



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

Recipient of the 2001 Environmental Leadership Award from Keep California Beautiful



Linda S. Adams
Agency Secretary

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013
Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

March 5, 2008

Mr. Max A. Ocansey General Manager ExxonMobil Refining and Supply Company 3700 West 190th Street Torrance, California 90509-2929 via e-mail: max.a.ocansey@exxonmobil.com

Addendum to Cleanup and Abatement Orders Nos. 88-43, 89-136, and 95-116 – ExxonMobil Refinery, 3700 West 190th Street, Torrance – (Site Cleanup Program No. 234; Site Identification No. 2040067)

Dear Mr. Ocansey:

You operate a petroleum refining and bulk storage facility on 750 acres in the City of Torrance. As a result of uncontrolled releases to the environment that have contaminated soil and groundwater, you are subject to Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) Nos. 88-43, 89-136, and 95-116 and Waste Discharge Requirements specified in Order No. R4-2007-49, in which the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles (Water Board) has directed ExxonMobil (or its predecessor corporations) to investigate and clean up contamination.

Since January 10, 2008, we have been working closely with your staff to respond to high levels of methane and benzene in soil vapor in a residential and commercial area along Del Amo Boulevard (along the southeastern boundary of your facility). These soil vapor contaminants are above a portion of a large plume of dissolved hydrocarbons that has migrated about 4,000 feet offsite to the southeast of your facility. Our common objective, for the Del Amo neighborhood, is to expedite investigations to determine the extent of soil vapor, quantify human health risks, and identify and cleanup the source of the contaminants.

Also, as a public agency, we have the objective of encouraging public participation. Our files are available for public review and we make our decisions through a public process, pursuant to the California Water Code, section 13307.5. Toward this end, we recently attended community meetings, on February 19th and 28th, regarding the high levels of contaminants in soil vapor in the Del Amo neighborhood. For each of these meetings, we requested that your staff support our effort to inform the community by providing visual aids. Specifically, we asked for preparation of maps, as posters, delineating the area of high soil gas concentrations. However, on February 19th just before the meeting started, your technical staff informed us that your legal counsel would not allow that. And for the February 28th meeting, despite our requests for visual aids (including digitized data), your staff did not provide these visual aids.

California Environmental Protection Agency

The enclosed Addendum to Cleanup and Abatement Orders Nos. 88-43, 89-136, and 95-116 (CAO Addendum) requires that you augment your reporting program to facilitate communication of complex technical information to the community. Toward this end, the CAO Addendum specifies requirements for submittal of technical information, by April 3, 2008, including:

- Visual Aids: Provide diagrams, posters, maps, and handouts, in print and/or electronic formats that show the lateral and vertical extent of contamination delineated to date, with indications where boundaries may not yet be clearly delineated.
- Fact Sheets: Provide information and drafts of fact sheets, the final version of which shall be subject to approval by Water Board staff.
- Web Materials: As directed by Water Board staff, provide materials for posting on the internet.
- Meeting Logistics: Facilitate arrangements for future meetings (including a community meeting tentatively scheduled for mid-April), by helping to procure appropriate meeting rooms and by conducting effective outreach to community members who should be informed of the meetings.

Pursuant to California Water Code section 13320, ExxonMobil, the Discharger, may seek review of this CAO Addendum by filing a petition within 30 days with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). A petition must be sent to the SWRCB, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, California 95812.

Pursuant to California Water Code section 13304, the Water Board is entitled to reimbursement for all reasonable costs actually incurred by the Water Board to investigate unauthorized discharges of waste and to oversee cleanup of such waste, abatement of the effects thereof, or other remedial action required, by this CAO Addendum. Please be aware that you may receive future invoices for additional costs incurred by the Water Board in overseeing implementation of the requirements of this CAO Addendum.

Pursuant to California Water Code section 13350, failure to comply with the requirements contained in this CAO Addendum may result in the Water Board imposing administrative civil liability penalties of up to \$5,000 per day in which the violation occurs.

This CAO Addendum is issued under section 13304 of the California Water Code. The Water Board may impose civil penalties or seek injunctive relief in accordance with sections 13268, 13350 and 13385 of the California Water Code if the Discharger fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order. The Water Board may also request that the Attorney General seek judicial civil liabilities or injunctive relief pursuant to CWC §§ 13262, 13264, 13304, 13331, 13340 and 13386.

Furthermore, the Water Board may also request the United States Attorney, appropriate county District Attorney, or City Attorney seek criminal prosecution. A superior court may be requested to impose civil or criminal penalties.

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Please contact Wendy Phillips, Chief of the Groundwater Cleanup and Permitting Section, at (213) 576-6618, or our Public Information Officer, Mr. Stephen Cain at (213) 576-6694, should you have questions.

