

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2005

Prepared on January 6, 2005

ITEM: 12

SUBJECT: LOW THREAT CASES

DISCUSSION

Low Threat and General Discharge Cases

General NPDES Permit Order No. 01-119:

**Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency,
Supply Well Development and Testing,
Watsonville, Monterey County [Martin
Fletcher, 805/549-3694]**

Regional Board staff received an application from the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (Discharger) to discharge groundwater during aquifer testing and development of up to three agricultural supply wells east of Watsonville, Monterey County.

The project involves the discharge of groundwater from three proposed test wells at various locations. Upon identification of suitable locations, the agency intends to install three agricultural water supply wells. Additional well development and pump testing groundwater will be discharged from the new agricultural water supply wells. The clean development water and aquifer testing water will be discharged to adjacent agricultural drainage ditches. The ditches eventually drain to Elkhorn Slough located about 2 to 6 miles downstream of the wells sites.

The proposed discharge of clean groundwater from each well will occur at flow rates of less than 120 gallons per minute for aquifer test wells, and up to 2000 gallons a minute for each agricultural irrigation well. Discharge will follow construction and have a duration of up to 8 hours for each well. Total flows are anticipated to be less than 57,600 gallons for each test well and 960,000 gallons per day for each irrigation well. Well construction drill cuttings, drilling mud, and dirty development

water will be contained at the site and transported for appropriate off-site disposal.

The proposed discharges have the potential to cause erosion and sediment problems if not properly directed or dispersed. The Discharger is required to implement management practices to minimize and mitigate erosion and sedimentation.

The Discharger agrees to comply with the General Permit and ensure protection of human health and the environment. The proposed project will involve self-monitoring and reporting in accordance with the enclosed site-specific revised Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-119. Staff notified the Discharger of its enrollment in the General Low Threat Permit on December 1, 2004.

General Waste Discharge Requirements for Wineries:

Martin and Weyrich Winery, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Regional Board staff enrolled Martin and Weyrich Winery under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste on November 19, 2004. The Regional Board did not previously regulate Martin and Weyrich Winery. Martin and Weyrich Winery is located at 4230 Buena Vista Road in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County. Wine production is currently 40,000 cases per year. Wastewater is processed through a septic tank/leachfield system. Martin and Weyrich Winery is subject to Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Staff will begin periodic inspections of Martin and Weyrich Winery to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

Summerwood Winery, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Regional Board staff enrolled Summerwood Winery under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste on November 23, 2004. The Regional Board did not previously regulate Summerwood Winery. Summerwood Winery is located at 2175 Arbor Road in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County. Wine production is currently 10,000 cases per year. Process wastewater is processed through a septic tank/leachfield system. Summerwood Winery is subject to Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Staff will begin periodic inspections of Summerwood Winery to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

Adelaida Cellars, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Regional Board staff enrolled Adelaida Cellars under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste on November 23, 2004. The Regional Board did not previously regulate Adelaida Cellars. Adelaida Cellars is located at 5805 Adelaida Road in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County. Wine production is currently 15,000 cases per year. Process wastewater is processed through a septic tank/leachfield system. Adelaida Cellars is subject to Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Staff will begin periodic inspections of Adelaida Cellars to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

Lockwood Vineyards, Paso Robles, Monterey County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Regional Board staff enrolled Lockwood Vineyards under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste on December 15, 2004. The Regional Board did not previously regulate Lockwood Vineyards. Lockwood Vineyards is located at 59020 Paris Valley Road in San Lucas, Monterey County. Wine production is currently 96,600 cases per year. Process wastewater is processed through a septic tank/leachfield system. Lockwood Vineyards is subject to Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Staff will

begin periodic inspections of Lockwood Vineyards to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

General Waste Discharge Requirements for Fruit and Vegetable Processing Waste

Fresh Innovations, Salinas, Monterey County [Martin Fletcher 805/549-3694]

Regional Board staff enrolled Fresh Innovations, LLC, under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Fruit and Vegetable Processing Waste, Order No. R3-2004-0066, on January 12, 2005. Fresh Innovations, LLC was previously unregulated by the Regional Board.

Fresh Innovation's waste discharge is described as follows:

- Far Sighted Investments of Monterey, LLC, owns and Fresh Innovations, LLC, plans to operate a vegetable processing facility at 22250 Somavia Road, Salinas, CA 93908. Vegetables processed include green onions and radishes.
- The processing season is from May through October, with no activities expected other than facility maintenance from November through March.
- Prior to packaging, vegetables are washed with potable water and recycled process water. Chlorine is used as disinfectant in the vegetable processing and ozone is used in the recycling process.
- The wastewater treatment and disposal system will consist of a primary lined settling pond followed by a high-rate wetland treatment system with recycle of treated effluent back to vegetable processing operations. Effluent not recycled will be stored in an unlined pond and used for irrigation of alfalfa or similar fodder crop onsite. Rainfall runoff from the building roof will be routed through to the process wastewater treatment system to provide water to keep the system operating during the off season.

