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6	Facsimile: (310) 284-2100	
7	Attorneys for Petitioner REXFORD INDUSTRIAL REALTY, INC.	
8	BEFORE THE STATE WATER I	RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
9		
10	In the Matter of Appeal of Investigative Order	Via Electronic Submission
11	No. R4-2018-0026, Water Code Section 13267 Order to Provide a Technical Report: Work Plan	
12	for Subsurface Investigation	PETITION FOR REVIEW AND REQUEST FOR STAY OF ORDER
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15	Pursuant to Section 13320 of California	rnia Water Code and Section 2050 of Title 23 of
16	the California Code of Regulations (CCR), REXFO	ORD INDUSTRIAL REALTY, INC. ("Petitioner")
17	petitions the State Water Resources Control Board	("State Board") to review and vacate or amend
18	Investigative Order No. R4-2018-0026, the Order to	o Provide a Technical Report: Work Plan For
19	Subsurface Investigation issued March 12, 2018 ("Control of the Control of the Co	Order") of the California Regional Water Quality
20	Control Board for the Los Angeles Region ("Regio	nal Board"), which ordered Petitioner to submit a
21	work plan to further delineate groundwater contamination emanating from Glendale Gateway (San	
22	Fernando Road Site)/Former Newlowe Properties S	Site, 3332-3334, 3360- 3380, 3410, 3424-3428, N.
23	San Fernando Road and 3510 — 3600 Tyburn Stre	et, Los Angeles, CA 90065 (SCP NO. 0628)(the
24	"Property"). More specifically, the Order requires	Petitioner to prepare and submit a work plan to
25	conduct a subsurface investigation, which must inc	lude groundwater sampling and analysis for, at a
26	minimum, VOCs and 1,4-dioxane.	
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However, the Order is inappropriate and improper for the following reasons:

- The Order was improperly issued to Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc., whereas the
 owner of the Property is RIF V-Glendale Commerce Center, LLC. For purposes of
 this Petition, the term "Petitioner" shall include both Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc.
 and RIF V-Glendale Commerce Center, LLC. However, Rexford Industrial Realty,
 Inc., has no relationship to or responsibility for the Property.
- 2. The Order is vague and contains inaccuracies that render it infeasible to implement.
- 3. The Order is invalid under California Water Code Section 13267(b) because the burden of complying with the Order does not bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the work plan and the benefits to be obtained from the work plan.
- 4. The Order does not comply with Section 13267(b) because the Regional Board has not identified the evidence that supports requiring Petitioner to furnish the work plan.
- 5. The Order is inappropriate because it suggests in Paragraph 1, Page 1 that Petitioner is subject to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) search for Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) for the Pollock Operable Unit of the San Fernando Valley Superfund Area (Pollock Operable Unit). Petitioner cannot be liable for the Pollock Operable Unit under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) because Petitioner meets the requirements for Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser (BFPP) status under CERCLA.

Petitioner requests that the State Board vacate, or in the alternative, revise the requirements of the Order so that the Order requires Petition to demonstrate that no additional off-site investigation is necessary, rather than conduct additional off-site investigation.

The issues raised in this petition were raised in a March 21, 2018 telephone conference with Regional Board staff and counsel in which Petitioner requested that the Regional Board reconsider the Order.

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2	1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PETITIONERS:
3	Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc.
4	11620 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 300
	Los Angeles, CA 90025
5	Attn: Howard Schwimmer Email: howards@rexfordindustrial.com
6	Telephone: 310.966.3804
7	Please provide a copy of all materials related to this matter to:
8	Cox, Castle & Nicholson, LLP
9	Preston W. Brooks
	2029 Century Park East, Suite 2100
10	Los Angeles, CA 90067-3284
11	Email: pbrooks@coxcastle.com Telephone: 310.284.2223
12	2. THE SPECIFIC ACTION OR INACTION OF THE REGIONAL BOARD WHICH THE STATE BOARD IS REQUIRED TO REVIEW AND A COPY OF ANY ORDER
13	OR RESOLUTION OF THE REGIONAL BOARD WHICH IS REFERRED TO IN
14	THE PETITION:
15	Petitioner seeks review of Investigative Order No. R4-2018-0026, the Order to Provide
16	a Technical Report: Work Plan For Subsurface Investigation issued March 12, 2018 ("Order"). A
17	copy of the Order is attached hereto, and filed concurrently, as Exhibit 1.
18	3. THE DATE ON WHICH THE REGIONAL BOARD ACTED OR REFUSED TO ACT
19	OR ON WHICH THE REGIONAL BOARD WAS REQUESTED TO ACT:
	March 12, 2018.
20	4. A FULL AND COMPLETE STATEMENT OF THE REASONS THE ACTION OR
21	FAILURE TO ACT WAS INAPPROPRIATE OR IMPROPER:
22	As explained in detail below in Section 6, the issuance of the Order was inappropriate
23	and improper under California Water Code Section 13267(b) for the following reasons:
24	• The Order was improperly issued to Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc., whereas the
25	owner of the Property is RIF V-Glendale Commerce Center, LLC.
26	The Order is vague and contains inaccuracies that render it infeasible to
27	implement.
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- The burden imposed on Petitioner by the Order does not bear a reasonable relationship to the benefits that may be obtained from the work plan sought by the Order.
- Monitoring results from Petitioner's existing off-site monitoring well shows that current groundwater conditions do not warrant additional investigation of impacts from the Property.
- Data from existing off-site wells can be used to delineate groundwater impacts,
 and therefore additional wells are not necessary.
- The Order is premature because upcoming remediation of the Property, which is scheduled to be implemented in May 2018, will positively impact conditions at the Property.
- The Order's requirement for additional investigation is not supported by evidence, especially in light of the fact that the Regional Board previously determined that no additional off-site investigation was necessary.
- The Order's suggestion that Petitioner is subject to CERCLA liability as a PRP for the Pollock Operable Unit is incorrect because Petitioner meets the requirements of the BFPP exemption from CERLA liability.

Petitioner reserves its right to supplement this Petition with an additional statement of reasons in support of its position that the Order is inappropriate or improper at a later date.

