

GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION PREVENTION PROGRAM PERCHLORATE CLEANUP PROJECT IN THE LOS ANGELES FOREBAY

The Water Replenishment District (WRD) recently completed investigating and began cleaning up perchlorate in groundwater with the assistance of various regulatory agencies in association with our Los Angeles Forebay Groundwater Task Force. The perchlorate concentrations detected in groundwater are among the highest in the state and the impacted groundwater is currently located in a deep aquifer system within the Los Angeles Forebay. This is a particularly sensitive area of the basin as the groundwater (along with contaminants) can migrate through the coarse-grained sediments directly into the regional aquifer system representing a substantially imminent threat to the Central Basin and West Coast Basin (Basin or CBWCB). In fact, perchlorate has already been detected at elevated levels and is currently having to be addressed in at least two municipal water supply wells located down-gradient of the City of Vernon. The source of the perchlorate is unknown and a responsible party (RP) has not been identified by the either the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) or Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB).

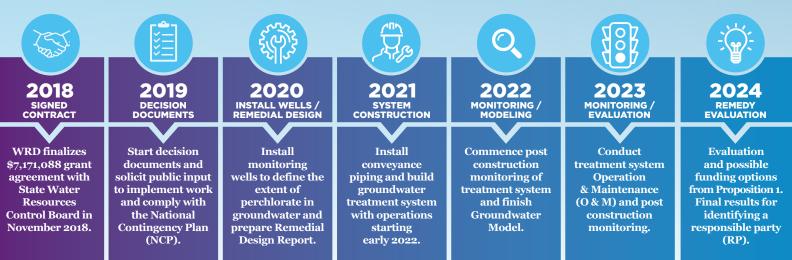
WRD successfully applied for and received a grant for over \$12 million from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) through the Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program (Proposition 1). The State grant funds will help pay for approximately 80% of the cleanup construction costs to address the perchlorate impacts along with other comingled volatile organic compounds (VOCs). In 2022, a groundwater extraction and treatment system was installed and operations began, to immediately reduce contaminant concentrations within the perchlorate "hot spot" to help prevent any further migration into the CBWCB. Additional data was collected during the investigation phase to help support the various regulatory agencies in identifying the perchlorate source and yet to be determined RP. An estimated timeline for key project milestones is as follows:

Water Replenishment District's service Los Anaeles Countu

Perchlorate

"Hot Spot

KEY PROJECT MILESTONES





PERCHLORATE "HOT SPOT" AND PROPOSED GROUNDWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM LOCATION MAP



WRD is the largest groundwater agency in the State of California, managing and protecting local groundwater resources for four million residents. WRD's service area covers a 420-square-mile region of southern Los Angeles County, the most populated county in the United States. The 43 cities in the service area, including a portion of the City of Los Angeles, use about 220,000 acre-feet (72 billion gallons) of groundwater annually which accounts for approximately 40% of the region's water supply. WRD's mission is to protect and preserve high-quality groundwater in the basins through innovative, cost-effective, and environmentally sensitive management practices for the benefit of residents and businesses of the Basins. As a regional groundwater manager, WRD recognizes the importance of proactively remediating groundwater contamination and, therefore, implements projects and programs intended to ensure reliability and sustainability of the groundwater supply. Without remediation, contamination from a variety of man-made sources can migrate and impair beneficial use of groundwater in the Basins.

WRD will continue to keep the public informed of the cleanup progress and milestones achieved in future outreach efforts. For more information, please contact: Brian Partington at bpartington@wrd.org or (562) 275-4249. Additional information about the project is available at https://www.wrd.org/GCPP

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