



# Enforcement News

**Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>

## City of Taft to pay \$250,000 for Overflow of 1.5-million Gallons of Raw Sewage

*Compliance Programs to Detect and Respond Early to System Failures  
to be Enacted as Part of Settlement Agreement*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 18, 2016**

**Contacts:** Lonnie M. Wass  
**Phone:** (559) 445-6051

**SACRAMENTO** – The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) recently approved a \$250,000 settlement with the city of Taft for a 2013 sewage spill that threatened waterways and public health.

Under the agreement, the city is to complete two early detection and response compliance projects designed to minimize future sewer overflows.

The announced settlement is in response to a sanitary sewer main failure in March 2013, which caused an overflow that discharged approximately 1.5 million gallons of untreated sewage into Sandy Creek over a period of four days. Sandy Creek was dry at the time of the overflow.

The city responded to the accident by repairing the failed sewer main; cleaning the streambed of sewage solids; conducting a streambed assessment (including a sensitive species habitat evaluation); and correcting deficiencies in its wastewater treatment process. The Central Valley Water Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife provided regulatory oversight.

The agreed-to compliance projects include implementing a remote-area flow monitoring and alarm system, and a supervisory control and data acquisition project. The two compliance projects, estimated to cost the city \$120,000, would be credited against the settlement amount.

The Central Valley Water Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of the quality of California's water resources. For more information, visit the Central Valley Water Board's [website](#).

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