5. THE MANNER IN WHICH THE PETITIONER IS AGGRIEVED.

Petitioner is aggrieved because it is being ordered to perform an unnecessary investigation regarding off-site contamination. Petitioner has voluntarily performed extensive investigations of off-site and on-site impacts of contamination emanating from the Property, and previous owners of the Property have conducted remediation and investigation of the Property and off-site impacts since 1987. The results of these extensive investigations over the course of 30 years do not indicate that there are data gaps that necessitate additional investigation of potential off-site contamination emanating from the Property. Furthermore, the Regional Board has previously informed the Petitioner that Petitioner will not be responsible for additional off-site investigation and

1	has not provided evidence that such additional investigation is necessary or that conditions have
2	changed, necessitating additional investigation.
3	Petitioner will be aggrieved if it is compelled to expend funds and resources to prepare
4	a work plan for off-site investigation. Petitioner requests that the State Board vacate the Order.
5	6. THE SPECIFIC ACTION BY THE STATE OR REGIONAL BOARD WHICH PETITIONER REQUESTS.
6	
7	The Petitioners seek an <u>immediate stay</u> of the Order, while the Board reviews this
8	Petition.
9	Further, the Petitioners seek the following action:
10	1) The Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board vacate the Order.
11	2) In the alternative, the Petitioners request that the Board amend the Order in the
12	following manner:
13	a) require the Petitioner to demonstrate that no data gap exists regarding the
14	extent of the on-site contamination and its impact on off-site properties, and that therefore no
15	additional off-site investigation is necessary; and
16	b) withdraw the requirement to conduct any off-site investigation and to
17	provide a work plan.
18	7. A STATEMENT OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF LEGAL ISSUES RAISED IN THE PETITION.
19 20	The State Board should vacate the Order for the following reasons:
21	1. The Order was improperly issued to Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc., whereas the
22	owner of the Property is RIF V-Glendale Commerce Center, LLC.
23	2. The Order is vague and contains inaccuracies that render it infeasible to implement.
24	3. The Order is invalid under California Water Code Section 13267(b) because the
25	burden of complying with the Order does not bear a reasonable relationship to the
26	need for the work plan and the benefits to be obtained from the work plan.
27	4. The Order does not comply with Section 13267(b) because the Regional Board has
28	not identified the evidence that supports requiring Petitioner to furnish the work plan.

5. The Order is inappropriate because it suggests in Paragraph 1, Page 1 that Petitioner is subject to the EPA's search for PRPs for the for the Pollock Operable Unit.

Petitioner cannot be liable for the Pollock Operable Unit under CERCLA because Petitioner meets the requirements for BFPP status under CERCLA.

A. STANDARD OF REVIEW

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13320(a), an aggrieved person may petition the State Board to review a Regional Board order, within 30 days of such order. The State Board may find that the actions of a Regional Board were inappropriate or improper and direct the Regional Board to take the appropriate action, refer the issue to another state agency with jurisdiction, or take the appropriate action itself. Water Code Section13320(c).

The State Board is not subject to the standards which bind a court, and the scope of the State Board's review is "closer to that of independent review." *In the Matter of the Petition of Exxon Company*, Order No. WQ 85-7, at p. 10. In reviewing a Regional Board action, the State Board shall consider the record before the Regional Board, and any other relevant evidence which it wishes to consider. Water Code Section 13320(b); *In the Matter of the Petition of Exxon Company, U.S.A., et al. of the Adoption of the Cleanup and Abatement Order No.* 85-066, Order No. WQ 85-7, at p. 10. However, any findings made by an administrative agency in support of an action must be based on substantial evidence in the record. (*Id.*, citing *Topanga Association for a Scenic Community v. County of Los Angeles* (1974) 11 Cal. 3d 506, 113 Cal. Rptr. 836).

This petition was filed by Petitioner, an aggrieved party, within 30 days of the issuance of the Order and is therefore timely filed for review by the State Board. Pursuant to Water Code Section 13320, the State Board should independently review the record and any other materials that it wishes to consider. The State Board should vacate the Order because it is inappropriate and improper, the burden of compliance with the Order is not reasonably related to the benefits of the work plan to be produced, the Regional Board has not produced evidence that the work plan is necessary, and Petitioner cannot be named as a PRP for the Pollock Operable Unit under CERCLA.

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B. THE STATE BOARD SHOULD VACATE THE ORDER BECAUSE IT IS INAPPROPRIATE AND IMPROPER TO THE DEGREE THAT ITS IMPLEMENTATION IS INFEASIBLE

The State Board should vacate the Order because it is inappropriate and improper. See Water Code Section 13320(c). The implementation of the Order would be infeasible due to incorrect, inaccurate and inconsistent statements in the Order. Although the Property is owned by RIF V-Glendale Commerce Center, LLC, the Order was improperly issued to Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc. This is inappropriate because Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc. is not the owner of the Property and has no relationship to or responsibility for the Property. Petitioner objects to the Order on the basis that it was issued to the wrong party.

In addition, Paragraph 6 of the Order, which states that the burden associated with compliance with the Order bears a reasonable relationship to the need for compliance, states that "The information is necessary to adequately determine the extent of discharges of waste at and from the former Acme Metal Finishing site. . ." (Order p. 3). Petitioner has no knowledge of the Acme Metal Finishing site, which is not located on or related to the Property. Petitioner has no responsibility to perform investigations or produce reports to determine the extent of discharges of waste at or from the Acme Metal Finishing site. This directive is therefore inappropriate.

Furthermore, compliance with the Order is infeasible because the Order provides contradictory information regarding the environmental media and chemicals at issue. Paragraph 5 of the Order states that Petitioner must prepare a "work plan to conduct a subsurface investigation to determine if any unauthorized release of VOCs, heavy metals, and/or 1,4-dioxane have impacted the soil beneath the Site." (Order, p. 3). This is especially surprising because the Regional Board determined in December 2012 that no further action is required regarding soils at the Property. However, Paragraph 3 of the Order refers to groundwater contamination, and the Order only requires further delineation of groundwater contamination and groundwater sampling for volatile organic compounds ("VOCs") and 1,4-dioxane. (See Order pp. 3 and 4).

In addition, the Order's sole evidence for the need for off-site investigation relies on outdated monitoring results from Petitioner's off-site well, Monitoring Well 18 ("MW-18"), stating

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that "persistent contaminant detection at the off-site most down-gradient well (MW-18), and historical and recent contaminant detections at locations further down-gradient of MW-18." December 2017 groundwater monitoring results show that the Tetrachloroethylene ("PCE") concentration in off-site well MW-18 has decreased from 167 micrograms per liter (µg/l) in April 2017 to 16.6 µg/l in December 2017. The 1,4-dioxane concentration in MW-18 was less than 2 µg/l in December 2017. The December 2017 MW-18 data was provided to the Regional Board on January 15, 2018. The use of outdated, incorrect monitoring results to justify additional investigation is inappropriate and irresponsible.