Sincerely,

Tracy/J. Egoscue
Executive/Officer

enclosure

cc: Mayor Frank Scotto, City of Torrance

City Manager LeRoy J. Jackson, City of Torrance

Chief Dave Dumais, City of Torrance Fire Department

Mr. Michael D. Smith, City of Torrance

Mr. Ray Saracino, USEPA Region IX

Dr. Rebecca Chou, DTSC (Cypress)

Dr. Chawn Y. Jeng, DTSC (Cypress)

Mr. Steven Hariri, DTSC (Cypress)

Mr. Ed Pupka, SCAQMD, Diamond Bar

Ms. Barbara C. Yu, County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Commerce

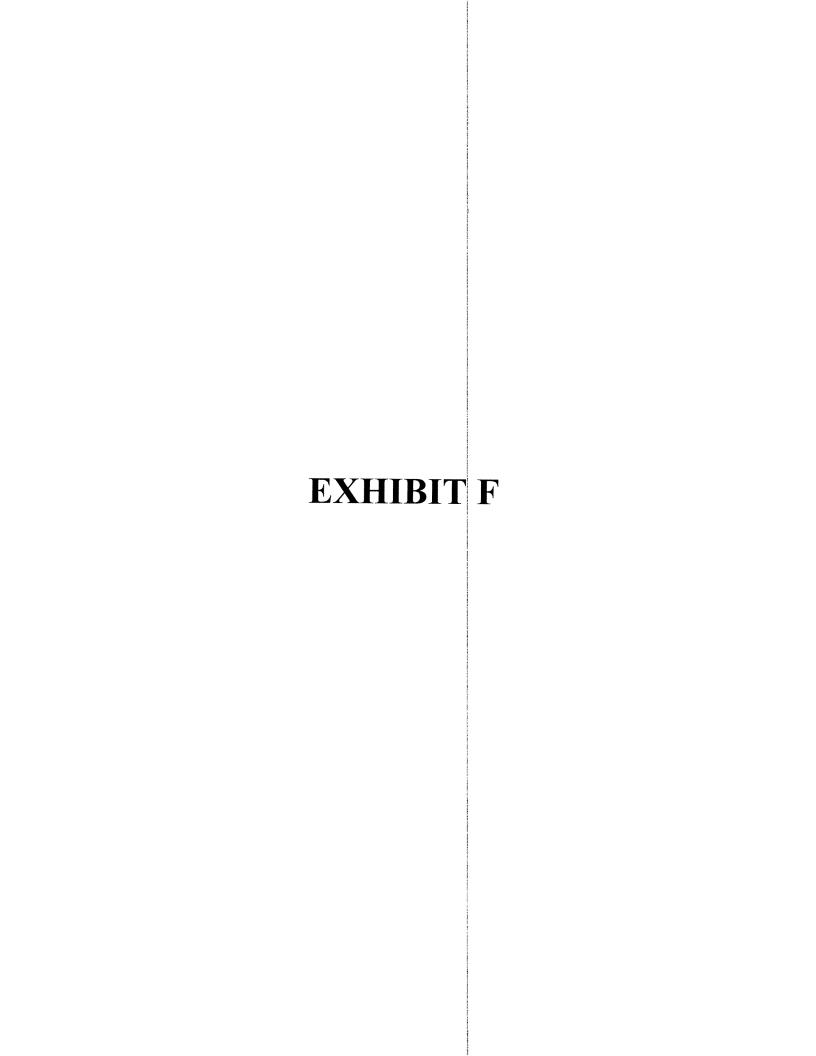
Mr. Mark Stewart, West Basin Watermaster, California Department of Water Resources

Ms. Nancy Matsumoto, Water Replenishment District of Southern California

Ms. Holly Saffold, ExxonMobil (Torrance)

Mr. Norman J. Novick, ExxonMobil (Fairfax, VA)

Mr. Steven Perkins, Environmental Resource Management



Jeffrey Parker

From: holly.saffold@exxonmobil.com
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2008 11:51 AM
To: wphillips@waterboards.ca.gov
Cc: len.m.racioppi@exxonmobil.com
Subject: Conversation from yesterday

Wendy — it was a pleasure speaking to you yesterday. As we discussed, ExxonMobil is requesting that the Water Board rescind (without prejudice) its Addendum to Cleanup and Abatement Orders Nos. 88-43, 89-136, and 95-116 prior to April 3rd, due, in part, to concerns with the potential for undefined future obligations and time frames and the potential for imposition of stipulated penalties for an alleged failure to comply. Please note, however, ExxonMobil is committed to working cooperatively with the Water Board on all issues, including preparing for and participating in public meetings, providing appropriate visual graphics for public meetings or web page content, preparing fact sheets for the public, and helping to facilitate public meetings relating to investigation or cleanup efforts relating to these CAOs as they arise. To this end, we:

are currently preparing a revised fact sheet for the Del Amo soil gas investigation and will provide this fact sheet to the Water Board as soon as practicable;

have provided the Water Board and the DTSC with a draft fact sheet for owners/residents of additional homes to the west of the investigation area who have requested indoor air sampling;

have coordinated an additional public meeting on March 27th for Del Amo area homeowners to as questions of ExxonMobil representatives, and have solicited Water Board staff to participate in that meeting

have provided materials for a site conceptual model for this area, in both written and electronic versions; and

will facilitate the arrangements for, procure, and effectively communicate future meetings so that the public can be made aware of progress relating to our investigations/cleanup efforts.

I look forward to your response and to working with you in the future.

Thanks so much!

Holly M. Saffold ExxonMobil Environmental Services - Project Manager 3700 W 190th Street, Safety Bldg, Rm 117 Torrance, CA 90504

310-212-1872 phone 310-212-2937 fax 310-961-0385 cell holly.saffold@exxonmobil.com