UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) CASE CLOSURE SUMMARY

Lead Agency Information

Lead Agency Name: Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board)	Address: 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Case Manager: Dillon Kass	Case No.: 2705

Case Information

UST Cleanup Fund (Fund) Claim No.: N/A	Global ID: T0608700128
Case Name: Shikuma Bros Farms Inc.	Site Address: 475 Lakeview Road, Watsonville, CA 95076 (Site)
Responsible Party Shikuma Bros., Inc. Attention: Isaac Shikuma	Address: 475 Lakeview Road, Watsonville, CA 95076
Fund Expenditures to Date: None	Number of Years Case Open: 32

GeoTracker Case Record: http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?gid=T0608700128

Summary

This case has been proposed for closure by the State Water Resources Control Board at the request of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, which concurs with closure.

The Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy (Policy)[1] contains general and media-specific criteria. Sites that meet Policy 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 Policy criteria and therefore, case closure is appropriate.

[1] https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0016atta.pdf

The Site currently operates as a berry farming facility located southwest of Drew Lake. Available records on Geotracker indicate the County of Santa Cruz Environmental Health Services Department notified the responsible party on September 20, 1994 of its responsibility to remove the USTs at the facility to meet Santa Cruz County ordinance requirements.

On July 3, 1996, three USTs were removed including one 200-gallon UST used to store ethyl gasoline, one 500-gallon UST used to store regular and unleaded gasoline, and a second 500-gallon UST used to store unleaded gasoline. The tanks and all associated piping and dispensers were removed, and the UST excavation pits were backfilled with the excavated soil. Groundwater was not encountered in any of the tank pit excavations. Soil sampling indicated elevated hydrocarbon concentrations beneath the two 500-gallon USTs. Secondary source removal has not occurred on the facility following initial excavation.

A total of four soil and groundwater investigations were conducted in 2011, 2014, 2015, and 2022 to delineate the contaminant plume. In 2014, three groundwater monitoring wells were installed: MW-1, MW-2, and MW-3. Quarterly to semi-annual groundwater monitoring has been conducted intermittently from 2015 to 2025. Light non-aqueous phase liquid was first detected in MW-2 during the March 2017 groundwater monitoring event and last detected in November 2019. Free product recovery efforts removed a total of 9.47 gallons of free product.

An on-site well for both domestic and agricultural supply is located approximately 125 feet upgradient from the plume boundary and Drew Lake is located approximately 220 feet downgradient from the plume boundary. The domestic supply well has been monitored over the duration of the groundwater monitoring at the facility. Petroleum hydrocarbons have not been detected during the duration of monitoring at the on-site supply well.

Groundwater monitoring indicates that the remaining petroleum hydrocarbon contamination plume is stable and measures less than 1,000 feet in length and water quality objectives have been achieved in monitoring wells MW-1 and MW-3.

The remaining petroleum constituents are limited, stable, and decreasing and further assessment will not alter the conceptual site model significantly. Remaining petroleum constituents associated with the case do not pose a significant risk to human health, safety, or the environment under current conditions and property use.

Rationale for Closure Under the Policy

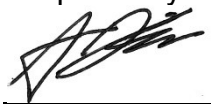
- Groundwater Media-Specific Criteria – Site Meets Criteria 1, **Class 5**. The regulatory agency determines, based on an analysis of site-specific conditions that under current and reasonably anticipated near-term future scenarios, the contaminant plume poses a low threat to human health and safety and to the environment and water quality objectives will be achieved within a reasonable time frame.

- Petroleum Vapor Intrusion to Indoor Air – Site Meets **Criteria 2 (a)**. There is a bioattenuation zone that provides a separation of five or ten feet (ft), as applicable, between the top of groundwater and the foundation of existing or potential buildings. Concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline and diesel combined in soil are less than 100 milligrams per kilogram throughout the entire depth of the bioattenuation zone. Benzene concentrations in groundwater are <100 micrograms per liter (µg/L) (5-ft bioattenuation zone) or ≥100 µg/L and <1,000 µg/L (10-ft bioattenuation zone).
- Direct Contact and Outdoor Air Exposure – Site Meets **Criteria 3 (a)**. Maximum concentrations of petroleum constituents in soil are less than or equal to those listed in Table 1 of the Policy for the specified depth below ground surface.

Recommendation for Closure

The corrective action conducted for this case ensures that any residual petroleum constituents associated with the case pose a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment. The corrective action was 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. As such, case closure is recommended.

Prepared by:

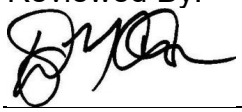


05/15/2026

Alice Kwok
Engineering Geologist

Date

Reviewed By:



05/15/2026

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