C. THE STATE BOARD SHOULD VACATE THE ORDER BECAUSE THE BURDEN OF COMPLYING WITH THE ORDER EXCEEDS THE BENEFITS TO BE OBTAINED FROM THE WORK PLAN

The State Board should vacate the Order because the burden of complying with the order exceeds the benefits to be obtained from the work plan required by the Order. Pursuant to Water Code Section 13267, the burden, including costs, of reports required by the Regional Board shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. As detailed in the following sections, off-site investigation is not necessary. However, under the Order, Petitioner must prepare an off-site investigation work plan by revising the existing site conceptual model to extend to off-site wells including the existing LADWP wells. Petitioner estimates that the cost of performing the work to comply with the Order is approximately \$325,000, due to the need to obtain access to off-site areas to conduct additional investigation, performing the investigation, which would include Hydropunch groundwater samples and installation and development of groundwater monitoring wells, and providing analysis and a technical report regarding the results of the investigation. These costs of compliance with the Order do not bear a reasonable relationship to the work plan required by the Order because the additional off-site investigation to be addressed in the work plan is not necessary.

1. The Order Does Not Demonstrate that the Burden of Complying with the Order is Reasonably Related to the Benefits to be Obtained from the Reports

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Although the Order summarily states that "the burdens, including costs, of these reports bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports" (Order, p. 3, Paragraph 6), it justifies this by stating that "[t]he information [required by the Order] is necessary to adequately determine the extent of discharges of waste at and from the former Acme Metal Finishing site. . ." (Order p. 3, Paragraph 6). As stated above, the Acme Metal Finishing site is not located on or related to the Property, and therefore Petitioner's compliance with the Order will not provide information regarding discharges from the Acme Metal Finishing site, nor is Petitioner responsible for determining the extent of such discharges. Therefore, the Regional Board has not shown that the benefits of complying with Order are reasonably related to the burdens of compliance.

2. Additional Off-Site Investigation is Unnecessary Because Petitioner Will Remediate the Property and Monitoring Results from Off-Site Well MW-18 Show that Remediation is Effective

Petitioner has a long history of voluntary compliance with the Regional Board regarding the investigation and remediation of the Property. Petitioner acquired the Property in 2013 and signed a cost reimbursement letter with the Regional Board on May 28, 2014, which states that "The Regional Board does not assert, at this time, that Rexford Industrial is a responsible party subject to section 13304." The earliest known environmental subsurface investigation at the Property was conducted in 1987 to evaluate potential areas of environmental concern associated with historical site uses and focused on two on-site 10,000-gallon (gasoline and diesel fuel) underground storage tanks (USTs) in the west-central portion of the Site. Tetrachloroethene (PCE) was also identified in soil and groundwater in the vicinity of the USTs. Soil and groundwater remediation was initiated in 1998 and continued until February 2008. Remedial activities conducted previously at the Property include groundwater extraction (pump and treat; 1998 to 2008), soil vapor extraction (SVE; 1998 to 2005), and potassium permanganate (KMnO4) injection into groundwater (a single event in February 2008). Since that time, groundwater monitoring has continued, and several subsurface investigations have been completed.

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The latest groundwater monitoring data, from the December 2017 sampling event, continues to show improvements in groundwater concentrations following the implementation of the pilot test, which consisted of enhanced bioremediation in the vicinity of monitoring well MW-17 in January 2016. Specifically, the PCE concentration in off-site well MW-18 decreased from 167 µg/l in April 2017 to 16.6 µg/l in December 2017. In addition, 1,4-dioxane concentration was reported as less than 2 µg/l in December 2017 at off-site well MW-18. This represents a marked decrease from April 2017, when 1,4-dioxane was reported as 4.50 µg/l, and shows that off-site conditions are improving.

3. Additional Off-Site Investigation Is Unnecessary Because Data From Existing LADWP Wells Can Be Used to Delineate the VOC Plume

The LADWP report "Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Pollock Well Field on February 9, 2018," which was attached to the Order, shows the three triple-nested LADWP wells installed downgradient to the Property in 2016 and the two wells installed by the EPA in 2017 downgradient to the Property. These newly installed wells are in general down-gradient from well MW-18 in various depth horizons. The results from sampling of these wells could be evaluated for the delineation of the plume vertically and laterally beyond well MW-18. Furthermore, all regional wells as mandated by the EPA are being sampled in April 2018. These results can further be evaluated to assess the need for additional off-site investigation beyond well MW-18. Because these existing wells can be used for additional off-site evaluation, Petitioner should not be required to install additional, unnecessary groundwater monitoring wells for off-site investigation. There is no need for additional off-site investigation.

4. Additional Off-Site Investigation is Premature Because Full-Scale Remediation Will Improve Impacts at the Property

Prior to requiring additional off-site investigation, the State Board should allow Petitioner to implement full-scale remediation and evaluate the results of the remediation and the effectiveness of the RAP implementation. As stated above, Petitioner is scheduled to begin implementing the RAP for full scale bioremediation of the Property next month, in May 2018. The 2017 RAP is based on the results of the 2016 Pilot Test, which continues to produce positive results in

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terms of contaminant concentrations. Implementation of the RAP will target remaining areas of groundwater at the Property with total VOC concentrations above 100 µg/l. Based on the success of the Pilot Test, Petitioner anticipates that the injection of bioremediation agents at the Property will degrade the chlorinated VOCs at the Property and produce a positive impact across the Property.

Although Petitioner does not concede that the Property has impacted groundwater off-site, the possibility of off-site impacts emanating from the Property would be substantially reduced, if not eliminated, by the implementation of the RAP under Regional Board oversight. Therefore, the Order is premature because off-site investigation conducted at this time would not account for the positive impacts to groundwater that will likely result from the full-scale remediation of the Property. The State Board should vacate the Order to permit Petitioner to implement the RAP and evaluate the impact of the RAP on groundwater conditions.

5. The State Board Should Vacate the Order Because Costs of Compliance with the Order Are Excessive

As stated above, Petitioner estimates that production and implementation of the work plan required by the Order will cost approximately \$325,000. This is excessive in light of the fact that additional offsite investigation, as outlined in detail above, is not needed.

