

Media Release

Contact: Patty Kouyoumdjian

Phone: (530) 542-5412

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board 2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, California 96150 Phone (530) 542-5400 □ Fax (530) 544-2271

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan

Lahontan Water Board Issues Cleanup Order for Dry Cleaning Chemical at Lake Tahoe Laundry Works Site

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 12, 2017

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, Calif. – Today the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a Cleanup and Abatement <u>Order</u> to the responsible parties of the Lake Tahoe Laundry Works site to identify and clean up a tetrachloroethylene (PCE) plume that has contaminated groundwater sources in the community of South Lake Tahoe.

The Lahontan Water Board issued the order in response to PCE impacting drinking water wells for two public water systems in the South Lake Tahoe area. The pollutant, commonly used in dry cleaning operations, is a regulated contaminant in drinking water that can cause adverse health effects, including an increased risk for cancer after long-term exposure.

"Protecting Lake Tahoe's pristine drinking water supplies is a top priority for the Lahontan Water Board," said Water Board Executive Director Patty Kouyoumdjian. "So understanding the full extent of this PCE plume is a big step in making sure this chemical doesn't contaminate more drinking water sources, and that cleanup is done in a timely manner by the responsible parties."

A laundry facility from the 1970s until 2011, the Lake Tahoe Laundry Works site, located at 1024 Lake Tahoe Blvd., likely spilled the PCE during delivery of the chemical. The responsible parties for the site, which is once again home to a laundromat, are Seven Springs Limited Partnership, Fox Capital Management Corporation, Bobby Pages, Inc., and Connolly Development.

Lahontan Water Board staff believe the PCE plume emanating from the site is not fully defined, and it is unknown if all the contamination is from the Lake Tahoe Laundry Works site, or other responsible parties. Because of this, the Lahontan Water Board issued its order to require the Laundry Works' responsible parties to investigate and determine the complete extent of the PCE groundwater contamination and to cleanup and abate its effects.

For more information on the order see the Lahontan Water Board webpage.