

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
ORDER WQ 2025-0053-UST

**In the Matter of Underground Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure
Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10 and the
Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy**

BY THE CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR:¹

By this order, the Chief Deputy Director directs closure of the UST case at the site listed below, pursuant to section 25296.10 of the Health and Safety Code.² The name of the responsible party(ies), the site name, the site address, the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (Fund) claim number if applicable, current and former lead agencies, and case numbers are as follows:

17R Orchard Partners LP (Responsible Party)

Orchard Supply

1731 17th Street, Sacramento, Sacramento County

UST Cleanup Fund Claim No. 1463

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Case No. 340309

Sacramento County Environmental Management Department, Case No. RB002

¹ State Water Board Resolution No. 2023-0036 delegates to the Executive Director the authority to close or require the closure of any UST case if the case meets the criteria found in the State Water Board's Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy adopted by State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0016. Pursuant to Resolution No. 2023-0036, the Executive Director has delegated this authority to the Chief Deputy Director.

² Unless otherwise noted, all references are to the California Health and Safety Code.

I. STATUTORY AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

Upon review of a UST case, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is authorized to close or require closure of a UST case where an unauthorized release has occurred, if the State Water Board determines that corrective action at the site is in compliance with all the requirements of subdivisions (a) and (b) of section 25296.10. The State Water Board, or in certain cases the State Water Board Executive Director or Chief Deputy Director, may close a case or require the closure of a UST case. Closure of a UST case is appropriate where the corrective action ensures the protection of human health, safety, and the environment and where the corrective action is consistent with: 1) chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety Code and implementing regulations; 2) any applicable waste discharge requirements or other orders issued pursuant to division 7 of the Water Code; 3) all applicable state policies for water quality control; and 4) all applicable water quality control plans.

State Water Board staff has completed a review of the UST case identified above, and recommends that this case be closed. The recommendation is based upon the facts and circumstances of this particular UST case. The attached UST Case Closure Summary has been prepared for the case identified above and is incorporated by reference. The UST case record that is the basis for determining compliance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closures (Low-Threat Closure Policy or Policy) is available on the State Water Board's GeoTracker database.

GeoTracker Case Record: <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?gid=T0606700243>

Low-Threat Closure Policy

The Policy became effective on August 17, 2012. The Policy establishes consistent statewide case closure criteria for certain low threat petroleum UST sites. In the absence of unique attributes or site-specific conditions that demonstrably increase the risk associated with residual petroleum constituents, cases that meet the general and media-specific criteria in the Low-Threat Closure Policy pose a low threat to human health, safety, the environment, and are appropriate for closure under Health and Safety

Code section 25296.10. The Policy provides that if a regulatory agency determines that a case meets the general and media-specific criteria of the Policy, then the regulatory agency shall notify responsible parties and other specified interested persons that the case is eligible for case closure. Unless the regulatory agency revises its determination based on comments received on the proposed case closure, the Policy provides that the agency shall issue a uniform closure letter as specified in Health and Safety Code section 25296.10. The uniform closure letter may only be issued after the expiration of the 60-day comment period, proper destruction or maintenance of monitoring wells or borings, and removal of waste associated with investigation and remediation of the site.

Health and Safety Code section 25299.57, subdivision (I)(1) provides that claims for reimbursement of corrective action costs that are received by the Fund more than 365 days after the date of a uniform closure letter or a letter of commitment, whichever occurs later, shall not be reimbursed unless specified conditions are satisfied.

II. FINDINGS

Based upon the facts in the UST record and the hydrogeologic conditions at the site, as summarized in the attached UST Case Closure Summary, the State Water Board finds that corrective action taken to address the unauthorized release of petroleum at the UST release site identified as:

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Orchard Supply

1731 17th Street, Sacramento, Sacramento County

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ensures protection of human health, safety, and the environment and is consistent with chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety Code and implementing regulations, the Low-Threat Closure Policy and with other applicable water quality control policies and plans.

The unauthorized release from the UST consisted only of petroleum. This order directs closure for the petroleum UST case at the site. This order does not address non-petroleum contamination at the site, if non-petroleum contamination is present.

