



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Lahontan Region



Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

JAN 23 2008

Interested Persons and Agencies:

### **RESOLUTION NO. R6T-2008-(PROPOSED), AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN THE RECORD OF DECISION FOR ABANDONED LANDFILL AND SOUTHERN SITES AREA, SIERRA ARMY DEPOT, LASSEN COUNTY**

Enclosed for your information are copies of a proposed Resolution and the Draft Final Record of Decision (ROD) for the Abandoned Landfill and Southern Sites Area (ALF/SSA) at the Sierra Army Depot (SIAD). The Regional Board will be considering adoption of the proposed Resolution during its **March 12 and 13, 2008** meeting in Truckee, California.

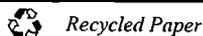
In this proposed ROD for the ALF/SSA, the Army will actively remediate chlorinated solvents in groundwater using in-situ reactive zone (IRZ) dechlorination. Background groundwater quality should be achieved within a reasonable period of time (30 years or less). The IRZ dechlorination zones are created in the subsurface by injecting a dilute food-grade molasses solution that enhances microbial growth. Contaminants in groundwater are permanently degraded into harmless end products by the microbes.

The Abandoned Landfill (ALF) was used as the main disposal area for domestic wastes at the Sierra Army Depot from the early 1940s to 1965. The primary method of disposal was waste burning followed by spreading and burning of resulting residue. The ALF is a trench type landfill with a soil cap but no liner. The dimensions of this site are approximately 1,800 by 2,500 feet (approximately 103 acres).

The Southern Sites Area (SSA) is located immediately south of the ALF. Approximately 80 percent of the SSA ground surface is covered with asphalt or pavement. Activities conducted within the SSA included chemical storage, fuel storage and vehicle maintenance and cleaning. The dimensions of this site are approximately 1,200 by 2,100 feet (approximately 58 acres). Two potable supply wells were installed on the southern side of the SSA between 1953 and 1968. One supply well (PSW-8) is currently operated for approximately two weeks per year during periods of high demand, and the other (PSW-02) is no longer in operation.

The horizontal and vertical extent of constituents of concern (COC) in both soil and groundwater have been determined through field investigations conducted between 1990 and 2002. The primary COC in soil and groundwater at the ALF/SSA is the chlorinated solvent trichloroethene, commonly known as TCE. In implementing the

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preferred cleanup alternative, 15 injection wells will be installed in the area with the highest TCE concentrations. The long-term monitoring program will be maintained until COC concentrations in groundwater have been reduced to levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure.

Since residual hazardous substances will remain at ALF/SSA in soils above unrestricted use cleanup levels, land use controls (LUCs) and five-year reviews are required to limit the potential for exposure to residual hazardous substances and to evaluate the long-term appropriateness of the cleanup effort. LUCs will prohibit the access or use of contaminated groundwater and prohibit the development and use of the ALF/SSA for residential housing, schools, child care facilities and playgrounds. The Army and state agencies will review the effectiveness of the remediation action every five years to ensure that the remediation action will protect human health and the environment. The Army will conduct these five year reviews for as long as hazardous substances remain at ALF/SSA at levels above those that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure.

If you wish to provide written comments regarding the proposed resolution, please provide them to us no later than **February 25, 2008**. For further information, please contact me at (530) 542-5572.

  
James Brathovde  
Engineering Geologist

Enclosures: Proposed Resolution  
Draft Final Record of Decision

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION

**RESOLUTION NO. R6T-2008-(Proposed)**

**AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN  
THE RECORD OF DECISION  
FOR ABANDONED LANDFILL/ SOUTHERN SITES AREA,  
SIERRA ARMY DEPOT**

Lassen County

**WHEREAS**, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, (Water Board) finds:

1. In January 2008, the United States Army submitted a Draft Final Record of Decision (ROD) for the Abandoned Landfill/Southern Sites Area (ALF/SSA) for Sierra Army Depot. The Army will remediate chlorinated solvents in groundwater, primarily trichloroethene, using in-situ reactive zone (IRZ) dechlorination. Major components of the selected remedy are: IRZ treatment, monitored natural attenuation, and land use controls.
2. The proposed remedial activities in the January 2008 Draft Final ROD will comply with all applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements of the Water Board and are protective of water quality.
3. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control is lead agency for remedial activities at Sierra Army Depot and has completed the Negative Declaration for this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resource Section 21000 *et seq.*).

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Lahontan Water Board authorizes the Executive Officer to:

1. Approve the remedial actions as documented in the January 2008 Draft Final Record of Decision; and
2. Sign the final version of the Record of Decision provided that there are no significant changes between the Draft Final and the Final Record of Decision.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Control Board, Lahontan Region, on March 12 and 13, 2008.

HAROLD J. SINGER  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER