

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region

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**CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER BOARD MOVES TO
UNITE FACTIONS; CLEAN UP GROUND WATER IN LODI**

Sacramento - In an effort to address groundwater contamination associated with the central plume in Lodi, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, yesterday, issued a cleanup and abatement order (CAO) to protect unpolluted wells and prevent even further migration of a toxic dry cleaning solvent into clean groundwater.

The CAO was issued to the City of Lodi, Guild Cleaners, Inc, Odd Fellows Hall Association of Lodi, Estate of Dwight Alquist, Lodi News Sentinel, and the Beckman Capital Corporation. Adoption of this Cleanup and Abatement Order is necessary to compel all parties responsible for the discharge of the solvent perchloroethene (PCE) to control and cleanup groundwater in the City of Lodi.

Yesterday at it's meeting, the Regional Water Board heard testimony, weighed the evidence, and agreed that past operations of dry cleaning facilities and a printing plant resulted in discharges of PCE to the soil and to the City's sewer lines, which subsequently leaked more PCE to the soil and groundwater. The PCE plume in the Central Plume Area has resulted in closure of a City water supply well. Guild Cleaners, one of the dischargers, has done investigation and some cleanup work, while the City has performed a citywide initial investigation and some groundwater monitoring. There is still much cleanup work yet to be done in the Central Plume Area. The order will make all Dischargers responsible for the cleanup of groundwater and soil, and will establish a time schedule, with tasks enforceable by the Regional Board under the Water Code, to accomplish the cleanup and abatement of the significant pollution in the Lodi Central Plume Area.

"The Regional Board, in coordination with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, is taking this action to bring all parties to the table, to maximize resources, and unite efforts to cleanup this significant groundwater problem," said Bob Schneider, Chair of the Central Valley Regional Board. "We appreciate the City of Lodi's recent leadership in this effort," he added.