



March 4, 2010

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer

Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer's Report is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but rather highlights of Regional Board staff activities from the previous month.

Stormwater Compliance and Enforcement

New Statewide Construction General Permit Workshop for the Public

Harumi Goya

On September 2, 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, which reissues the Construction General Permit (CGP) for projects disturbing one or more acres of land surface, or that are part of common plan of development or sale that disturbs more than one acre of land surface. Effective July 1, 2010, the requirements of this order will replace and supersede State Water Board Orders No. 99-08-DWQ.

With the corroboration of the State Water Resources Control Board, we will provide a workshop for the public on April 29, 2010. The purpose of this workshop is to provide an overview of the new requirements in the 2009-0009-DWQ Statewide Construction General Permit.

Stormwater—Permitting

Los Angeles County MS4 Permit: Los Angeles River Watershed Trash TMDL Compliance Reporting

Ivar Ridgeway

On February 8, 2010, 60 days after the adoption of revisions to the Los Angeles County MS4 Permit to incorporate the wasteload allocations (WLAs) established in the Los Angeles River Watershed Trash TMDL, initial compliance reports were required to be submitted to the Regional Board. The initial reports document the current status of compliance with the WLAs and provide a summary of future actions to achieve compliance. Several municipalities have reported that they are in compliance with the final WLA. Staff is in the process of reviewing the reports in detail.

Our mission is to preserve

and enhance the quality of

California's water resources

for the benefit of present and

future generations.

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Watershed Management

Watershed Stakeholder Activities

Nine of the ten watershed management areas in the Los Angeles Region have extensive stakeholder involvement (represented by agencies, individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations) in watershed and sub-watershed activities including development of planning documents and implementation of restoration projects. Major watershed activities involving multiple stakeholders include participation in the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan process to address areawide water supply, water quality, and open space issues; and development and implementation of various restoration plans such as is occurring in the Ventura River involving ecosystem restoration relating to the eventual removal of Matilija Dam. Additional information on watershed stakeholder activities may be found at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regional_program/index.shtml#Watershed.

Watershed Management Initiative Chapter

Each Regional Board has a "chapter" in a statewide document which describes the Region's watersheds and their priority water quality issues. Updates occur as needed; the last update occurred in December 2007. The 2007 document can be downloaded at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regional_program/index.shtml#Watershed. In addition, there is a clickable map of the region's watersheds for information specific to each one including State of Watershed Reports, where available, and lists of permits and impaired waters.

Funding

Information on a wide variety of funding sources is available on the California Watershed Funding Database website at <http://cwfd.casil.ucdavis.edu/>. Both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties have developed Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) in order to qualify for funding under Propositions 50 and 84. The Los Angeles County IRWMP may be viewed at <http://www.lawaterplan.org/> which also includes information on meeting schedules and summaries. The Greater LA Region is composed of five subregions which conduct separate steering committee meetings. The Ventura County IRWMP is available at <http://www.watershedscoalition.org/> which also includes information on meeting schedules and summaries. Committees/councils for the County's watersheds generally meet on a monthly basis. The Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County meets as a combined group less frequently. Stakeholders in the upper Santa Clara River watershed have developed a separate IRWMP which is available at <http://www.scrwaterplan.org>. An additional IRWM region within Los Angeles County, Gateway, has recently been approved by the California Department of Water Resources. It is located in southeast Los Angeles County.

Landfills Unit

Staff Conducted Pre-permitting Inspection at US Navy San Clemente Island Landfill (File No. 84-035)

Wen Yang

In preparation of tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for the San Clemente Island Landfill (Landfill) operated by the US Navy Commander Region Southwest at San Clemente Island, Los Angeles County, Regional Board staff Wen Yang of the Groundwater Permitting and Cleanup Section conducted a facility inspection at the Landfill on February 4, 2010. The inspection included meeting with environmental compliance staff of the Navy at the San Clemente Island and a walkover at the Landfill. The inspection confirmed

that the current status of the Landfill is what has been described in the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) that the Navy recently submitted to the Regional Board.

