

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

MEETING DATE: February 14, 2024

**Item: 6**

**Executive Officer's Report**

## Executive Officer's Report February 9, 2024

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## Case Closures Support Residential Redevelopment in Newark (Lauren Kahapea)

### Introduction

We recently closed a leaky Underground Storage Tank (UST) case and are preparing closure documents for a second case to facilitate residential redevelopment in Newark, California. The Cedar Boulevard Redevelopment Project is a transformative residential redevelopment initiative located at 38288 - 38594 Cedar Boulevard in Newark, California. Encompassing approximately 7.8-acres, this project will provide 118 single-family homes with new streets, greenways, bioretention areas, and a park (Figure 1).



Figure 1 – Rendering of Proposed Cedar Boulevard Redevelopment Project.

The two leaky UST cases, J&M Concrete and Fremont Paving, are located within the project site boundaries (Figure 2). The J&M Concrete UST case was closed in June 2023. We are now moving forward with closing the Fremont Paving UST case.



Figure 2- Location of Two UST cases within the Redevelopment Project footprint.

## **Background**

The residential redevelopment is in a mixed-use area adjacent to the Interstate 880 freeway. Once a livestock grazing field until its purchase in 1959, the site has evolved over the years. There are six warehouses and two garages formerly used for various businesses such as a paving company, automobile body and mechanical repair companies, and trucking companies. All buildings are currently vacant and will be demolished followed by grading later this year.

### **J&M Concrete (Case # 01-3514)**

Two USTs were removed from the J&M Concrete Site in 1989. Several small perforations were observed in one of the tanks. During the tank removal, the tank pit was excavated to 14 feet in depth. In 2004, Alameda County Water District opened the UST case and between 2015 and 2020, two groundwater monitoring wells were installed to confirm the lateral extent of the groundwater contamination. We closed the case in June 2023 after determining that it met all criteria of the [Low Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy](#).

### **Fremont Paving (Case # 01-2452)**

Six USTs were removed from the Fremont Paving Site in 1989. One of the tanks was observed to have multiple perforations. The soil around the leaking tank was over-excavated to a depth of approximately 21 feet. Three monitoring wells were installed in 2001 with an additional six monitoring wells installed between 2015 and 2021. Remediation included in-situ chemical oxidation groundwater injection in April 2021, and groundwater extraction from January 2022 to December 2022, which removed approximately 500,000 gallons of contaminated groundwater.

We are working with the Alameda County Water District to move the case toward closure. We have approved cessation of groundwater monitoring and removal of the monitoring wells so that the excavation and grading for redevelopment can commence. Additionally, we worked with the discharger, the developer (Robson Homes), and the consultant (Ramboll) to excavate the remaining contaminated source area down to 30 feet below ground surface. Pelletized oxygen releasing compound will be placed at the base of the excavation and the pit will be backfilled with clean material. The over-excavation should take care of the remaining contamination at the former source area. Once these activities are completed, we intend to proceed with case closure.

## **Summary**

Redevelopment projects in the Bay Area often motivate landowners and prospective purchasers to clean up contaminated properties. When this happens, we can work cooperatively with the motivated parties to ensure that the full extent of contamination is addressed to support safe land reuse while improving and protecting water quality and the environment. The Cedar Boulevard Redevelopment Project is a good example of urban renewal and community improvement that has accelerated environmental cleanup.

## Staff Introductions (Eileen White)



Please welcome **Luis Anaya Vasquez** to the Water Board. Luis joins the Recycled Water & Wastewater Unit of the Watershed Management Division as a Water Resource Control Engineer, where he will be responsible for recycled water permitting and compliance oversight. He received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Science and Doctorate in Environmental Engineering from UC Berkeley. Luis is interested in the social and technical aspects of water access and is excited to further develop his engineering career at the Water Board. Luis is rediscovering his passions for music and reading by practicing guitar and catching up on a long (non-water related) reading list.



Please welcome **Sasha Mariniuk** to the Water Board. Sasha will be joining the NPDES Wastewater and Enforcement Division as a Scientific Aide. Sasha recently finished his degree in Environmental Studies and Biology at UC Santa Cruz, where his studies focused on environmental policy with an emphasis on preserving biodiversity. Coming from a family of swimmers, Sasha has felt a deep connection to water from a young age. He looks forward to diving into this passion during his time at the Water Board and hopes to start a long career in water management. Outside of work, Sasha spends his time flexing his competitive nature, enjoying everything from Catan to Ping Pong.



