



April 1, 2010

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer

Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer's Report is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but rather highlights of Regional Board staff activities from the previous month.

Watershed Management

Watershed Stakeholder Activities

Nine of the ten watershed management areas in the Los Angeles Region have extensive stakeholder involvement (represented by agencies, individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations) in watershed and subwatershed activities including development of planning documents and implementation of restoration projects. Major watershed activities involving multiple stakeholders include participation in the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan process to address areawide water supply, water quality, and open space issues; and development and implementation of various restoration plans such as is occurring in the Ventura River involving ecosystem restoration relating to the eventual removal of Matilija Dam. Additional information on watershed stakeholder activities may be found at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regional_program/index.shtml#Watershed.

Watershed Management Initiative Chapter

Each Regional Board has a "chapter" in a statewide document which describes the Region's watersheds and their priority water quality issues. Updates occur as needed; the last update occurred in December 2007. The 2007 document can be downloaded at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regional_program/index.shtml#Watershed. In addition, there is a clickable map of the region's watersheds for information specific to each one including State of Watershed Reports, where available, and lists of permits and impaired waters.

Funding

Information on a wide variety of funding sources is available on the California Watershed Funding Database website at <http://cwfd.casil.ucdavis.edu/>. Both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties have developed Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) in order to qualify for funding under Propositions 50 and 84. The Los Angeles County IRWMP may be viewed at <http://www.lawaterplan.org/> which also includes information on meeting schedules and summaries. The Greater LA Region is

*Our mission is to preserve
and enhance the quality of
California's water resources
for the benefit of present and
future generations.*

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composed of five subregions which conduct separate steering committee meetings. The Ventura County IRWMP is available at <http://www.watershedscoalition.org/> which also includes information on meeting schedules and summaries. Committees/councils for the County's watersheds generally meet on a monthly basis. The Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County meets as a combined group less frequently. Stakeholders in the upper Santa Clara River watershed have developed a separate IRWMP which is available at <http://www.scrwaterplan.org>. An additional IRWM region within Los Angeles County, Gateway, has recently been approved by the California Department of Water Resources. It is located in southeast Los Angeles County.

Landfills Unit

Brand Park Landfill (File No. 76-020)

Enrique Casas

The City of Glendale (City) owns and operates the Brand Park Landfill (Landfill), located in the lower portion of Pomeroy Canyon, pursuant to WDRs contained in Order No. R4-2002-0091, which were adopted by the Regional Board on April 25, 2002. The Landfill is an active inert waste landfill that, accepts uncontaminated soils, broken concrete, broken asphalt, and bricks with no materials containing more than 5 percent organic matter. The Landfill, comprises approximately 37 acres, with ten acres permitted for landfilling, and has a capacity of approximately 851,000 tons (1,418,000 cubic yards) of waste.

Since 1999 the City has endeavored to recycle all inert waste brought to the Landfill into crushed aggregate for use in City construction projects. Recently, on October 27, 2009, the City submitted closure plans for the Landfill to the County of Los Angeles Bureau of Environmental Protection, Environmental Health Department to cease disposal operations and permit the facility with CalRecycle (formerly the California Integrated Waste Management Board) as a Class A inert recycling facility.

Pursuant to closure requirements in the Order, Regional Board staff is working with the City to implement controls to be used to assure protection of the quality of receiving waters during closure operations, including controls for landfill final cover, stormwater, groundwater monitoring, and landfill gas migration monitoring. Following permitting of the recycling facility, Regional Board staff will recommend terminating Order No. R4-2002-0091, consistent with other closed inert waste landfills in the Region.

