend that I rescind the CAO.

6. City of Adelanto Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facility Exceeds Design Capacity, In Violations of Waste Discharge Requirements – Judith Keir

The Adelanto Public Utility Authority operates the Adelanto Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facility (Adelanto Treatment Facility), receiving domestic wastewater, industrial wastewater, and septage. The Adelanto Treatment Facility is operating above its permitted treatment capacity. The existing facility has a design and permitted treatment capacity of an average 1.5 million gallons per day (mgd). Unprecedented population growth in the high desert has outpaced the City's planning cycle of upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant. The facility has exceeded its maximum flow limit of 1.5 mgd by an average 200,000 gallons per day, its maximum instantaneous flow rate of 2.5 mgd and its effluent limitation for BOD (biochemical oxygen demand) since January 2004.

In response to requests from Water Board staff dating back to 2004 for a Report of Waste Discharge for revision of its Waste Discharge Requirements, the City issued a Notice of Preparation in March 2006 of a draft environmental document under CEQA for major upgrades and improvements to the Adelanto Treatment Facility. However, the City was unable to decide on a treatment solution and method for expansion of the facility, which delayed the preparation of the environmental document. On April 25, 2007, the City Council authorized expansion plans using micro-media technology and will resume preparation of the environmental document. The City anticipates adoption of the document in September 2007.

The City has implemented two interim measures to address flow violations and the limited treatment capacity: (1) the installation of separate holding tanks on the property to help equalize the flow, and

(2) the facility has stopped receiving septage.

Groundwater monitoring data do not indicate that the flow violations have caused water quality impairment of the receiving water. However, two of the facility's groundwater monitoring wells are under the hydraulic influence of wastewater mounding from the percolation ponds and need to be replaced with new wells located downgradient of the percolation ponds and outside of the groundwater mound. Water Board staff is currently reviewing the City's well installation workplan. The Adelanto Public Utility Authority anticipates completing well installation by December 2007.

The City has been informed that I will be bringing a proposed Cease and Desist Order to you in September for your consideration in response to the Adelanto Public Utility Authority's violations of Waste Discharge Requirements.

7. Administrative Civil Liability for Trinity Construction Settled – Scott C. Ferguson

On January 5, 2007, the Water Board's Assistant Executive Officer issued Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R6V-2007-0002 (Complaint) in the amount of \$10,000 to Trinity Construction Company (Trinity). The Complaint was issued in response to a November 4, 2005 discharge of untreated sewage to Rainbow Creek in the Lake Arrowhead watershed. The discharge occurred when Trinity was removing storm debris that had been stockpiled on and around a Lake Arrowhead Community Services District sewer manhole, and in the process caused debris to be discharged into the sewer system through the manhole. The debris created a blockage, which caused the sewer to overflow.

On February 26, 2007, Water Board staff and Trinity agreed to settle the Complaint for the amount of \$6,000. On March 5, 2007, Water Board staff received a signed Waiver of Hearing Form and check for \$6,000 from Trinity. Trinity's submittal constitutes a proposed settlement of the Complaint.

Water Board staff initiated a 30-day public comment period by publishing public notices in the Mountain News & Crestline Courier, the Victorville Daily Press & Desert Dispatch, and the San Bernardino Sun. The public notice and the Complaint were also posted on the Water Board's web site. No comments were received and settlement of the Complaint is now final.

ENCLOSURE 3

Notification of Spills (Unauthorized Waste Discharges) (May 2007)

EO'S Monthly Report
3/16/07 - 4/15/07
Unauthorized Waste Discharges

COUNTY: EL DORADO

| Discharger/Facility | Location | Basin | Regulated Facility | Substance Discharged | Spill Date | Discharge Volume | Description of Failure | Discharge To | Status |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|---|--------------|---|
| Tahoe Queen | Tahoe Keys Marina | N | N | Hydraulic oil | 4/10/2007 | 3 gallons | A hose was left disconnected when replacing the Tahoe Queen's engine. | Lake Tahoe | Absorbent pads had been placed around the boat prior to the spill. Barrier booms and additional absorbent pads placed after the spill. No further action recommended. |

COUNTY: KERN

| Discharger/Facility | Location | Basin | Regulated Facility | Substance Discharged | Spill Date | Discharge Volume | Description of Failure | Discharge To | Status |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|---|--------------|--|
| Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake / Groundwater Monitoring Well | King Ave & Dibb Rd., Ridgecrest | S | N | Raw sewage | 7/25/1996 | Unknown | A recent sanitary sewer survey revealed that a ground water monitoring well had been placed through a sewer line. | Underground | Restroom served by sewer line was closed. Well was properly abandoned. Broken section of sewer was removed and repaired with a new section. No further action recommended. |

