

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Bill Johnson)  
MEETING DATE: September 14, 2011

ITEM: 4

SUBJECT: **2011 Dr. Teng-chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award** — Presentation of Award in Recognition of Exceptional Accomplishments in Pollution Prevention in the San Francisco Bay Area

CHRONOLOGY: September 2007 — Initial award given to Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group for dental mercury reduction education, and to East Bay Municipal Utility District for collaborative projects with local advocacy groups.

September 2008 — Award given to City and County of San Francisco for FOG (fats, oil, and grease) to fuel program.

September 2009 — Award given to Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group for state and regional “No Drugs Down the Drain” campaign.

September 2010 — Award given to Wastewater Treatment Agencies of Marin County for their collaborative public education program.

DISCUSSION: This item is the presentation of the 2011 Dr. Teng-chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award to the City of Millbrae Water Pollution Prevention Program for its outstanding outreach efforts. The City of Millbrae operates a small wastewater treatment plant that typically discharges less than two million gallons per day. Nevertheless, this small operation has a big track record in reducing waste and pollutants at their sources. With support from the Millbrae City Council, the Millbrae School District, community groups, and countless volunteers, Millbrae gets the pollution prevention message out by airing public service announcements, hosting booths at public events, sending utility bill messages, presenting videos on local cable access, working with schools and kids, and trying any number of other ideas that come along. The program accomplishes so much by leveraging regional efforts through group purchasing and coordinated outreach with other City divisions, plus organizations like the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association, and the California Coastal Commission. Measuring increases in public awareness is difficult, but Millbrae staff knows it is making a difference through surveys and qualitative assessments based on conversations with event attendees.

The Board established this award in 2007 to honor the legacy of Dr. Teng-chung Wu, who worked at the Board and was a pollution prevention advocate for decades. The award recognizes innovation, excellence, effectiveness, and collaboration in pollution prevention. The timing of the award coincides with National Pollution Prevention Week, September 19-25.

RECOMMENDATION: No action is necessary