The State Board has voided Regional Board actions where the cost of complying with Regional Board actions will result in unreasonably high costs. *In the Matter of the Petitions of the City of Pacific Grove*, Order No. WQ 82-8, at pp. 5, 14 (holding that the scope of a study ordered by the Regional Board under Section 13267 "is excessive resulting in unreasonably high costs" and, therefore, the discharger should propose a modified, narrower, less expensive study). Here, the cost of producing and implementing the work plan for additional off-site investigation is excessive because additional off-site investigation is not necessary. As Petitioner has stated to the Regional Board, Petitioner can demonstrate through data analysis that additional investigation of the Property's off-site impacts in not necessary. The State Board should vacate the Order or, similar to the State Board's action in Pacific Grove, revise the Order so that it directs the Petitioner to demonstrate, in a narrower, less expensive study, that additional off-site investigation of the Property is not justified.

D. THE STATE BOARD SHOULD VACATE THE ORDER BECAUSE THE REGIONAL BOARD DID NOT IDENTIFY EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS REQUIRING PETITIONER TO PERFORM OFF-SITE INVESTIGATION

The State Board should vacate the Order because the Regional Board did not identify evidence that supports requiring Petitioner to perform off-site investigation. Pursuant to Water Code Section 13267(b)(1), the Regional Board, when issuing orders requiring parties to provide reports, shall provide the party with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports. Water Code Section 13267(b)(1). Here, the Regional Board did not provide evidence supporting requiring the Petitioner to perform off-site investigation. Instead, it provided a conclusory statement in Paragraph 3 of the Order that the Regional Board has such evidence, and vaguely referred to "groundwater analytical data and reports submitted for the Site for many years" and imprecise "locations further down-gradient of MW-18." It is unclear from Paragraph 3, which is reproduced below, what data the Regional Board is citing as evidence of the need for additional investigation.

The Regional Board has evidence indicating that discharge(s) of waste from the Site have impacted and continue to impact the quality of waters of the State. The evidence supporting this requirement includes groundwater analytical data and reports submitted for the Site for many years, the reported groundwater gradient, persistent contaminant detection at the off-site most down-gradient well (MW-18), and historical and recent contaminant detections at locations further down-gradient of MW-18. Based on this evidence, contamination emanating from the Site has likely migrated beyond the scope of the Site's monitoring network and its extents need to be investigated.

Order, p. 3, Paragraph 3.

Furthermore, as stated above, the most recent monitoring data for MW-18, Petitioner's off-site groundwater well, show that the PCE concentration in MW-18 has decreased from 167 μ g/l in April 2017 to 16.6 μ g/l in December 2017. The 1,4-dioxane concentration in MW-18 was less than 2 μ g/l in December 2017. Therefore, the Regional Board's reference to contamination detected from MW-18 does not serve as sufficient evidence that off-site investigation is necessary. The remaining information that the Regional Board cited as evidence is unclear and vague and also does not establish the need for the Order.

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The fact that the Regional Board did not identify the evidence that supports requiring Petitioner to provide the work plan, in violation of Water Code Section 13267(b)(1), is particularly troubling given that the Regional Board has previously stated, on multiple occasions, that no additional off-site investigation is necessary. On October 22, 1997, the Regional Board stated: "...we have determined that there is no further action required regarding any additional off-site assessment and/or remediation of the underlying groundwater at the subject site." This determination was based on the results of the off-site investigation, which included five off-site HydroPunch groundwater samples and installation of Well MW-18. The investigation results were reported in "Newlowe Off Site Investigation Report," dated September 15, 1997. Additionally, in 1999, the Regional Board concurred that no additional off-site groundwater assessment is warranted (Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) 99-002, dated February 11, 1999, p. 2, item 9).

Although the Order indicates that the Regional Board has reversed its long-held position that off-site investigation is not necessary, the Order does not identify new evidence or changed circumstances that justify the Regional Board's reversal on this issue.

The Order provides meager evidence for the need for additional off-site investigation. See Order, p. 2, Paragraph 1.1.2. The Order states that since the Regional Board stated in 1997 that no additional off-site groundwater assessment is warranted, "much additional groundwater data has been collected in the Pollock Operable Unit since that time and the data does not support the assumption that the contamination detected in the hydropunch locations in 1997 was part of a regional plume. Instead, the data from the hydropunch samples indicates that the contamination was part of the plume emanating from the Site." See Order, p. 2, Paragraph 1.1.2. The Order goes on to state that EPA's 2017 data regarding the Pollock Operable Unit includes a PCE plume map that differs from the 1997 map. Id. However, it is not clear what groundwater monitoring data the Regional Board is relying on in this statement. Even if the 1997 PCE plume map differs from the 2017 plume map produced by the EPA, this does not demonstrate that additional investigation of the Property's potential off-site impacts is necessary. The Regional Board has not provided sufficient evidence that the collection of additional data regarding the Pollock Operable Unit necessitates additional investigation regarding the Property's potential off-site impacts.

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The Order does not show that there have been changes in the condition of the Property or additional facts to support the Regional Board's reversal of position regarding off-site investigation. Petitioner has informed the Regional Board that it can demonstrate that there are no data gaps regarding off-site impacts emanating from the Property, and that therefore no additional off-site investigation is necessary. However, the Regional Board has not accepted Petitioner's offer to produce this data, which would show that the costly investigation that it has ordered is wasteful and unnecessary. The State Board should vacate the Order because the Regional Board has not met its burden under Water Code Section 13267(b)(1) of establishing the need for additional investigation, after the Regional Board previously stated that no additional off-site investigation is necessary. Alternatively, the State Board should revise the Order to require Petitioner to demonstrate through technical monitoring data that no data gaps exist regarding the Property's impacts on off-site areas, and that therefore no additional investigation is needed.

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E. THE STATE BOARD SHOULD VACATE THE ORDER BECAUSE PETITIONER IS A BFPP UNDER CERCLA

The State Board should vacate the Order because RIF V-Glendale Commerce Center, LLC, the owner of the Property, is a BFPP under CERCLA and therefore is not liable as a PRP for the Pollock Operable Unit. The apparent basis for the Order is the fact that, as stated in the very first paragraph of the Order, the EPA is currently conducting a search for PRPs in the Pollock Operable Unit, and Petitioner is viewed as potentially liable because chlorinated solvents were historically used at the Property. (Order, p. 1, Paragraph 1.) However, if the end goal of the implementation of the Order is to establish whether Petitioner is a PRP for the Pollock Operable Unit under CERCLA, the issuance of the Order, and off-site investigation in compliance with the Order, is a futile exercise. As Petitioner explained in response to EPA's CERCLA Section 104(e) Request for Information in 2016, Petitioner meets the requirements for BFPP status under CERCLA and therefore is exempt from CERCLA liability for the Pollock Operable Unit. EPA, which serves as the lead agency for the Pollock Operable Unit, has not named Petitioner as a PRP for the Pollock Operable Unit and has not requested additional information from Petitioner since Petitioner informed EPA of its BFPP status.

