

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Ralph Lambert)  
MEETING DATE: April 11, 2012

ITEM: 5C

SUBJECT: **Pacific Gas and Electric Company, for the property located at Petaluma "A" Substation, 175 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Petaluma, Sonoma County - Rescission of Site Cleanup Requirements**

CHRONOLOGY: December 15, 1994 - Site Cleanup Requirements adopted

DISCUSSION: The Tentative Order (Appendix A) would rescind the existing site cleanup requirements for Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) for its Petaluma "A" Substation. This site is located at 175 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Petaluma, adjacent to the Petaluma River. A former a manufactured gas plant, which operated from approximately 1885 until 1902, was located across the street from this site.

PG&E's preliminary assessment conducted in 1986 found low to moderate concentrations of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and arsenic in the site's shallow soil. Subsequent sampling in 1988 and 1991 found elevated concentrations of arsenic, lead, cadmium, copper, and zinc; only relatively low concentrations of PAHs and diesel-range hydrocarbons were found in soil. In 1994, based on these preliminary findings, the Board issued site cleanup requirements that directed PG&E to perform additional investigation and cleanup as needed. Subsequent investigations concluded that only shallow soil had minor impacts, and the investigations concluded that there was no adverse impact to sediments in the river or to groundwater.

Board staff approved PG&E's cleanup plan in March last year. The cleanup plan calls for managing residual pollution in place. PG&E installed a polyethylene liner covered with clean gravel over about one-half of the site. Additional areas of the site have been paved, and a small area of the site has been graded so that ponding no longer occurs. An old water supply well and all monitoring wells have been properly destroyed. PG&E also prepared a soil management plan to be followed if any soil-disturbing activities are performed in the future. Finally, a deed restriction has been recorded to prevent the potential use of the site for residential or other sensitive land uses.

In sum, PG&E has completed all tasks in the 1994 site cleanup requirements, and this site qualifies for case closure.

We circulated the Tentative Order for public comment and did not receive any comments. We expect the Tentative Order to remain uncontested. Board staff intends to close this case once the Tentative Order is adopted.

RECOMMEN-  
DATION

Adopt the Tentative Order.

File No.:

49S0004 (RAL)

Appendices:

A – Tentative Order

B – Site Map