Mud Debris Disposal

Rod Nelson

On Tuesday February 27, 2010, Regional Board staff (including the Executive Officer) inspected three debris basins (Picken's, Dunsmuir, and Mullally) located in the areas of La Crescenta-Montrose, Glendale, and La Canada Flintridge, in the company of senior staff from the Los Angeles County of Public Works. These debris basins are designed to contain excessive runoff of debris during rainy periods from the foothills and mountains in the area of last year's Station Fire. The purpose of the inspection was to determine progress in removing mud flow debris to restore the storage capacity of the basins before further rains. The thickness of debris in the basins was estimated to be as great as 40-50 feet. At the time of the inspection all material removed from these debris basins was being stockpiled in areas that the Los Angeles County Department of Public works had been using for the past 40 to 50 years.

Groundwater Permitting

Paradise Beach Cafe, Malibu

Elizabeth Erickson

The discharger will submit a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for Paradise Beach Café. An operational change in the kitchen, eliminating meat and fish defrosting under running water, is predicted by the discharger to reduce the discharge volume to under the existing general waste discharge permit requirement limit of 20,000 gallons per day, but an individual permit is still sought.

Malibu Lumber

Elizabeth Erickson

Malibu Lumber began trucking all waste on February 15, 2010, after failing to meet nitrogen limits even when waste from other sites were trucked into the treatment facility. Staff received a request from the dischargers to permanently connect to the adjacent Malibu animal hospital and truck in waste from other Malibu Civic Center businesses. Staff is waiting for submission of technical material describing this waste and the discharger's plans to bring the Malibu Lumber facility into compliance with the existing Waste Discharge Requirements.

Moonshadows Restaurant

Elizabeth Erickson

The engineering documents for the ROWD to upgrade the facility to an individual permit were received on March 4, 2010. Staff has begun a review, and determined that the ROWD is incomplete.

Rancho Malibu

Elizabeth Erickson

A notice of an incomplete ROWD was provided to Rancho Malibu, a residential development with a membrane treatment plant and onsite disposal of waste through fire-protection storage and irrigation. The facility would be operated by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. Outstanding items include submission of the draft engineering plan approved by the County, irrigation management detail to comply with the recent State Water Resources Control Board recycling policy, and soil moisture calculations to prevent over-irrigation and landslide risk.

Underground Storage Tank Program

Regional Board staff have reviewed corrective actions taken for soil and/or groundwater contamination problems from leaking underground storage tanks for the time of **February 2, 2010** through **March 1, 2010**, and determined that no further corrective actions are required for the following sites:

- Arco Station #1682, Commerce (R-04755)
- Former Dixie Diesel Site, Ventura (C-95139)
- Auto Center, Harbor City (907100170)
- Shell Braded Service Station, Manhattan Beach (I-09331)
- Shell Service Station, Los Angeles (900070070)
- 76 Station No. 251867, Los Angeles (900380161A)

- Robinson's Florist, Glendora (R-48937)
- USACE-SPL District Baseyard, South El Monte (R-15494W)
- Al Sal Oil, San Gabriel (R-24810)
- Chevron Station No. 9-5231, Los Angeles (900160234)
- Mobil Station No. 18-GWX, Beverly Hills (I-09424)
- Edco Stations, Inc., Los Angeles (R-26758)
- Asphalt Plant #1, Site 8/25, Los Angeles (900210143)
- 76 Service Station #251780, Los Angeles (900030043A)
- Former Shell Service Station, Long Beach (908061243)
- Former Thrifty Station No. 141, Canoga Park (913030616)
- Couteous, Inc., Former Shell Service Station, Norwalk (I-03948A)
- Waterman Supply Company, Wilmington (907440416)
- G&C Maintenance/Formal ARCO #0020, Los Angeles (900200052A)
- Former Mobil #18-LFR, Los Angeles (900040370)
- Former Shell Station, Los Angeles (900030234)
- Encino Land Rover, Encino (914360234A)
- Former Shell Service Station, Lakewood (I-05248)
- Mobil Station #18-EX4, Duarte (I-03758A)
- Best Overnight Express, Irwindale (R-25667)
- Former Thrifty Oil Station No. 032, Los Angeles (I-10935)
- USA Service Station No. 51, El Monte (I-11119)
- Former Shell Service Station, Montebello (I-09491B)
- San Dimas Canyon Golf-Course-Maintenance Yard, San Dimas (I-10168A)
- Mobil Oil Corporation Service Station #18-MJA, Alhambra (I-09425A)
- Former Arco Station #6153, Los Angeles (I-01792A)
- Sippelle/Guzman Property, Signal Hill (R-50024)
- 76 Service Station #1841, South Gate (I-11380A)
- Chevron #306435 (Former Unocal #2954), Los Angeles (900340125)
- Renman Realty Estate, Glendale (900360707)
- Thrifty Station #093, Glendora (I-16357A)