- In order to maximize recycling while maintaining adequate effluent quality for disposal, effluent TDS will be limited to 1800 mg/L, which corresponds to a waste rate of approximately 18,100 gallons per day (GPD) and a recycle rate of approximately 44,500 GPD. The discharger has been informed that discharge of greater than 1800 mg/L TDS could result in groundwater monitoring requirements and/or development of site-specific waste discharge requirements.
- Off-season wastewater flow results from cleaning and maintenance activities and is estimated at less than 5,000 GPD.

Enrollment under the General WDRs requires Fresh Innovations to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2004-0066. The MRP has been modified to eliminate content not relevant to the facility (such as monitoring frequencies for smaller and larger fruit and vegetable processors). Water supply quality, production, chemical usage, influent, effluent, pond, and disposal area monitoring are required. Groundwater and disposal area soils monitoring are not required as the treatment and disposal method presents little or no threat to underlying groundwater quality. Regional Board staff will regularly inspect the facility to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

Staff Closed Cases:

Castlerock Estates, 154 Corral De Tierra, Salinas, Monterey County [John Mijares 805/549-3696]

The subject site is located along Highway 68 approximately nine miles southwest of Salinas within the Markham Ranch Subdivision. The 12.3-acre site was formerly a working ranch for cattle and sheep and is currently undeveloped due to the historic presence of pesticide residues from the use of toxaphene and dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) in cattle and sheep dipping solutions. Livestock dipping began in the 1930's and continued through the mid-1970's.

Investigations conducted between 1991 through 1995 found toxaphene, DDT, DDE (dichlorodiphenyl-dichloroethylene), and DDD (dichlorodiphenyl dichloroethane) compounds in

soil and groundwater. Toxaphene concentrations in surface soil near the cattle dip trough ranged from 10 to 1000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), with localized concentrations exceeding 1000 mg/kg in surficial soil immediately adjacent to the trough. Toxaphene concentrations generally have been higher than DDT compounds by an order of magnitude in the same soil sample.

Cleanup or Abatement Order (CAO) No. 96-22 issued on September 6, 1996, required the responsible party to cleanup degraded soil and groundwater. The toxaphene cleanup levels in the CAO are 0.3 mg/kg for soil and 5 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/l}$) for groundwater. However, Regional Board staff uses 3 $\mu\text{g/l}$ as the groundwater cleanup level for toxaphene since the maximum contaminant level for drinking water (MCL) is 3 $\mu\text{g/l}$. The cleanup levels for the combined DDT, DDE, plus DDD compounds are 0.03 mg/kg in soil and 1 $\mu\text{g/l}$ in groundwater.

In 1996, the responsible party removed the concrete dip trough and 52 tons of contaminated soil that was disposed at a Class I landfill near Kettleman City. In 2000, the responsible party removed an additional 9,200 tons of pesticide contaminated soil to a regulated disposal area. The concentrations remaining in soil comply with the CAO cleanup levels of 0.3 mg/kg for toxaphene and 0.03 mg/kg for the combined DDT, DDE, plus DDE compounds.

April 2000 groundwater monitoring data indicate that toxaphene concentrations in all wells except MW-3 and MW-8 met cleanup levels. Monitoring wells MW-3 (5.1 $\mu\text{g/l}$) and MW-8 (7.1 $\mu\text{g/l}$) exceeded the toxaphene groundwater cleanup level of 5 $\mu\text{g/l}$; however, concentrations of the combined DDT, DDE, plus DDD compounds in these two wells were below the groundwater cleanup level of 1 $\mu\text{g/l}$. Regional Board staff recommended case closure to the Regional Board at its November 29, 2000, public meeting. The Regional Board did not agree with staff's recommendation and directed staff to require continued groundwater monitoring until cleanup objectives are met. Groundwater has been monitored annually in April when groundwater is generally at its highest level. April 2004 monitoring results indicate toxaphene, and DDT, DDE, plus DDD compounds were not detected in monitoring well MW-3 above the laboratory reporting limits or the cleanup levels. Groundwater monitoring results

from MW-8 on November 17, 2002, indicate toxaphene, and DDT, DDE, plus DDD were not detected above laboratory reporting limits or cleanup levels.

As directed by Regional Board staff, the responsible party properly destroyed the two remaining monitoring wells (MW-3 and MW-8) on August 31, 2004, as permitted by Monterey County Environmental Health Department. Since the responsible party has complied with the requirements of the CAO, the Executive Officer rescinded the CAO and issued a case closure letter on November 8, 2004.