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The Regional Board's suggestion that EPA's PRP search includes or should include Petitioner is unfounded and incorrect.

The Property owner qualifies for the BFPP exemption from CERCLA liability. In order to qualify as a BFPP, a party must (1) perform "All Appropriate Inquiries" (set forth at 40 CFR 312.20 et seq.) into the previous ownership and use of the property, prior to purchasing it; (2) take reasonable steps to stop any continuing release of hazardous substances, prevent future releases, and prevent environmental exposure to previous releases; (3) not impede the performance of remedial work to address hazardous substance releases, or natural resource restoration; (4) not be affiliated with any of the parties that caused the underlying contamination; and (5) satisfy various other requirements, including without limitation those that relate to providing notices regarding any further releases discovered, exercising appropriate care in regard to existing releases, and cooperating with the regulatory agencies in regard to any response actions.

The Code of Federal Regulations provides that in order to satisfy the AAI component of qualifying as a BFPP, a prospective purchaser may engage an environmental consultant to perform a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment that meets the most current requirements of the American Society of Testing and Materials ("ASTM") for standard E-1527 (currently, E-1527-13). For purposes of satisfying AAI in order to assert the BFPP defense, prospective purchasers must complete a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment within 365 days of acquisition.

In this case, the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the Property by ADR Environmental Group (Phase I Report) was completed on March 26, 2013, shortly before the Owner purchased the Property on April 17, 2013. The Phase I Report was completed in a manner that satisfies the requirements of AAI and qualified the Petitioner as a BFPP. Furthermore, the Petitioner has met the remaining requirements for BFPP status by cooperating with remediation activities under the oversight of the Regional Board, is not affiliated with parties that caused the contamination, cooperates with regulatory agencies, and has not aggravated existing contamination.

Because Petitioner meets the requirements for BFPP status, it is exempt from CERCLA liability for the Pollock Operable Unit. Petitioner is not a PRP and should not be subject to the Order

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1	on the basis that it has potential CERCLA liability for	or the Pollock Operable Unit. The Order is
2	2 inappropriate on these grounds.	
3	8. A STATEMENT THAT THE PETITION	HAS BEEN SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE
4	DECIONAL DOADD AND TO THE DIC	CHARGERS, IF NOT THE PETITIONER.
5	5 A true and correct copy of this Petitio	n and all supporting documentation were sent
6	6 electronically to:	
7	7 1) State Water Resources Contro	l Board
8	8 Office of Chief Counsel Sophie N. Froelich, Attorney 1	π
9	9 1001 I Street, 22 nd Floor	11
10	P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100	
	sophie.froelich@waterboards.	ca.gov
11		ol Board – Los Angeles Region
12	12 Site Cleanup Program Unit II	or Bourd – Los Affigues Region
13	Christina Humphreys	
14	Water Resource Control Engine 320 West 4th Street, Suite 200	
	Los Angeles, CA 90013	
15	15 Christina.humphreys@waterb	pards.ca.gov
16	3) Regional Water Quality Conti	ol Board – Los Angeles Region
17	G. Jeffrey Hu, P. E. Supervising Water Quality Co	ntrol Engineer
18		C
	Los Angeles, CA 90013	
19	jeffrey.hu@waterboards.ca.go	v
20	20 9. A STATEMENT THAT THE ISSUES RA BEFORE THE REGIONAL BOARD, OR	ISED IN THE PETITION WERE RAISED
21	21 PETITIONER COULD NOT RAISE THO	
22	22 REGIONAL BOARD.	
23	The issues raised in the Petition were	presented to Regional Board staff and counsel in
24	a telephone conference on March 21, 2018, in which	Petitioner requested withdrawal of the Order and
25	stated grounds for withdrawal. Petitioner argued tha	t the Order is not necessary because the recent
26	pilot test showed positive results and Petitioner will	mplement full-scale remediation at the site in
27	27 May 2018. In addition, Petitioner noted that the Reg	ional Board had previously stated that no further
28	off-site investigation is necessary.	

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Petitioner also highlighted technical problems associated with the Order and argued that there is no data gap to be addressed regarding the site's potential impact on off-site areas such as the Pollock Operable Unit. Petitioner stated that December 2017 results from an off-site monitoring well, MW-18, shows that PCE concentrations have decreased markedly, and that three off-site wells installed by the LADWP could be used to delineate the Glendale Commerce Center plume beyond MW-18, in lieu of Petitioner performing additional investigation.

Alternatively, Petitioner requested that the Regional Board instead require Petitioner to demonstrate that no data gap exists regarding the Property's impact on off-site areas, and that therefore no additional off-site investigation is needed. Such a revised order would not require any off-site investigation or the preparation of a work plan. Regional Board staff and counsel stated that they would consider Petitioner's request for a revised order. Despite numerous subsequent inquiries, however, the Regional Board has not revised the Order or informed Petitioner as to whether it plans to revise the Order. As result, Petitioner files this request for review of the Order in order to preserve its rights.

10. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Petitioner respectfully submits that the issuance of the Order was improper and inappropriate, the burden of complying with the Order is not reasonably related to the benefits to be produced by the required work plan, and the Order is not supported by evidence that the work plan is necessary. In addition, Petitioner has BFPP protection from CERCLA liability for the Pollock Operable Unit. Petitioner respectfully requests that the State Board grant this Petition and review the Regional Board's action in issuing the Order.

DATED: April 11, 2018 COX, CASTLE & NICHOLSON LLP

By:

Preston W. Brooks

Attorneys for Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc.