COUNTY: LOS ANGELES

| Discharger/Facility | Location | Basin | Regulated Facility | Substance Discharged | Spill Date | Discharge Volume | Description of Failure | Discharge To | Status |
|--|--|-------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------|---|
| County of Los Angeles Public Works / Sanitary Sewer System | 43460 32nd Street West / Avenue K-4, Lancaster | S | Y | Raw sewage | 3/19/2007 | 100 Gallons | Manhole overflowed. | Ground | Spill cleaned with absorbent material. Area washed down and remaining sewage returned to sewer system. Sewer line scheduled for cleaning every 60 days. |

06-0011

COUNTY: PLACER

| Discharger/Facility | Location | Basin | Regulated Facility | Substance Discharged | Spill Date | Discharge Volume | Description of Failure | Discharge To | Status |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Tahoe Sport Fishing | Carnelian Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diesel fuel | 4/5/2007 | <1 gallon | Discharge was released due to overfilling the fuel tank on a boat. | Lake Tahoe | Diesel volatilized into atmosphere. No further action recommended. |

COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO

| Discharger/Facility | Location | Basin | Regulated Facility | Substance Discharged | Spill Date | Discharge Volume | Description of Failure | Discharge To | Status |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| BNSF Railroad / Train Locomotive Repair Building | Rail Yard, Barstow | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Oil | 3/12/2007 | 100 gallons | Seal in engine compartment broke and released substance. | Ground and concrete | Contractor used clay absorbent to clean oil that spilled to concrete. Discolored soil was excavated and placed into drums for disposal. No further action recommended. |
| Jeff Stephan / Residence | 1706 Lorene Dr., Victorville | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Printer ink | 3/16/2007 | Unknown | A home owner was emptying and washing out 250 gallon totes. Water and substance was spilled from gutter to wash. | Dry wash | Site inspected by Water Board staff. City of Victorville conducted cleanup. Cleanup complete. Further enforcement action being coordinated with the City of Victorville and San Bernardino County. |
| BNSF Railroad / Service Rack | Rail Yard, Barstow | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diesel | 3/21/2007 | 200 Gallons | Staff overfilled a tank and spilled diesel. | Ground | Contaminated soil was excavated. Clean up complete. No further action recommended. |
| City of Victorville / Sanitary Sewer | Center Street south of Zenda St. Victorville | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Raw Sewage | 3/24/2007 | 10,000 Gallons | Someone deposited a hose and rock into the sewer. Sewage backed up and overflowed. | Concrete lined wash | City raked up paper, vactored liquid, and rinsed road. Area was disinfected. Cleanup complete. No further action recommended. |

06-0012

COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO

| Discharger/Facility | Location | Basin | Regulated Facility | Substance Discharged | Spill Date | Discharge Volume | Description of Failure | Discharge To | Status |
|---|--|-------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|--|--------------|---|
| City of Victorville / Sanitary Sewer System | Coad Rd. East of Hesperia Rd, near 2nd 90 Degree turn in road, Victorville | S | Y | Raw sewage | 3/25/2007 | 5,000 Gallons | Vandals put rebar and building material into sewer. | Dry wash | Liquid soaked into wash. City raked and bagged trash. Disinfected area. |
| Town of Apple Valley / Sanitary Sewer | Logical extension of Deep Creek Rd., North of Parate Rd., Apple Valley | S | Y | Raw sewage | 4/13/2007 | 5,000 gallons | Sewer line was blocked with debris and sewage overflowed from manhole. Discharge flowed about 1/4 mile to the bottom of a hill where it formed a small pool. | Ground | Line cleared of debris. Standing fluids were disinfected with sodium hypochlorite and all affected soil treated with hydrated lime. Clean up complete. Water purveyors notified. No further action recommended. |

06-001

ENCLOSURE 4

Notification of Closure of Underground Storage Tank Cases (May 2007)

CASE CLOSURE REPORT
May 2007
 State of California
 Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

| Date Closure Issued | Site Name | Site Address | Case Number | Case Type | Remaining Groundwater Concentrations above Water Quality Objectives (in ug/L) | Remaining Soil Concentrations (in mg/Kg) | Distance from Site to Nearest Receptor | Remedial Methods Used |
|--|-----------|--------------|-------------|-----------|---|--|--|-----------------------|
| No closures issued during April period | | | | | | | | |

Notes:
 TPHd = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel
 TPHg = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as gasoline

05-0915