
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Status of Actions January 2026 PG&E Hinkley Chromium Contamination

Chromium Plume Boundary

In general, the Third Quarter 2025 groundwater data indicates that plume migration is not occurring but does reflect natural fluctuations of groundwater concentrations as remediation progresses. The Third Quarter 2025 chromium plume maps can be viewed on GeoTracker at [Third Quarter 2025 Groundwater Monitoring Report and Domestic Well Sampling Results](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=9cloj) (<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=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 Fourth Quarter 2025 plume map is due on February 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

On December 18, 2025, PG&E submitted a Revised Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) 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 include:

- 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.

- 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.

Water Board staff are reviewing the revised SAP and have solicited comments from the IRP Manager.

Domestic Well 35-41 and Monitoring Well MW-67A Hexavalent Chromium Concentrations

During routine monitoring, monitoring well MW-67A had an increase in hexavalent chromium concentrations during the Second Quarter 2024. PG&E began providing bottled water to the residence with domestic well 35-41 in accordance with the Environmental Impact Report mitigation measure WTR-MM-2A and began monthly monitoring of domestic well 35-41 and MW-67A. Monthly monitoring of monitoring wells MW-230S/D, MW-231S/D, and MW-67A/B have shown that concentrations of hexavalent chromium have stabilized in the area and have remained below 10 micrograms per liter.

PG&E has modified monitoring for nearby monitoring wells from monthly to quarterly. Monitoring of domestic well 35-41 will continue monthly performing a 5-gallon purge prior to collecting the sample. If any increases in hexavalent chromium are observed, Water Board staff will request PG&E increase sampling frequency to monthly.

PG&E Modified Domestic Well Sampling Area

Discussed in the First Quarter 2025 monitoring report, PG&E planned to modify the domestic well sampling area that was established using the 2014 hexavalent chromium plume boundary. Water Board staff requested PG&E continue the sampling of monitoring wells in the domestic well sampling area based on the 2014 plume boundary until the requirements to modify the area had been reviewed. PG&E will discontinue sampling domestic wells outside of the 1-mile required area according to WTR-MM-2a with a new boundary based on the First Quarter 2025 plume boundary. The Water Board issued an acceptance letter on January 15, 2026.

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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