EXHIBIT 1





Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 12, 2018

Mr. Howard Schwimmer Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc. 11620 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90025

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUEST 7016 2070 0000 9795 1011

SUBJECT:

REQUIREMENT FOR TECHNICAL REPORT PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE

SECTION 13267 ORDER NO. R4-2018-0026

SITE:

GLENDALE GATEWAY – FORMER NEWLOWE PROPERTIES SITE, 3332 – 3334, 3360 – 3380,

3410, 3424 - 3428, N. SAN FERNANDO ROAD AND 3510 - 3600 TYBURN STREET, LOS

ANGELES, CA 90065 (SITE CLEANUP NO. 0628, SITE ID NO. 2045500)

Dear Mr. Schwimmer:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) is the public agency with primary responsibility for the protection of ground and surface water quality for all beneficial uses within major portions of the Los Angeles and Ventura counties, including the above referenced site (Site). To accomplish this, the Regional Board issues investigative orders authorized by the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code [CWC], Division 7).

Groundwater beneath the Site is contaminated by volatile organic compounds (VOCs), hexavalent chromium (CrVI), and 1,4-dioxane. While assessment and remediation have been ongoing for many years at the Site, the groundwater contamination has not been delineated to date. Meanwhile, VOCs and 1,4-dioxane have been detected in drinking water production wells located approximately 2,000 feet south (down-gradient) of the Site. Further investigation is needed to determine the extents of the groundwater contamination and to determine whether or not the Site is contributing to the contamination impacting the production wells.

Enclosed is Regional Board Order No. R4-2018-0026 pursuant to California Water Code section 13267, requiring you to prepare and submit a work plan to further delineate groundwater contamination emanating from the Site.

Should you have any questions related to this matter, please contact Ms. Christina Humphreys, Case Manager, at (213) 576-6697 or Christian.Humphreys@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Samuel Unger, P.E.

Executive Officer

MADELYN GLICKFELD, CHAIR | SAMUEL UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Enclosure:

California Water Code Section 13267 Order No. R4-2018-0026

cc:

Ms. Bita Tabatabai, GSI Environmental Inc.

Ms. Michelle Zulaf, GSI Environmental Inc.

Ms. Erin Phalon, Cox Castle & Nicholson

Ms. Lynn Keller, USEPA Region IX

Mr. Vahe Dabbaghian, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Mr. Paul Liu, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Ms. Michelle Lyman, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Mr. Chi Diep, State water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water

Mr. Richard Slade, Upper Los Angeles River Area Watermaster





Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

INVESTIGATIVE ORDER NO. R4-2018-0026

CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13267
ORDER TO PROVIDE A TECHNICAL REPORT:
WORK PLAN FOR SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION

DIRECTED TO REXFORD INDUSTRIAL REALTY, INC.

GLENDALE GATEWAY, FORMER NEWLOWE PROPERTIES
3332-3334, 3360-3380, 3410, 3424-3428 N. SAN FERNANDO ROAD, LOS ANGELES, CALÍFORNIA
SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM CASE NO. 0628

ON MARCH 12, 2018

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) makes the following findings and issues this Order pursuant to California Water Code (CWC) Section 13267 requiring Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc. to further investigate groundwater contamination originating at the site located at 3332-3334, 3360-3380, 3410, 3424-3428 N. San Fernando Road in Los Angeles, California (the Site).

- 1. Many different businesses have operated at portions of the Site historically, many of them manufacturers for which limited chemical use records have been found. Records do indicate that one of the former operators, Industrial International Corporation, used chlorinated solvents from at least 1978 to 1983 at 3370 San Fernando Road, which is within the Site. The Site is within the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) Pollock Operable Unit (POU) of the San Fernando Valley Superfund Area. USEPA is currently conducting a Remedial Investigation (RI) and a search for potentially responsible parties (PRPs) in the POU. The RI has involved the installation of new monitoring wells and sampling of existing and new wells, which has provided more up-to-date and more comprehensive data for the POU than has previously been available.
 - 1.1. Investigation of the Site began in 1987 and over the course of several rounds of assessment, it has been demonstrated that the groundwater beneath the Site is contaminated by volatile organic compounds (VOCs), hexavalent chromium (CrVI), and 1,4-dioxane. While assessment and remediation have been ongoing for many years at the Site, the groundwater contamination has not been fully delineated to date. Further investigation is needed to determine the extent of the groundwater contamination.
 - 1.1.1.Chlorinated VOCs, primarily perchloroethene (PCE), have been detected at elevated concentrations in groundwater monitoring wells at the Site since the 1990s. Hexavalent chromium (CrVI) and 1,4-dioxane have also been detected at some of the onsite groundwater monitoring wells and the one offsite well. (Attachment 1).

MADELYN GLICKFELD, CHAIR | SAMUEL UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1.1.2. The Newlowe Off Site Investigation Report (Off Site Report) was submitted in 1997 and it documented the installation of the down-gradient off-site monitoring well MW-18 and collection of four additional hydropunch groundwater samples from further down-gradient off-site locations. PCE was detected at a concentration of 250 micrograms per liter (µg/L) in MW-18 and at concentrations ranging from 38 to 97 μ g/L in the four hydro-punch samples. The Off Site Report asserted that the hydropunch concentrations were similar to those presented on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) 1996 PCE plume map, which was included for reference. In a letter dated October 22, 1997 (1997 Letter), the Regional Board concurred that the hydropunch concentrations were "consistent with the EPA Pollock Operable Unit plume" and required "no further action for any additional off-site groundwater assessment of the PCE plume identified at the subject site." However, much additional groundwater data has been collected in the Pollock Operable Unit since that time and the data does not support the assumption that the contamination detected in the hydropunch locations in 1997 was part of a regional plume. Instead, the data from the hydropunch samples indicates that the contamination was part of the plume emanating from the Site. The nearest monitoring wells that are up-gradient and cross-gradient (to the west) in the vicinity of the Site have PCE concentrations ranging from 0.6 to 3.9 μg/L., according to USEPA's Technical Memorandum: Groundwater Monitoring for the Pollock Operable Unit issued August 30, 2017. The PCE plume map included in that technical memorandum is markedly different from the 1997 map, reflecting new data obtained in the intervening years.

Therefore, Regional Board staff's 1997 determination that further off-site assessment was not required at that time was based on assumptions that are inconsistent with data collected in the years since.

