

**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., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011**

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 QUALITY UPDATE – SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT (SDWA) COMPLIANCE TRACKING TOOL**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 4. GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION UPDATE**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 5. SALINE PLUME UPDATE**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 6. SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM UPDATE**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 7. DIRECTORS' REPORTS, INQUIRIES, AND FOLLOW UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, June 17, 2011.

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.

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Agendas and minutes are available at the District's website, www.wrd.org.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 3

Prepared by: Cathy Chang

Reviewed by: Ted Johnson

Approved by: Robb Whitaker

DATE: JUNE 22, 2011

TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER QUALITY UPDATE – SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT (SDWA) COMPLIANCE TRACKING TOOL

SUMMARY

Last month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) announced a new searchable website on Safe Drinking Water Act violations and compliance. This newly improved website known as Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) is a tool that allows the public to search a database to see whether drinking water in their community met Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards.

The new Safe Drinking Water Act information on EPA's website provides:

- Information about drinking water standard violations
- A serious violators report that lists all water suppliers with serious noncompliance.
- EPA's 2009 National Public Water Systems Compliance Report, which is a national summary of compliance and enforcement at public drinking water systems.

The serious violators list identifies water systems with a record of serious noncompliance due to a combination of unresolved violations. The data in ECHO shows that overall, the number of systems identified as serious violators continues to decrease due to lead agencies, in most cases the states, more efficiently addressing serious noncompliance.

ECHO may be accessed at http://www.epa-echo.gov/echo/compliance_report_sdwa.html.

The source information for ECHO consists of self-monitoring data submitted by drinking water systems to state drinking water agencies and inspection and enforcement data submitted by the state drinking water agencies which, in California, is the Department of Public Health.

On May 17, 2011, EPA hosted a webinar demonstrating how to use the Safe Drinking Water Act violation information in ECHO. The demonstration showed users how to search for information about local water quality, how to compare data by state, and highlight other features of the tool.

Staff will discuss a sample query report for a community water system in the District service area whose water source type is groundwater.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 4

Prepared by: Phuong Ly

Reviewed by: Ted Johnson

Approved by: Robb Whitaker

DATE: JUNE 22, 2011

TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION UPDATE

CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER SITES

With the cooperation and support of stakeholders such as the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (RWQCB), and California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), WRD developed a list of high-priority contaminated groundwater sites within District boundaries. This list is a living document, subject to cleanup and "closure" of sites as well as discovery of new sites warranting further attention. Currently, the list includes 46 sites across the Central and West Coast Basins.

WRD has been working with the lead regulatory agencies for each of these sites to keep abreast of their status, review and provide recommendations as needed, facilitate progress in site characterization and cleanup, and provide technical and financial assistance when necessary. Below is a discussion of two sites that were recently updated with information obtained from the lead regulatory agency.

BASIN BY-PRODUCTS, CITY OF WILMINGTON (WEST COAST BASIN)

The 12-acre site is comprised of three former hazardous waste disposal facilities that were formerly occupied by Basin By-Products Company (BBP), Pacific Ocean Disposal Company (PODCO), and Anaheim Street Liquid Disposal Company (ASLD). From the early 1960s to mid-1970s, these facilities primarily accepted liquid industrial waste, including chromic, nitric, and sulfuric acids, solvents, heavy metals and caustic/alkaline waste from aerospace manufacturing facilities, oil production sites, & metals plating facilities. The liquid waste was discharged directly into the soil and groundwater via pits (approximately 45 ft deep). A total of approximately 40 million gallons of liquid waste were disposed at the site. Since 1976, the site has been operating as the Falcon Refuse Center, a nonhazardous municipal waste transfer station. Due to historical site activities, groundwater beneath the site is contaminated and investigation activities are being conducted under the oversight of the DTSC. Details follow regarding these ongoing investigation and monitoring activities.

Constituents of concern in groundwater beneath the site are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and various metals. As of August 2010, no chemicals of concern have been detected in the nearest active production (drinking water) wells.

As part of the remediation activities, most of the site has been capped with either asphalt or concrete. A comprehensive groundwater sampling program is being developed in consultation with DTSC and RWQCB. A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report is due to DTSC for review and approval by 2012 and a Remedial Action Plan is due to DTSC by 2013.

GOLDEN WEST REFINERY, CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS (CENTRAL BASIN)

In 1925, aboveground oil storage tanks with more than 7 million barrels capacity were installed at the western and southern portions of the site. By 1936, an oil refinery was constructed at the northeast portion of the site, where gasoline and other finished petroleum products were manufactured. Golden West Refining Company (GWRC) took ownership of site in 1983 and operated the refinery until February 1992, when crude oil processing operations were suspended. From February 1992 to August 1997, only fuel transport operations were conducted at the site.

The refinery site is divided into four areas:

1. Process Unit Area (PUA) – Contained the crude oil refining equipment, storage tanks, and a large water reservoir.
2. West Tank Farm (WTF) – Contained large aboveground storage tanks for crude oil, refined hydrocarbons (i.e., finished products), and waste water used for storage and blending of crude oil, intermediate products, and finished products.
3. South Tank Farm (STF) – Contained large aboveground storage tanks for crude oil, refined hydrocarbons (i.e., finished products), and waste water used for storage and blending of crude oil, intermediate products, and finished products.
4. Marketing Area (MA) – Mainly used for unloading petroleum products from railroad cars and for loading of refined product onto trucks.

