

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
4040 PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712  
12:00 P.M., JANUARY 29, 2009**

**AGENDA**

EACH ITEM ON THE AGENDA, NO MATTER HOW DESCRIBED, SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE ANY APPROPRIATE MOTION, WHETHER TO ADOPT A MINUTE MOTION, RESOLUTION, PAYMENT OF ANY BILL, APPROVAL OF ANY MATTER OR ACTION, OR ANY OTHER ACTION. ITEMS LISTED AS "FOR INFORMATION" MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY "ACTION" TAKEN BY THE BOARD OR A COMMITTEE AT THE SAME MEETING.

- 1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION UPDATE – INVESTIGATION INTO SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION IN WRD’S MONITORING WELL PM-3 MADRID IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE**  
*Staff Recommendation: For information.*
- 4. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, January 28, 2009.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the Board meeting, please contact Deputy Secretary Abigail Andom at (562) 921-5521 for assistance to enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.

All public records relating to an agenda item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the time the record is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the Board. Such records shall be available at the District office located at 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712.

Agendas and minutes are available at the District's website, [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org).



## MEMORANDUM

### ITEM NO. 3

*Prepared by:* Ted Johnson

*Reviewed by:* Phuong Ly

*Approved by:* Robb Whitaker

**DATE: JANUARY 29, 2009**

**TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE**

**FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION UPDATE – INVESTIGATION INTO SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION IN WRD’S MONITORING WELL PM-3 MADRID IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

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### SUMMARY

On July 23, 2008, WRD reported the following information to the Committee:

“The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is one of the environmental regulatory agencies that WRD works with to prevent and/or minimize groundwater contamination in the Central and West Coast Basins. A major focus of DTSC is pollution prevention and contaminated site cleanup. One of DTSC’s programs related to this focus is their Site Discovery Program, which identifies potentially contaminated sites that were either previously unknown to DTSC, or are possibly greater sources of contamination than formerly recognized. Sites can be discovered through any number of ways, but are often discovered through referrals from other governmental agencies, such as WRD.

“Beginning in 2005, the District played a key role in initiating and helping to complete a Site Discovery investigation by DTSC in the City of Torrance. First, WRD notified DTSC that its nested monitoring well known as “PM-3 Madrid” was exhibiting concentrations of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), particularly 1,1-dichloroethane (1,1-DCA) and 1,1-dichloroethene (1,1-DCE) in its shallowest screened zones (Gage and Lynwood Aquifers). This groundwater contamination had no known source(s) associated with it. Therefore, DTSC commenced a Site Discovery investigation of an approximately 1-mile radius surrounding the PM-3 Madrid well to identify potential sources of this contamination.

“DTSC’s Site Discovery investigation included the following activities: field reconnaissance visits to identify potential businesses in the investigation area that might act as contamination sources; review of business license and City Fire Department records to determine whether VOCs were stored or used by these businesses, and the conditions of storage and use at the sites; review of Federal and State regulatory agency records to determine whether the sites were already under regulatory direction for investigation and cleanup, and if so, to what extent. WRD provided assistance with these activities, conducting case file reviews and forwarding well construction and water quality data from ongoing sampling of the PM-3 Madrid well.

“DTSC recently completed its Site Discovery investigation. At this time, DTSC believes the most likely source of the contamination observed in the PM-3 Madrid well is the former PPG Industries, Inc. Coatings and Resins Group Facility (PPG) site, located about 0.25 mile west (upgradient) of the well. The site is already under the purview of DTSC and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). DTSC is pursuing additional investigation work at the PPG site, including installation of monitoring wells. WRD will continue to assist DTSC as needed, and will provide updates to the Committee on this investigation as it proceeds.”

**Updates since the July 23, 2008 Committee Meeting:**

Over the past 6 months DTSC has been performing additional investigations as to the potential sources of contamination at the PM-3 Madrid monitoring well. Based on their reviews, the DTSC no longer considers PPG to be a source of contamination at PM-3 Madrid. According to an email received by WRD on January 27, 2009 from Mr. Greg Holmes, Unit Chief of the Southern California Cleanup Operations for the DTSC Cypress office,

*“...Based on the data we have reviewed, DTSC no longer considers PPG to be a source of contamination in the PM-3 Madrid well...”*

WRD will continue to track the investigation process of the DTSC and will report back to the Committee with any new information received.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None at this time.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information.