Pursuant to the Low-Threat Closure Policy, notification has been provided to all entities that are required to receive notice of the proposed case closure, a 60-day comment period has been provided to notified parties, and any comments received have been considered by the State Water Board in determining that the case should be closed.

Pursuant to section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code, environmental impacts associated with the adoption of this order were analyzed in the substitute environmental document (SED) the State Water Board approved on May 1, 2012. The SED concludes that all environmental effects of adopting and implementing the Low-Threat Closure Policy are less than significant, and environmental impacts as a result of adopting this order in compliance with the Policy are no different from the impacts that are reasonably foreseen as a result of the Policy itself. A Notice of Decision was filed August 17, 2012. No new environmental impacts or any additional reasonably foreseeable impacts beyond those that were addressed in the SED will result from adopting this order.

The UST case identified above may be the subject of orders issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) pursuant to division 7 of the Water Code. Any orders that have been issued by the Regional Water Board pursuant to division 7 of the Water Code, or directives issued by a Local Oversight Program (LOP) agency for this case should be rescinded to the extent they are inconsistent with this order.

III. ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- A. The UST case identified in Section II of this order, meeting the general and media-specific criteria established in the Low-Threat Closure Policy, be closed in

accordance with the following conditions and after the following actions are complete. Prior to the issuance of a uniform closure letter, the responsible party(ies) is/are ordered to:

1. Properly destroy any and all monitoring wells and borings unless the owner of real property on which the well or boring is located certifies that the wells or borings will be maintained in accordance with local or state requirements;
 2. Properly remove from the site and manage any and all waste piles, drums, debris, and other investigation and remediation derived materials in accordance with local or state requirements; and
 3. Within six months of the date of this order, submit documentation to the regulatory agency overseeing the UST case identified in Section II of this order that the tasks in subparagraphs (1) and (2) have been completed.
- B. The tasks in subparagraphs (1) and (2) of Paragraph (A) are ordered pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25296.10, and failure to comply with these requirements may result in the imposition of civil penalties pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25299, subdivision (d)(1). Penalties may be imposed administratively by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board.
- C. Within 30 days of receipt of proper documentation from the responsible party(ies) that requirements in subparagraphs (1) and (2) of Paragraph (A) are complete, the regulatory agency that is responsible for oversight of the UST case identified in Section II of this order shall notify the State Water Board that the tasks have been satisfactorily completed.
- D. Within 30 days of notification from the regulatory agency that the tasks are complete pursuant to Paragraph (C), the Deputy Director of the Division of Water Quality shall issue a uniform closure letter consistent with Health and Safety

Code section 25296.10, subdivision (g) and upload the uniform closure letter to GeoTracker.

- E. Pursuant to section 25299.57, subdivision (l)(1), and except in specified circumstances, all claims for reimbursement of corrective action costs must be received by the Fund within 365 days of issuance of the uniform closure letter in order for the costs to be considered.
- F. Any Regional Water Board or LOP agency directive or order that directs corrective action or other action inconsistent with case closure for the UST case identified in Section II is rescinded, but only to the extent the Regional Water Board order or LOP agency directive is inconsistent with this order.



Chief Deputy Director

August 29, 2025

Date



State Water Resources Control Board

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) CASE CLOSURE SUMMARY

Agency Information

Agency Name: State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)	Address: 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
Agency Caseworker: Dayna Cordano	Case No.: T0606700243

Case Information

UST Cleanup Fund (Fund) Claim No.: 1463	Global ID: T0606700243
Site Name: Orchard Supply	Site Address: 1731 17 th Street Sacramento, CA 95814 (Site)
Responsible Party 17R Orchard Partners LP Attention: Michael J Heller	Address: 11211 Gold Country Blvd, Suite 106 Gold River, CA 95670
Fund Expenditures to Date: \$32,795	Number of Years Case Open: 36

GeoTracker Case Record: <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?gid=T0606700243>

Summary

The Site is currently developed as a commercial space with multiple businesses and restaurants and an associated paved parking lot. It is located at the intersection of 17th Street and R Street in a largely commercial area of Sacramento, California. Orchard Supply Company operated as an agricultural chemical and wholesale outlet at the Site from 1947 through 2001. Former Site facilities included four USTs, three reported to contain gasoline and one reported to contain “weed oil” (a diesel- or kerosene-range petroleum product), that were reportedly removed prior to 1989.

