

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION**

TENATIVE ORDER No. R2-2013 - XXXX

RESCISSION OF ORDER No. 97-100 for:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FORMER MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD
VALLEJO, SOLANO COUNTY**

for the:

BUILDING A258 SOIL TREATMENT FACILITY

The California Regional Water Quality Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Regional Water Board), finds that:

Site Description and History

1. Mare Island was entirely owned by the U.S. Navy (Navy) and used as a naval shipyard from 1854 until it was officially closed in April 1996. The primary activities on the site were ship and submarine construction, modernization, repairing, and basing. Heavy industrial activities occurred primarily on the east side of the island adjacent to Mare Island Strait. A portion of Mare Island has been transferred to the City of Vallejo. The City has developed and adopted a reuse plan for Mare Island.
2. The Mare Island Soil Treatment Facility (STF) operated at Building A258. The building is located in the southeast portion of Mare Island east of Railroad Avenue, on a portion of Mare Island that has not yet been transferred to the City by the Navy. Mare Island Strait is located approximately 200 feet east of Building A258.
3. Building A258 is an enclosed wood-framed warehouse constructed on a concrete floor mounted on piles with sheet metal sides and a roof. The building is composed of three bays: center, north, and south. The center bay has a roadway below floor level with an entrance on the east side. The building's soil treatment cells were located in the north and south bays. SSPORTs¹ operated the soil treatment facility in Building A258 in 1997 in conjunction with the University of California (UC) Davis, where a variety of treatment technologies for petroleum-impacted soils were tested, including enhanced bioremediation through the addition of rice hulls.
4. The Navy treated soils containing petroleum wastes, including gasoline, gasohol, jet fuel, diesel, kerosene, and fuel oils. No hazardous waste was accepted for treatment and contaminated soils contained no free liquid. Contaminated soils accepted for treatment at the STF were classified as solid waste designated under Title 23 of the California Code of

¹ SSPORTs = U.S. Navy Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion, and Repair, Portsmouth, Virginia, Environmental Detachment, Vallejo

Regulations, section 2522 (which, at the time, regulated waste classification and management). Hazardous wastes were not accepted at the STF.

Regulatory History

- 5 On August 20, 1997, the Regional Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 97-100. The objective of Order No. 97-100 was to establish WDRs for the construction, operation, and monitoring of the STF, including waste acceptance criteria and minimum treatment standards. Order No. 97-100 permitted the treatment of petroleum-impacted soils only, and explicitly excluded hazardous wastes.

Basis for Rescission

- 6 Order No. 97-100 established WDRs for the STF. The STF is no longer used and no waste material remains in Building A258. The exact date of the facility closure is unknown; however, Navy records indicate that no petroleum-impacted soils were treated at the STF after 1997.

CEQA, Notification, and Public Hearing

- 7 The rescission of Order No. 97-100 is not a “project” as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). There is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15378 and 15061, subd. (b) (3).)
- 8 The Regional Water Board has notified the Navy and interested agencies and persons of its intent to rescind Order No. 97-100 and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
- 9 The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the proposed rescission of WDRs for the STF.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 97-100 is rescinded.

I, Bruce H. Wolfe, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on _____.

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer