

October 15, 2013



Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian
Executive Officer
2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
South Lake Tahoe, CA. 96150

RE: WHOLE HOUSE REPLACEMENT WATER PROGRAM

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the undersigned, are concerned Citizens who have lived in Hinkley, CA. since 1960/1983 respectfully and would like the Water Board to review the following comments regarding the proposed changes to the W.H.R.W. Program. And how quickly Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) jumped on board with the Draft Chromium-6 MCL that is currently set at 10 ppb.

We, the Residents of Hinkley, have been plagued by Chromium-6 Contamination in our drinking water supply wells for over 50 years. Between 1952 and 1966, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) used Hexavalent Chromium, also known as Chromium-6, to manage corrosion in cooling tower water at their Hinkley Compressor Station. The wastewater from the cooling towers was discharged to unlined ponds within the station. These wastewaters percolated to the groundwater, resulting in Chromium-6 Pollution of Hinkley's drinking water aquifer. Today, two generations on, the Chromium-6 affects an area of (drinking) groundwater, estimated by PG&E and the Regional Water Quality Control Board to be at least six miles long and two miles wide. Though we believe the Chromium-6 Plume to be much larger/bigger.

The answer to Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)'s proposal to alter the existing Clean-Up and Abatement Order is a resounding "NO". There should be "NO" changes to the existing Clean-Up and Abatement Order. If there are ANY changes to the existing Clean-Up and Abatement Order then the "3A Rule" should go back in to affect i.e. Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) should have to prove that the Chromium-6 in anyone's well (in Hinkley, CA.), at any level, is not their Man-Made Chromium-6.

But if the Water Board feels the need/wants to change the Clean-Up and Abatement Order, here are a few suggestions - the Chromium-6 Plume Map should, at the very least, encompass/include all wells that have tested 3.1 ppb of Chromium-6 in any one (1) water well test, instead of the current requirement. Because as we all know, water levels can be inadvertently effected by water consumption/pumping i.e. alfalfa fields going on-line during the summer months. Even better, the Chromium-6 Plume Map should encompass/include all of Hinkley, CA. (this should be the Complete/Final definition of the Chromium-6 Plume used for long-term clean-up purposes) for all that the community has gone through - literally ravaged by having Man-Made Chromium-6 in our drinking water and decades of uncertainty regarding the effects of the Chromium-6 Carcinogen on our Health and State of Mind.

We were shocked and dismayed when the Draft MCL was issued to be 500 times greater than the Public Health Goal (PHG) of 0.02 ppb. But we were, even more, appalled by how quickly Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) jumped on-board with it, acting as if it was a finalized MCL, though it is just a Draft and then wanting to alter the Clean-Up and Abatement Order based on the Draft MCL. As we stated above, there should be "NO" changes to the Clean-Up and Abatement Order but there absolutely should be "NO" changes based on the Draft MCL. The fact that the chromium-6 draft MCL is 500 times greater than the PHG just seems unprecedented. If anything, changes to the Clean-Up and Abatement Order should be based on the PHG of 0.02 ppb. The PHG of August 2012 was based on Sound Science. And there are proven treatment technologies commercially available that will treat chromium-6 impacted water to levels commensurate with the PHG.

In conclusion, there should be "NO" changes to the Clean-Up and Abatement Order that would unjustly benefit Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) in any way as the Chromium-6 Crisis in Hinkley, CA. is solely caused by the actions taken by PG&E, as stated above. We believe the Chromium-6 Plume Map should encompass/include all of Hinkley, CA. And that the numerical value of 0.02 ppb PHG must be much more weighed as a point of departure in the Water Board's decision-making when considering any alteration to the Clean-Up and Abatement Order.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact us at the following address and/or phone number –

- P.O. Box 2221, Barstow, CA. 92312 (Sorry, No Mail is delivered to our home in Hinkley, CA.)
- 1-760-253-7686

Thank You,

Wanda S. Monk

Wanda S. Monk

Allen T. Monk

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