Blanchard Landfill (File No. 89-0186)

Enrique Casas

The Blanchard Landfill (Landfill), located in the City Monterey Park southwest of the intersection of the 710 and 10 freeways, opened in 1935 and was operated as an open burn dump until approximately 1946. Subsequently, Los Angeles County (County) Public Works issued the owner/operator, B.K.K. Corporation, an industrial waste permit to operate a Class II-1 landfill that was permitted to accept liquid, solid, chemical and industrial wastes. Operations at the Landfill ceased on December 31, 1958. The Landfill was operated before current standards for engineered designs, including composite liners, landfill gas, and leachate control systems were developed and was closed with a two-foot thick dirt cover placed over the waste. Currently, structures and civil improvements located completely or in part over the Landfill include the Los Angeles County Internal Revenue Services Department, Communications Department and Related County Offices, the Special Forces Bureau – Eugene C. Biscailuz Regional Training Center, Sheriff's Road and associated infrastructure improvements, and a sports/running track and co-located heliport.

On January 28, 2009, the County submitted a Postclosure Land Use Plan to address postclosure maintenance responsibilities for Landfill in support of continued development of the Los Angeles County Eastern Hill Complex, a collection of offices for various County departments. Though a solid waste assessment test (SWAT) was completed for the Landfill, the County argued groundwater monitoring was not necessary for the Landfill based principally on results of the SWAT analysis for the adjacent/contiguous Cogen Landfill. Regional Board staff rejected the argument that groundwater monitoring was not necessary, citing results of the Cogen Landfill SWAT indicating a release to groundwater from an alluvial groundwater pathway and pre-landfill topography at the Landfill indicating that a major alluvial canyon existed at the Landfill site. By analogy to the Cogen Landfill, a release to groundwater from the Landfill via an alluvial groundwater pathway is a significant environmental threat that merits the development and implementation of a detection monitoring program at the Landfill. As a result, on February 10, 2010, the County submitted a Report of Waste Discharge to enroll the Landfill under general Order No. R4-2002-022 (General Waste Discharge Requirements for Post-Closure Maintenance of Inactive Nonhazardous Waste Landfills within the Los Angeles Region) as part of the continued development of County facilities at the Landfill. Regional Board staff is actively reviewing the ROWD.

Azusa Landfill, Load Check Program (File No. 59-102)

Douglas Cross

Staff is currently reviewing the Load Check Program proposed by the Azusa Landfill. Azusa Land Reclamation Landfill (Azusa Landfill) is owned and operated by Azusa Land Reclamation Company, Inc. (ALRC), a subsidiary of Waste Management (Discharger) and is located at 1201 Gladstone Street, Azusa, CA (File No. 59-102, latest Order No. 2009-0098).

The Load Check Program is a requirement in our WDRs and directs that Azusa Landfill submit a Load Check Program that describes out how they will ensure no unauthorized wastes are accepted at the landfill. The Azusa Landfill has had a few issues in the past where they have accepted inappropriate for disposal.

Mud Debris Disposal

Rod Nelson

On January 21, 2010, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency in the County of Los Angeles and four other counties in the State due to severe winter storms. In addition, on

February 10, 2010, the Office of the Governor issued a press release directing a coordinated effort among his departments and agencies to work closely with local, state, and federal authorities to assist in cleanup of the mud and debris flows (material) that occurred on February 6th in the Acton, Sierra Madre, and La Canada Flintridge areas.

During a phone conference on February 9, 2010, between multiple local, state, and federal agencies, Regional Board staff (Staff) was asked where and how this material could be taken and disposed of by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works rapidly and in a manner that would also be protective of water quality. Based upon our information about the sources of the mud and flow debris, Staff determined that the material, **as contained in the debris basins in the La Canada Flintridge areas**, was mostly native uncontaminated material and as such was not considered “fire debris” that would be subject to this Regional Board’s conditional temporary waiver for disposal of solid waste from wildfires (Order No. R4-2008-0013). As such, this material was allowed to be disposed at any of the landfills identified in the wild fire order cited above or to any permitted inert landfill in this Region, provided the moisture content prior to disposal was less than 50% by weight. In order to mitigate the moisture content of the incoming material, as a best management practice (BMP), the incoming material was to be directed to a designated unloading area with berms for drainage control for drying, if necessary. The material would then be inspected for prohibited materials prior to disposal in the landfill. Any prohibited material would be taken to a legal point of disposal.