Cases Recommended for Closure:

Santa Barbara County Courthouse, 1120 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County, [John Mijares, (805) 549-3696]

A 10,000-gallon underground fuel tank was removed in July 1989. Ten samples were collected in 1989 from beneath the gasoline storage tank and from borings advanced at or adjacent to the tank excavation. Results of the soil site assessment indicated strong hydrocarbon odors and staining at 15 and 28 feet below ground surface (bgs) in MW-1, drilled in the center of the backfilled tank excavation. However, concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), benzene (B), toluene (T), 1,2-ethylene dichloride (1,2-EDC), or lead were below the Santa Barbara County soil cleanup goals. In the other nine soil samples, the above petroleum hydrocarbon constituents were either not detected or were below the soil cleanup goals.

In May 1999, six soil samples were collected from an angled soil boring (CC-7) drilled under the courthouse foundation. The purpose of the boring was to evaluate the presence of soil and groundwater contamination under the former fuel dispenser located previously in the courthouse basement. Two of the six soil samples were found to contain TPH at concentrations of 230 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) at 16.5 feet bgs, and 350 mg/kg at 36 feet bgs. No 1,2-EDC was detected in any soil sample.

The County Courthouse site overlies Storage Unit I of the Santa Barbara Groundwater Basin. The uppermost zone, consisting primarily of low

permeability fine-grained deposits, comprises the upper 200 feet of the groundwater basin. Depth to groundwater at the courthouse site on October 20, 2004, ranged from 43.5 to 52.1 feet bgs. Based on groundwater elevations measured in October 20, 2004, groundwater flowed southeast at a gradient ranging from 0.002 to 0.003 feet per foot. This flow direction is consistent with historical flow data collected from 1996 to 2003.

Results of the October 2004 groundwater monitoring indicate that 1,2-EDC was detected in a downgradient well (CC-5) at 2.3 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/l}$). 1,2-EDC was not detected in all three on-site wells (CC-3, CC-4, and CC-7). The groundwater cleanup goal for 1,2-EDC is 0.5 $\mu\text{g/l}$. TPH and BTEX were not detected in any of the sampled wells.

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department recommends case closure provided a deed notification is recorded for the property. The deed notification will require the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department to remediate or assess the risk of the contaminated soil when any future excavation activity beneath the courthouse results in exposure of the contaminated soil.

Regional Board staff concurs with the recommendation of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department for site closure. If the Regional Board does not have objection to the recommended case closure, we will notify the Santa Barbara County Fire Department after the Regional Board meeting.

State Board Closed Cases:

Former Avis Rent-A-Car (Panosian Property), 5680 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, Santa Barbara County [John Mijares 805/549-3696]

At its November 18, 2004 meeting, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted Order WQ 2004-0018-UST closing this leaking underground storage tank case on the basis that residual concentrations of benzene and 1,2-Dichloroethane (EDC) in excess of the Regional Board's Basin Plan objectives will not pose a threat to current or future beneficial uses of groundwater.

In July 2000, Mr. Panosian requested site closure from the Santa Barbara County Fire Department,

Fire Protection Services Division (County Fire Department), based on low concentrations of residual petroleum hydrocarbons, and the continuing natural attenuation. The County Fire Department denied the closure request and required Mr. Panosian to conduct additional plume assessment and active groundwater remediation. On March 2, 2002, Mr. Panosian appealed the closure denial to the SWRCB contending that limited residual petroleum constituents are adequately defined and pose no risk to human health, safety, and the environment. On April 11, 2002, the County Fire Department sent written comments to the SWRCB expressing their opinion that the site should not be closed because TPHg, benzene, and EDC were above groundwater cleanup objectives, the plume had not been completely defined, the plume appeared to be migrating, and could potentially contaminate a nearby private domestic well. On April 15, 2002, the Executive Officer also requested that the SWRCB deny the petition for closure because concentrations of benzene and EDC were in excess of water quality objectives. The SWRCB scheduled a Workshop for July 2, 2002; however, Mr. Panosian requested the SWRCB hold the petition in abeyance.

On August 20, 2003, Mr. Panosian requested the SWRCB reactivate his petition, and on September

12, 2003, SWRCB staff informed Mr. Panosian his petition was reactivated. On February 23, 2004, SWRCB staff informally inquired whether Regional Board staff would be willing to resolve this issue at the local level. On June 3, 2004, Regional Board and County Fire Department staff met to discuss whether the site could be closed. The County Fire Department agreed to submit a conditional case closure request to Regional Board staff.

Regional Board staff recommended case closure at the Regional Board's September 10, 2004 meeting. The Regional Board unanimously objected to staff's recommendation on the basis that beneficial uses would not be protected with a residual benzene concentration of 150 micrograms per liter.

ATTACHMENT

1. Gradient map from 1120 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County Courthouse.

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