
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Status of Actions April 2026 PG&E Hinkley Chromium Contamination

Chromium Plume Boundary

In general, the Fourth Quarter 2025 groundwater data indicates that plume migration is not occurring. Data does reflect natural fluctuations of chromium concentrations in groundwater as remediation progresses. The Fourth Quarter 2025 chromium plume maps can be viewed on GeoTracker at [Fourth Quarter 2025 Groundwater Monitoring Report and Domestic Well Sampling Results](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?url=9cloj) (<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?url=9cloj>) and are Figures 5-1 through 5-6 of this report.

Chromium plume maps representing previous quarters are posted on the Water Board's Hinkley website at [Water Board's Hinkley website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/projects/pge/index.shtml) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/projects/pge/index.shtml), at the bottom of the page under the section titled "Other Documents and Information." The First Quarter 2026 plume map is due on May 10, 2026, consistent with the reporting due dates contained in Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. R6V-2015-0068-A1.

Revised Sampling and Analysis Plan for Compliance with the In-Situ Remediation Zones and Freshwater Injection Systems Notice of Applicability

Water Board staff accepted the Revised Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) submitted by PG&E on December 18, 2025. The SAP was submitted in accordance with the Notice of Applicability of General Waste Discharge Requirements for the In-Situ Remediation Zones and the Freshwater Injection Systems (Board Order No. R6V-2008-0014) issued on October 5, 2021. PG&E is required to submit an updated SAP to the Water Board within 60 days of wells being added or removed from the monitoring program. Changes to the SAP included:

- New IRZ monitoring wells MW-232 through MW-237 are being added for quarterly sampling.
- New domestic well 35-41 located north of Community Boulevard, between Summerset and Mountain View Roads, was added to the WTR-MM-2a, WTR-MM-2b, and WTR-MM-2c sampling areas.
- Reducing sampling frequency of CA-MW-101D, CA-MW-103D, CA-MW-106D, CA-MW-107D, CA-MW-108D, CA-MW-109D, MW-39, PT1-MW-01, SA-MW-04S, SA-SM-01S, SA-SM-08D, SC-MW-13D, and SC-MW-13S from semiannual to annual sampling because chromium concentrations were below 3.1 micrograms per liter for at least four sampling events.

JEFF LOUX, CHAIR | BEN LETTON, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- Reducing the sampling frequency of MW-39D, PMW-05, PT1-MW-04, SA-AW-01, SA-AW-02, SAMW-02S, SA-MW-06S, SA-MW-07S, SA-MW-08S, and SA-MW-34S from quarterly to semiannual sampling because chromium concentrations were below 3.1 micrograms per liter for at least four sampling events.
- Increasing sampling from annually to semiannually at SA-MW-16S due to variable hexavalent chromium concentrations observed.
- Adding SA-MW-19D to the sampling program quarterly to monitor the recent maximum hexavalent chromium concentrations at the site that have been observed at that location.
- Dry wells in the program were updated based on most recent observed dry wells. Rewetted monitoring wells MW-67A, SA-MW-23S, SA-MW-27SR, SA-MW-29S, SC-MW-01S, and SC-MW-11SR resumed sampling at their previously designated frequencies.

2026 Revised Area of Allowed Plume Expansion Monitoring Plan

On March 26, 2026, PG&E submitted the 2026 Revised Area of Allowed Plume Expansion Monitoring Plan technical memorandum (Tech Memo). The Tech Memo is requesting approval of a reduction in the sampling frequency for monitoring wells and domestic wells along the Area of Allowed Plume Expansion boundary. The Monitoring and Reporting Program RB6V-2015-0068-A1 states that PG&E may request a reduction in sampling frequency if it is demonstrated that the chromium plume is stable and is not a threat to nearby domestic wells. Water Board staff are reviewing the Tech Memo.

Feasibility Study to Evaluate Hexavalent Chromium Background Values

As discussed at the January 2025 board meeting, the Water Board will be requiring a feasibility study to be performed by PG&E to inform us on cleanup time frames, developing cleanup goals or milestones, applying information learned from the USGS Background Study, and updating the model to correspond with current site conditions. Other information may include cost analysis, consideration of any new technology available, modification to the remedy to accelerate cleanup, and running the model with new data not included in the previous feasibility study.

Water Board PG&E Hinkley Chromium Cleanup Webpage

Water Board staff have updated our [PG&E Hinkley Chromium Cleanup Project webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahtontan/water_issues/projects/pge/) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahtontan/water_issues/projects/pge/). The project webpage hosts certain documents and announcements related to PG&E's corrective actions, as well as copies of past and current plume maps to access or download and print from the webpage. Please contact Water Board staff with any questions or for assistance.

Your Water Board Staff Contacts

Water Board oversight of the PG&E Hinkley Chromium Cleanup project is provided by staff in the Water Board's Victorville office located at 15095 Amargosa Road, Building 2, Suite 210, Victorville, CA 92394. Your Water Board staff contacts are listed below. Please feel free to contact any of the listed should you need assistance.

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