This material could also be used in inert debris engineered fill operations subject to the requirements of the agency overseeing such operations. Staff further advised the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works that they were also obligated to comply with any rules and regulations set forth by other regulatory agencies.

Underground Storage Tank Program

Completion of Corrective Action at Leaking Underground Fuel Storage Tank Sites

Yue Rong

Regional Board staff have reviewed corrective actions taken for soil and/or groundwater contamination problems from leaking underground storage tanks for the time of **January 5, 2009** through **February 3, 2010**, and determined that no further corrective actions are required for the following sites:

- El Tecolote Garage, Los Angeles (R-04902)
- Former Firestone Tire & Service Center, City of Industry (R-12168)
- Ryder Truck Rental Inc., Rancho Dominguez (R-22311)
- Thrifty Service Station #12, Rosemead (I-05986A)
- Seaport Plaza, San Pedro (907310552)
- Merli Concrete Pumping, Gardena (R-26835)
- 76 Station #252994, Culver City (I-07101)
- Mobil 18-GJ4, Inglewood (I—09385)
- Former Mobil Station, Bell (R-24758)
- 76 Station #255210, Los Angeles (900250107A)
- GTE (Verizon) Malibu Plant Yard, Malibu (R-12292)
- City of Hawthorne Maintenance Yard, Hawthorne (R-13014)
- Harsu Gas Market, La Puente (R-05410)

- Westside Arco #2, Los Angeles (900340225)
- Beverly Hills Fire Station No.1, Beverly Hills (R-16138A)
- 76 Station #2705625, Los Angeles (900450716)
- Former Shell/Texaco Service Station, Agoura Hills (I-05924A)
- Mobil Station 18L90, El Monte (I-11155A)
- Former Shell Service Station, Rowland Heights (I-06010)
- Former Shell Service Station, Rowland Heights (I-06065)
- Gaffey and Fifteenth Associates, San Pedro (907310470)
- Lee's Texaco Service Station, La Puente (R-05143)
- Shell Service Station, La Verne (I-07489A)
- Walnut Valley Texaco, Walnut (917890025)
- Chevron Station #9-9747, San Pedro (907310043A)
- Asap Heavy Equipment Rentals, Rancho Dominguez (R-26491)
- Southern California Gas Company Facility, City of Industry (R-12692)
- Former Shell Service Station, Pasadena (R-26413)
- U-Haul Facility No. 711-061, Agoura Hills (R-08344)
- Exxon #7-22515, Redondo Beach (I-11961)
- Southwest Trails, Carson (R-11676)
- Shell Service Station, Tarzana (913560370A)
- Bilt-Well Roofing, Los Angeles (900650252)
- Former Shell Service Station, Torrance (905050252)
- Long Beach City Maintenance Yard, Long Beach (908030170A)
- Xerox Facility, El Segundo (R-13397A)
- Western Auto Sales (Former Arco), Walnut Park (R-25116)
- Burling Northern & Santa Fe Rail Yard, Commerce (R-04915)
- Bill's Automotive, Los Angeles (900310061)
- Picnic Services, East Los Angeles (R-12805)
- Former Chevron Service Station, Commerce (I-09889A)
- Bill's Automotive, Los Angeles (900310061)
- Mobil Station #18-E1B, Hacienda Heights (I-05189A)
- Fiola International, South Gate (R-47021)
- Former American Fuel (DBA Lezma Auto Sales), Wilmington (907440443)

For the case closure sites above, a total of **7,231** tons of impacted soils were excavated and **197,762** pounds of hydrocarbons were removed by soil vapor extraction system. In addition, **3,566,889** gallons of impacted groundwater were treated.

