

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT – John Wolfenden
 MEETING DATE: January 18, 2012

ITEM: **6C**

SUBJECT: **Cleanup Programs – Status Report Including Case Closures**

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

DISCUSSION: This is a semi-annual status report for the Board’s three cleanup programs: Underground Storage Tank (UST) Cleanup Program, Site Cleanup Program (SCP), and Military Cleanup Program (also known as the Department of Defense or “DoD” program). These programs oversee the investigation and cleanup of sites that have caused soil and groundwater pollution.

Case Closure Progress

The table below shows case closure targets for the current fiscal year (FY 11-12) and case closures for the first six months of this fiscal year, broken out by program. We expect to meet or exceed our case closure targets.

Cleanup Program	FY 11-12 Case Closures		
	Target	Actual	% of Target
UST	30	13	43%
SCP	15	15	100%
DoD	40*	32	80%
Total	85	60	71%

* internal target (no statewide target)

Performance Measures

The Water Boards are several years into an effort to use performance measures to show the public what our programs accomplish (e.g., the State Water Board’s “My Water Quality” portal). For FY 11-12, the cleanup programs collectively are on pace to meet or exceed targets for the performance measure “number of cases closed” (results are shown above). This measure indicates the elimination of threats to human health and water quality.

We are on pace to meet or exceed targets for the performance measure “number of cases starting active remediation” in all the cleanup programs except the UST program (results are shown below). This measure indicates the transition from site investigation to actual cleanup. Movement into remediation for UST cases generally occurs in the second

half of the FY as responsible parties start to see receive reimbursements from the Cleanup Fund and are more willing to put out the dollars needed for expensive remediation systems.

Cleanup Program	FY 11-12 Cases Starting Active Remediation		
	Target	Actual	% of Target
UST	5	0	0%
SCP	5	5	100%
DoD	5	7	140%
Total	15	12	80%

Two new performance measures have been added this fiscal year: “human health exposure controlled” and “groundwater contamination migration controlled.” These measures will indicate how well we’re doing at addressing acute problems associated with cleanup sites. We have generated baseline data showing that these measures are being met at virtually all sites (or we are in the process of determining if they’re met). Targets for these measures will follow next fiscal year.

State Water Board’s UST Policy

The State Water Board continues to make progress toward establishment of an Underground Storage Tank (UST) policy. State Water Board staff held one of several state-wide CEQA scoping meetings for the draft UST policy in our auditorium on September 29, 2011. As noted in our July 2011 report, the draft policy defines low-threat fuel UST cases and directs oversight agencies to close them immediately. Oversight agencies include the Regional Water Boards as well as various local agencies.

We made comments regarding the lack of “nuisance criteria” in the July 2011 draft of the UST policy. The November 2011 draft of the policy has incorporated our concerns regarding “nuisance criteria.” The November 2011 draft has been circulated for peer review. The peer review process and preparation of the CEQA document will likely take 60 to 90 days. At that time, the resulting document will be circulated for public comment prior to going to the State Water Board in late spring 2012. Our staff will remain engaged in reviewing UST policy drafts and will keep the Board informed of any significant developments.

**RECOMMEN-
DATION:**

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