An unauthorized release was first discovered during an inspection by the California Department of Health Services in July 1983. In addition to lead and pesticide contamination, elevated levels of petroleum hydrocarbons were reportedly detected in soil and groundwater at the former location of two of the gasoline USTs during initial site investigations.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2002, approximately 3,100 tons of soil impacted with lead, arsenic, pesticides, and petroleum hydrocarbons were over-excavated to a depth of 10 feet bgs and disposed of off-site. Between July 2011 and March 2014, 240,988 gallons of impacted groundwater were reportedly removed using batch groundwater extraction. The groundwater was pumped and treated on-site and discharged into the sewer system.

A total of 40 groundwater monitoring wells were installed at the Site, 33 of which were decommissioned in April 2015. The remaining seven monitoring wells were irregularly monitored from March 2016 through October 2022. Free product has not been observed on the Site since 1999. Benzene and other petroleum related compound concentrations in groundwater remain low to non-detect and water quality objectives have been achieved.

Concentrations of certain petroleum constituents (including benzene) were detected above screening levels in soil gas during a soil gas investigation in July 2021. A land use covenant (LUC) entered into by the responsible party includes a Vapor Intrusion Mitigation System (VIMS) plan and a Soil Management Plan (SMP) that mitigate the risk any remaining contaminants of concern may pose to human health.

A Site Cleanup Program (SCP) case is also located on the property (Orchard Supply, SLT5S2063245) to address non-petroleum related contamination. Closure of the UST Cleanup Case (Orchard Supply, T0606700243) will not impact the case for non-petroleum constituents; the SCP Orchard Supply case will remain open until the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has determined that appropriate cleanup has been conducted for the non-petroleum constituents.

For the UST Cleanup Case, the Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy (Policy) contains general and media-specific criteria, and cases that meet those criteria are appropriate for closure pursuant to the Policy because they pose a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment. The Site meets all of the required criteria of the Policy and therefore, is subject to closure.

Remaining petroleum constituents are limited, stable, and decreasing. Additional assessment regarding petroleum constituents would be unnecessary and will not likely change the conceptual model. Any remaining petroleum constituents do not pose significant risk to human health, safety, or the environment under current conditions.

Rationale for Closure Under the Policy

- General Criteria – Site **MEETS ALL EIGHT GENERAL CRITERIA** under the Policy.
- Groundwater Media-Specific Criteria – Site **meets the criteria in Class 2**. The contaminant plume that exceeds water quality objectives is less than 250 feet in length. There is no free product. The nearest existing water supply well or surface water body is greater than 1,000 feet from the defined plume boundary. The dissolved concentration of benzene is less than 3,000 micrograms per liter (µg/L), and the dissolved concentration of MTBE is less than 1,000 µg/L.

Orchard Supply, T0606700243
1731 17th St, Sacramento

- Petroleum Vapor Intrusion to Indoor Air – Site **meets Criteria 2 (c)**. As a result of controlling exposure through the use of mitigation measures or through the use of institutional or engineering controls, the regulatory agency determines that petroleum vapors migrating from soil or groundwater will have no significant risk of adversely affecting human health.
- Direct Contact and Outdoor Air Exposure – Site **meets Criteria 3 (a)**. Maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil from confirmation soil samples are less than or equal to those listed in Table 1 of the Policy.

Recommendation for Closure

The corrective action performed at this Site ensures the protection of human health, safety, and the environment. The corrective action performed at this Site is consistent with chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, implementing regulations, applicable state policies for water quality control and applicable water quality control plans. Case closure is recommended.

Prepared by:

Steven Mullery

Steven Mullery, P.G. No. 10304
Engineering Geologist

04/04/2025

Date

Reviewed By:

Dayna Cordano

Dayna Cordano, P.G. No. 9694
Senior Engineering Geologist

05/02/2025

Date

