

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT – Chuck Headlee
MEETING DATE: January 14, 2009

ITEM: 6. B.

SUBJECT: **Cleanup Programs - Case Closure Progress Report**

CHRONOLOGY: The Board receives semi-annual progress reports on this subject.

DISCUSSION: **Case Closure Progress**

Our cleanup programs focus on overseeing the remediation of sites that have caused soil and groundwater pollution. They comprise the fuel underground storage tank (UST) program (highlighted below), the Site Cleanup Program, and the Department of Defense/Energy cleanup program. Our goal this fiscal year in the UST program is to close 30 cases; at approximately the halfway point of the year, we have closed 17. The Site Cleanup and Department of Defense/Energy programs do not have specific case closure goals; however, to date we have closed 17 and 26 cases, respectively, this fiscal year.

Underground Storage Tank Program Agencies in Region 2

There are currently 12 agencies within our Region that oversee cleanup of UST sites that have impacted groundwater. They include the Water Board, 7 county agencies, 3 cities, and 1 water district. The State Board funds the county agencies through the Local Oversight Program (LOP). The remainder, referred to as Local Implementing Agencies (LIAs), consist of the remaining city and water district agencies.

Local Oversight Program Agencies

Water Board staff provide technical guidance and enforcement support to the LOP agencies as needed. Upon determination by a LOP agency that a UST case is ready for closure, the LOP agency submits a closure package to Water Board staff for review. If Water Board staff concur or fail to act within 30 days, the closure is deemed approved, and the LOP agency issues a closure letter.

Local Implementing Agencies

For the LIAs, Water Board staff provide technical and enforcement assistance as necessary. However, these agencies essentially perform the same technical oversight duties (report requests, report review, etc.) that Water Board staff would be expected to perform when overseeing case cleanups. As part of the Region's case closure protocol with the LIAs, Water Board staff review a LIA's case closure recommendation and case closure summary package (although in

some cases Water Board staff may prepare the summary package for the LIA). If Water Board staff concurs with the LIA's recommendation, Water Board staff issue a closure letter.

Coordination with Local Agencies

Although we have a good working relationship with all the local agencies, we are always seeking ways to make the overall UST program run more smoothly. To that end, we have started holding regular monthly meetings between our UST program staff and staff at the local agencies. This makes for a more seamless process when it comes time to review one of the local agencies' cases for concurrence with a closure request. By having this good working relationship, in many cases we are also able to resolve conflicts between a local agency and responsible parties and prevent petitions to the State Board.

RECOMMEN-
DATION:
1210.47 (CTH)

This is an information item only and no action is necessary.