After a thorough and competitive process and careful consideration, I announced the selection of our newest Assistant Executive Officer, **Ross Steenson**. Ross was selected from a very talented group of candidates and will lead the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board's Toxics Cleanup and Groundwater Protection and Waste Containment Divisions. Ross has a Bachelor of Science in Geology from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia and a Masters in Geology from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Ross is a registered professional geologist and a certified hydrogeologist. He has over 20 years of consulting experience in cleaning up contaminated sites and groundwater protection and 15 years with the Water Board as a technical expert/advisor, case manager and author of technical guidance.

**Enforcement Actions (Brian Thompson and James Parrish)**

The following table shows proposed settlements since January’s report. As the proposed settlements are pending and could come before the Board, ex parte communications are not allowed. Please refer to the [Pending Enforcement Liabilities and Penalties](#) webpage for more information on the details of the alleged violation and proposed settlement.

***Proposed Settlements***

The following are noticed for 30-day public comment periods. If no significant comments are received by the deadline, the Executive Officer will sign the orders implementing these settlements.

<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Violation(s)</b>	<b>Proposed Penalty</b>	<b>Comment Deadline</b>
Millbrae Adrian Science Park LLC	Discharge limit violations	\$6,000	February 22, 2024
Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000 <sup>1</sup>	February 23, 2024
Texas Instruments, Inc	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000	February 23, 2024
Cedar Fair Entertainment Company	Discharge limit violations	\$33,000	February 26, 2024
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000	March 1, 2024
Eco Services Operations Corp	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000 <sup>1</sup>	March 4, 2024
Phillips 66 Company	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000	March 4, 2024
City of San Mateo	Discharge limit violations	\$6,000 <sup>1</sup>	March 4, 2024
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission	Discharge limit violations	\$9,000	March 4, 2024
Oliver De Silva, Inc.	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000 <sup>1</sup>	March 4, 2024
City of San Mateo and the City of Foster City Estero Municipal Improvement District	Discharge limit violations	\$9,000 <sup>1</sup>	March 4, 2024
SUMCO Phoenix Corporation	Discharge limit violations	\$6,000	March 4, 2024
Rodeo Sanitary District	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000	March 4, 2024
City and County of San Francisco, by and through the Airport Commission	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000	March 5, 2024
Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency	Discharge limit violations	\$3,000 <sup>1</sup>	March 5, 2024
Oro Loma and Castro Valley Sanitary Districts	Discharge limit violations	\$15,000 <sup>1</sup>	March 5, 2024

1 The penalty would supplement Regional Monitoring Program studies. The Regional Monitoring Program is managed by the San Francisco Estuary Institute to collect water quality information in support of management decisions to restore and protect beneficial uses of the Region’s waters.

**401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received (Abigail Smith)**

The table below lists those applications received for Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification from December 14, 2023, through January 17, 2024. A check mark in the right-hand column indicates a project with work that may be in the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) jurisdiction.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>City/Location</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>May have BCDC Jurisdiction</b>
LS 16 CA245 Integrity Dig	Fremont	Alameda	
Arroyo Las Positas Trail and Springtown Sewer Trunkline	Livermore	Alameda	
Creek Bank Grading Repair 2 Julianna Ct Moraga	Moraga	Contra Costa	
Roake Slope Improvement	Moraga	Contra Costa	
33 Windward Rd Belvedere Retaining Wall Emergency Repair	Belvedere	Marin	✓
89 West Shore Mooring	Belvedere	Marin	✓
Portofino Riviera Apartments Improvements	Sausalito	Marin	✓
Corinthian Yacht Club Harbor Maintenance Dredging	Tiburon	Marin	✓
Conlon Creek restoration and gully rehabilitation	Unincorporated	Marin	
Campbell Creek Culvert Replacement	Napa	Napa	
India Basin Shoreline Park	San Francisco	San Francisco	✓
Highway 92 Emergency Pipeline Replacement	Half Moon Bay	San Mateo	
Pilarcitos Avenue Kehoe Watercourse Outfall Repair	Half Moon Bay	San Mateo	
SR1 Culvert Replacement	Half Moon Bay	San Mateo	
January 2023 Emergency Storm Repairs	Multiple	San Mateo	
Fairview at Northgate Residential Development	Vallejo	Solano	
Foundation Strengthening	Vallejo	Solano	✓