Executive Officer issued general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)

Yue Rong

The Executive Officer, on behalf of the board, issued 1 general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) to Former Wendy Arco Station, located in Newbury Park (2/16/2010). The WDRs issued for injection of oxidation compounds to the impacted aquifer for in-situ groundwater cleanup, which is designed to save water resources by avoiding discharging the treated water to the ocean.

Emergency, Abandoned, and Recalcitrant (EAR) Site Cleanup in Progress

Arman Toumari

On April 2, 2009, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. R09-002 for Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Fund Emergency, Abandoned, and Recalcitrant (EAR) Account Priority List for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 that provided funding to the City of Lynwood for site cleanup at the Garfield Express Property. Since then, the fund has been approved by the State Board Cleanup Fund and allocated. The City of Lynwood has submitted a preliminary Remedial Action Plan (RAP). Currently, Regional Board and State Board Cleanup Fund staff are working with the City staff to implement this RAP.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

U.S. EPA Workshop on Consent Decree TMDLs in the Los Angeles Region

Jenny Newman

On January 25, 2010, Regional Board staff participated in a U.S. EPA workshop to discuss the development of Consent Decree TMDLs in the Los Angeles Region. The Consent Decree is between U.S. EPA and several environmental groups (Heal the Bay Inc., et al. v. Browner, et al. C 98-4825 SBA) and establishes a 13-year schedule to develop approximately 100 TMDL projects. These TMDLs must either be established by the Regional Board and approved by U.S. EPA or promulgated directly by U.S. EPA. The final Consent Decree deadline is March 24, 2012.

Although the Regional Board has established numerous TMDLs at a rapid pace over the past 10 years, roughly half of the TMDLs on the Consent Decree have yet to be completed. This is largely due to reduced resources, time spent defending TMDLs against legal challenges, and time spent readopting TMDLs to address stakeholder concerns and incorporate the most recent data and scientific studies. As a result of the lag in TMDL development and the impending Consent Decree deadline, U.S. EPA will be promulgating many of the remaining Consent Decree TMDLs. This is because the TMDL approval process takes about two months for U.S. EPA and about 12 months for the Regional Board and State Board.

At the workshop, U.S. EPA presented the list of TMDLs that they will develop and the schedule for development. Regional Board staff was on-hand to answer stakeholder questions about how U.S. EPA-developed TMDLs would be implemented through Regional Board regulatory programs. Notably, U.S. EPA-developed TMDLs do not contain implementation plans. This means that TMDL waste load allocations and load allocations apply immediately and must be incorporated into Regional Board orders at the time of their issuance, renewal, or reopening. This is one of the many issues that must be addressed as Regional Board staff work with U.S. EPA staff to comply with the Consent Decree and develop all its remaining TMDLs.

Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL Development

Yanjie Chu

On December 9, 2009, Regional Board staff held a kickoff meeting to receive comments on the development of a TMDL for indicator bacteria in the Santa Clara River (SCR) Estuary and Reaches 3, 5, 6, and 7. At the kickoff meeting, Regional Board staff presented background of the TMDL, reviewed recent data, and solicited stakeholder involvement. About 20 stakeholders, including municipal stormwater permittees, publicly owned treatment works, farmers and farming groups, city and county representatives, and developers attended the meeting.

On February 11, 2010, Regional Board staff sent out a notice of stakeholder meeting and CEQA scoping meeting to be held on March 2, 2010 to stakeholders of SCR watershed. Regional Board staff will conduct the CEQA scoping meeting to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the “functionally equivalent” substitute environmental documents supporting Basin Plan amendments that would establish the SCR bacteria TMDL. A stakeholder meeting will also be conducted to facilitate the development of the proposed amendments.

On February 25, 2010, Regional Board staff will attend meetings of two Integrated Regional Water Management Plan groups in the lower and upper SCR watershed to present the TMDL and get stakeholder feedback.