- 1.2. The direction of groundwater flow beneath the Site has been consistently reported to the south-southwest. Since the installation of the furthest down-gradient monitoring well MW-18 in 1997, contaminants have consistently been detected at elevated concentrations, with PCE, CrVI, and 1,4-dioxane reported at 167 ug/L, 11.8 ug/L, and 4.5 ug/L, respectively, in April 2017. Contaminants have also consistently been detected at elevated concentrations in MW-16 in the southwest (down-gradient) corner of the Site, with a reported concentrations 56.8 ug/L of PCE and 6.47 ug/L of 1,4-dioxane in April 2017. (Attachment 1).
- 1.3. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) released a report titled Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Pollock Well Field on February 9, 2018 (Attachment 2), which included analytical data collected from three recently installed groundwater monitoring wells south of the Site. PCE was detected at a concentration of 39 ug/L in the monitoring well nearest to the Site, approximately 800 feet from the southern corner of the property. PCE was detected at lower concentrations in the other two new LADWP monitoring wells.
- 1.4. VOCs and 1,4-dioxane have been detected in drinking water production wells located approximately 2,000 feet south (down-gradient) of the Site. Further investigation is required to determine the extents of contamination emanating from the Site and to determine whether or not the Site is contributing to the contamination impacting the production wells.

2. CWC Section 13267(b)(1) states, in part:

"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or, discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."

- 3. The Regional Board has evidence indicating that discharge(s) of waste from the Site have impacted and continue to impact the quality of waters of the State. The evidence supporting this requirement includes groundwater analytical data and reports submitted for the Site for many years, the reported groundwater gradient, persistent contaminant detection at the off-site most down-gradient well (MW-18), and historical and recent contaminant detections at locations further down-gradient of MW-18. Based on this evidence, contamination emanating from the Site has likely migrated beyond the scope of the Site's monitoring network and its extents need to be investigated.
- 4. This Order identifies Rexford Industrial as the party responsible for the discharge of waste identified in paragraph 3 because it owns the property that is the source of contamination.
- 5. This Order requires the persons/entities named herein to prepare and submit a technical report consisting of a work plan to conduct a subsurface investigation to determine if any unauthorized release of VOCs, heavy metals, and/or 1,4-dioxane have impacted the soil beneath the Site. The Regional Board may reject the report if it is deemed incomplete and/or require revisions to the report under this Order.
- 6. The burdens, including costs, of these reports bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. The information is necessary to adequately determine the extent of discharges of waste at and from the former Acme Metal Finishing site, and to assure that discharges of waste that could impact water quality will be addressed.
- 7. The issuance of this Order is an enforcement action by a regulatory agency and is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15321(a)(2), Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. This Order requires submittal of a technical report and work plan.

The scope of activities required to prepare the reports required by this Order is not yet known. It is unlikely that compliance with this Order, including implementation of the work plans, could result in anything more than minor physical changes to the environment. If the implementation of this Order may result in significant impacts on the environment, the appropriate lead agency will address the CEQA requirements prior to approval of any work plan.

8. Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to review the action in accordance with California Water Code Section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, Sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must *receive* the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public notices/petitions/water quality or will be provided upon request.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc., pursuant to Section 13267(b) of the CWC, is required to submit the following by **May 7, 2018**:

- 1. A Work Plan for further delineation of groundwater contamination. The investigation shall include groundwater sampling and analysis for, at minimum, VOCs and 1,4-dioxane.
- 2. The above items shall be submitted to:

Ms. Christina Humphreys
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Email: christina.humphreys@waterboards.ca.gov

- 3. Pursuant to CWC Section 13268 (a), any person who fails to submit reports in accordance with the Order is guilty of a misdemeanor. Pursuant to Section 13268 (b)(1) of the CWC, failure to submit the required technical report described above by the specified due date(s) may result in the imposition of administrative civil liability by the Regional Board in an amount up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per day for each day the technical report is not received after the above due date. These civil liabilities may be assessed by the Regional Board for failure to comply, beginning with the date that the violations first occurred, and without further warning.
- 4. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted regulations (Chapter 30, Division 3 of Title 23 & Division 3 of Title 27, California Code of Regulation) requiring the electronic submittals of information (ESI) for all site cleanup programs, starting January 1, 2005. Currently, all of the information on electronic submittals and GeoTracker contacts can be found on the Internet at the following link: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/electronic submittal/index.shtml.
- 5. To comply with the above referenced regulation, you are required to upload all technical reports, documents, and well data to GeoTracker by the due dates specified in the Regional Board letters and orders issued to you or for the Site. However, the Regional Board may request that you submit hard copies of selected documents and data in addition to electronic submittal of information to GeoTracker.
- 6. The Regional Board, under the authority given by CWC Section 13267 subdivision (b)(1), requires you to include a perjury statement in all reports submitted under 13267 Order. The perjury statement shall be signed by a senior authorized representative (not by a consultant) of Rexford Industrial Realty, Inc. The perjury statement shall be in the following format:

"I, [NAME], certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared by me, or under my direction or supervision, in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

SO ORDERED.

Samuel Unger, P.E.