Beginning in 1997, structures/equipment at the WTF, STF, PUA, and MA were demolished and the site was redeveloped into light industrial, manufacturing, and commercial warehouse facilities. During redevelopment, all primary potential contaminant sources (tanks, pipelines, refining equipment, etc.) were removed, along with secondary sources (i.e., shallow contaminated soils). Remediation/monitoring activities are being conducted under the oversight of the RWQCB. Details follow regarding these ongoing remediation and monitoring activities.

Due to historical site activities, soil and groundwater beneath the site is contaminated with VOCs (specifically, fuel-related compounds), fuel oxygenates, and petroleum hydrocarbons. The nearest drinking water well is contaminated with tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE) and currently has a wellhead treatment system. As of August 2010, no site-specific constituents of concern have been detected in this well.

Remediation activities at the site consist of soil excavation, soil vapor extraction (SVE), groundwater pump and treat, and a free product removal program as further discussed below. As of March 2011, a cumulative total of 3.94 million gallons of petroleum hydrocarbons have been removed from groundwater and soil since remediation began at the site.

- During site redevelopment in 1997, a total of approximately 271,000 tons of impacted soils were excavated throughout the site and transported off site for disposal.

- As of March 2011, a total of approximately 95,000 gallons of free product have been removed by hand bailing or using portable pumps in groundwater wells located throughout the site and off site.
- At the PUA, soil vapor extraction and groundwater pump and treat have been conducted since 2007. As of March 2011, a total of approximately 15,650 gallons of petroleum hydrocarbons have been removed from groundwater and a total of approximately 101,700 gallons of hydrocarbons as vapor have been removed from soils at the PUA.
- At the WTF, two deep soil areas are being treated by SVE systems. As of March 2011, a total of approximately 236,450 gallons of hydrocarbons as vapor have been removed at the WTF.
- At the STF, two SVE systems and a groundwater pump and treat system are being operated. As of March 2011, a total of approximately 65,680 gallons of petroleum hydrocarbons have been removed from groundwater and a total of approximately 579,200 gallons of hydrocarbons as vapor have been removed from soils at the STF.
- At the MA, an SVE system and a groundwater pump and treat system are being operated. As of March 2011, a total of approximately 10,960 gallons of petroleum hydrocarbons have been removed from groundwater and a total of approximately 121,970 gallons of hydrocarbons as vapor have been removed from soils at the MA.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 5

Prepared by: Ted Johnson
Reviewed by: Ted Johnson
Approved by: Robb Whitaker

DATE: JUNE 22, 2011
TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: SALINE PLUME UPDATE

Staff continues to work on collecting data to evaluate the current status of the Saline Plume in the West Coast Basin. WRD sampled all of our monitoring wells in the area in fall 2010 and spring 2010. Staff also contacted and received permission to sample wells belonging to Golden State Water Company, City of Inglewood, City of Torrance, and WRD wells Sepulveda #1 and Sepulveda #2. Staff also compiled data from the California Department of Public Health database on other production wells in the area, and contacted the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to receive their database on chloride concentrations in their barrier monitoring wells.

All of this information is being verified for accuracy and plotted onto maps for analysis and contouring to generate the latest descriptions on the extent of the saline plume. Once finalized, the maps will be brought to a future committee meeting for review and discussion. The preliminary results show that there will be increased chloride concentrations shown in the deeper Lower San Pedro aquifer systems due to the new information obtained from the District's latest monitoring wells. For the June Committee meeting, Staff will present the preliminary information on the results of drilling the latest monitoring wells showing the areas of possible high chlorides and seawater intrusion.

Regarding the Saline Plume policy, staff has previously presented a draft policy at earlier Committee meetings, but at the direction of the Committee has not proceeded on updating or finalizing the policy pending completion of the ongoing West Coast Basin and Central Basin Master Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 6

*Prepared by: Abbie Andom
Reviewed by: Ted Johnson
Approved by: Robb Whitaker*

DATE: JUNE 22, 2011

TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM UPDATE

SUMMARY

The District administers the Safe Drinking Water Program (SDWP) to assist basin pumpers in sustaining active production from contaminated wells. The program provides wellhead treatment facilities to remove contaminants and improve water quality. Wells are evaluated for assistance based on factors such as water quality data and production history. The District offers both a Grant Program for wells with contamination from man-made sources such as volatile organic compounds, and a Loan Program for wells with contamination from natural sources such as iron, manganese and arsenic.

When assistance is deemed necessary, WRD and the groundwater producer jointly develop a treatment solution for the subject well. The well data, type of contaminates and affected duration of their wells is used to prioritize candidates.

There are currently fourteen (14) Safe Drinking Water Program project facilities in operation. The cities of Huntington Park, Commerce, and Paramount each have two facilities online. There are three facilities located in Norwalk. The other facilities are located in the cities of Bell Gardens, Signal Hill, South Gate, Bell, and Los Angeles. One facility, located in Pico Rivera, completed the use of treatment and the carbon vessels have been transferred to the City of Pomona.

Staff will provide a verbal update on the District's Safe Drinking Water Program at the Committee meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.