Executive Officer

3-12-18
Date

ATTACHMENT 1

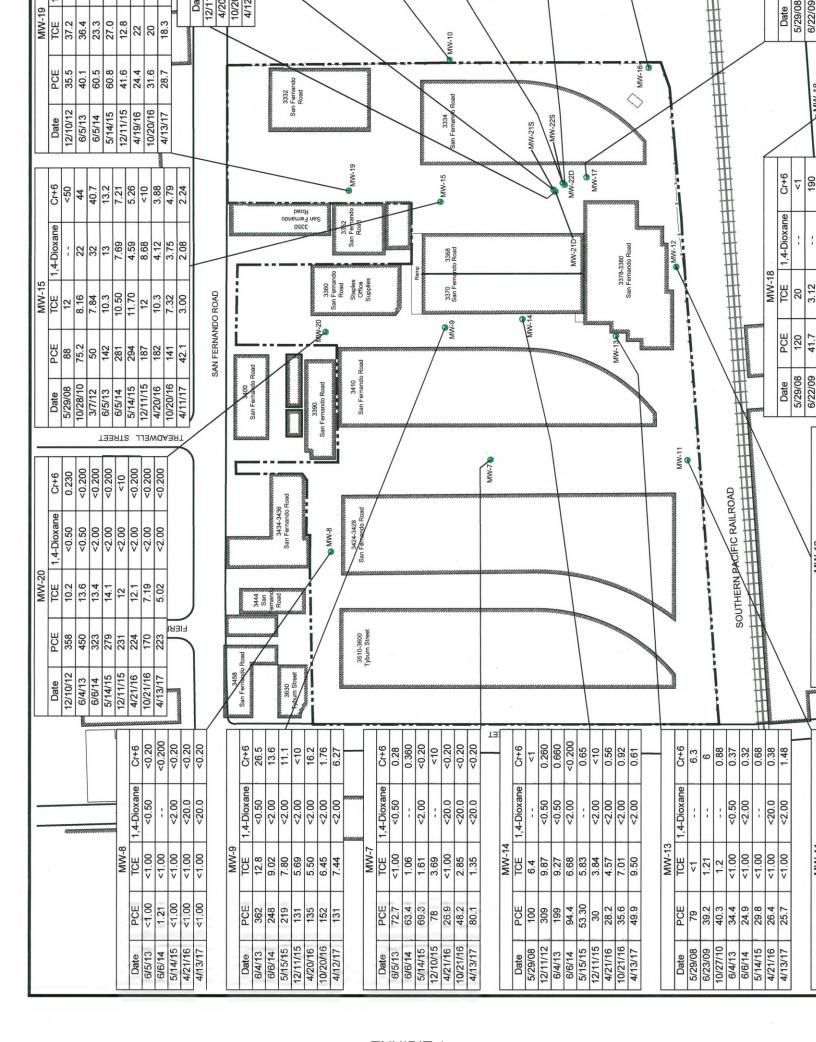


EXHIBIT 1

ATTACHMENT 2

Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Pollock Well Field

San Fernando Basin Groundwater Remediation Project

Prepared for:

City of Los Angeles
Department of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

February 9, 2018

Prepared by:

Owner's Agent: Hazen and Sawyer, with primary input from WorleyParsons 1149 South Hill Street, Suite 450 Los Angeles, California 90015

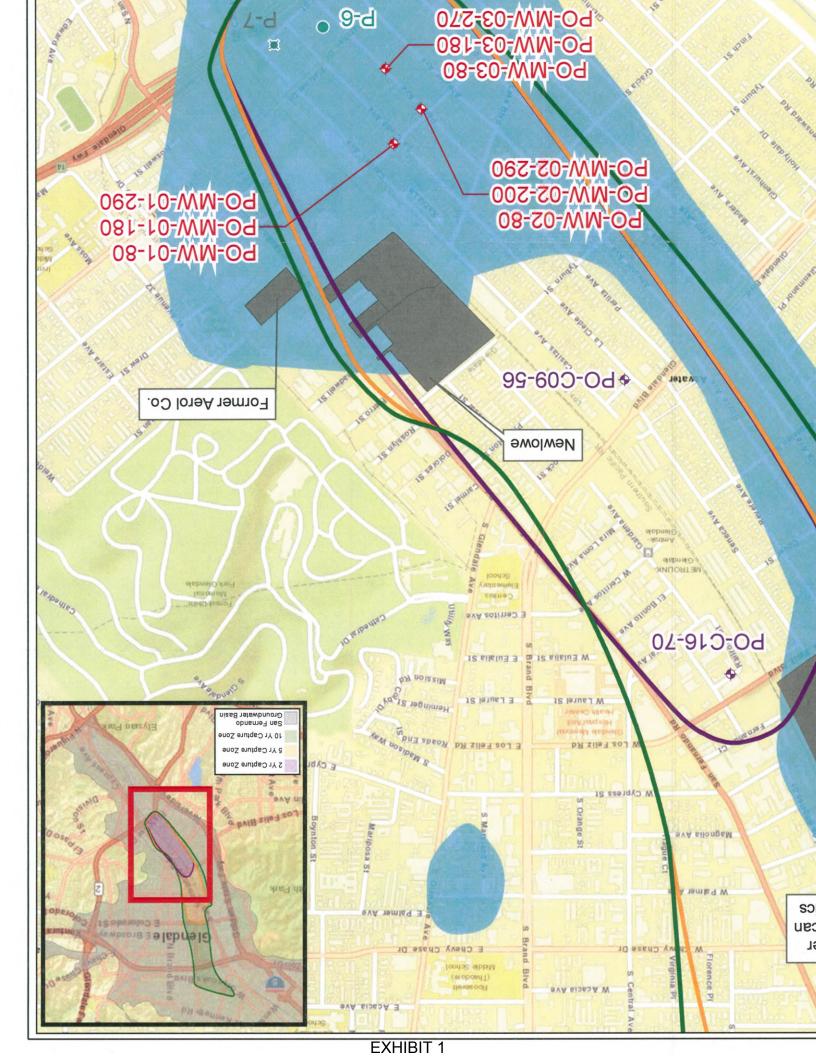


Table 3-5: Analytical Results for SFB Priority Pollutants

Location	1,1-DCE	1,2-DCA	1,4-Dioxane	1,2,3-TCP	cis-1,2-DCE	СТЕТ	PCE	TCE
P-04	4.1	<0.50	1.2	<0.005	<0.50	0.35 J+	4.2	4.4
P-06	<0.50	<0.50	0.28	<0.005	<0.50	0.35 J+	5.9	5.1
PO-C09-56	<0.5	<0.5	0.24	0.0015	<0.5	0.17	3.6	3.5 J+
PO-C12-44	<0.5	<0.5	0.65	<0.005	0.23	<0.5	8.	5.8
PO-C16-70	<0.5	<0.5	0.21	<0.005	<0.5	<0.5	1.3	<0.5
PO-MW-01-80	0.32	<0.5	0.56	<0.005	69.0	0.12	36	6.2
PO-MW-01-180	<0.5	<0.5	0.28	<0.005	<0.5	0.16	2.2	5.1
PO-MW-01-270	<0.5	<0.5	0.11	<0.005	<0.5	<0.5	0.42	0.36
PO-MW-02-80	<0.5	<0.5	0.32	<0.005	0.15	0.13	8.6	3.8 J+
PO-MW-02-80-dup	<0.5	<0.5	ı	ı	0.14	0.14	10	3.9
PO-MW-02-200	<0.5	<0.5	0.28	<0.005	<0.5	0.19	0.86	2.8
PO-MW-02-290	<0.5	<0.5	0.51	<0.005	<0.5	<0.5	9.0	1.2
PO-MW-03-80	<0.5	<0.5	0.27	<0.005 J-	<0.5	0.19	2.5	3.9
PO-MW-03-180	<0.5	<0.5	0.2	<0.005	<0.5	0.27 J+	1.5	6.1
PO-MW-03-270	<0.5	<0.5	0.18	<0.005	<0.5	<0.5	0.54	0.44
Motor								

Notes:

EXHIBIT 1