For the case closure sites above, a total of **17,932** tons of impacted soils were excavated and **242,930** pounds of hydrocarbons were removed by soil vapor extraction system. In addition, **878,653** gallons of impacted groundwater were treated.

*Total Maximum Daily Loads
(TMDLs)*

Santa Monica Bay Marine Debris

Eric Wu

Pursuant to the California Public Resources Code section 21083.9 as amended by SB 1532, Regional Board staff has scheduled a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping meeting on March 23, 2010 at

the Hyperion Treatment Plant to discuss possible environmental impacts from implementing a Santa Monica Bay Marine Debris TMDL. This Santa Monica Bay Nearshore and Offshore Marine Debris TMDL is currently under development to address beneficial use impairment by trash and plastic pellets. The CEQA Scoping meeting has been publicly noticed in the Los Angeles Times and through Regional Board electronic notice lists, and is available at Regional Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/basin_plan_amendments/technical_documents/bpa_72_New_td.shtml

On February 18, 2010, Regional Board staff attended the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's (SMBRC) Governing Board meeting, where Regional Board staff presented an update to the status of the development of the Santa Monica Bay Marine Debris TMDL. This led to a motion for the SMBRC Governing Board members to bring legislative and policy recommendations about plastic pellets to the next SMBRC Governing Board meeting.

For further information or questions regarding the Santa Monica Bay Nearshore and Offshore Marine Debris TMDL, please call Stefanie Hada at (213) 576-6804.

Los Angeles River Watershed Bacteria TMDL.

Man Voong
Dr. L.B. Nye

On March 10, 2010, the Region Board staff held a meeting to solicit public comments regarding the scope and content of the substitute environmental documents supporting a Basin Plan Amendment that would establish a new Bacteria TMDL and implementation plans for the Los Angeles River Watershed.

The meeting was held 1:00 p.m., March 10, 2010 in the 7th Floor Meeting Room of the Junipero Serra Building, located on 320 W. 4th St, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

Please contact Man Voong at (213) 576-6690 or Dr. L.B. Nye for any questions.

Enforcement Unit

NPDES Facility Inspections

Enforcement Unit NPDES inspector conducted inspections at 6 facilities with NPDES Permits since March 4, 2010 to April 8, 2010. Inspection of these facilities is a required part of the NPDES program.

Expedited Payment Program:

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0017-M was issued to Redman Equipment and Manufacturing Company (Permittee) on February 18, 2010 in the amount of \$18,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order Nos. 00-065 and R4-2005-0060, NPDES Permit No. CA0058726.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2009-0081-M was issued to Mole-Richardson Company (Permittee) on February 25, 2010 in the amount of \$66,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order Nos. R4-2003-0111 and R4-2008-0032, NPDES Permit No. CAG994004.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0001-M was issued to Arden Realty, Inc. (Permittee) on January 29, 2010 in the amount of \$12,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2003-0111, NPDES Permit No. CAG994004 for 21300 Victory Boulevard, LLC.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0007-M was issued to Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminals, LLC, on February 3, 2010, in the amount of \$18,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2006-0032, NPDES Permit No. CA0056863 for Carson Terminal. The Permittee has until March 8, 2010 to respond.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0010-M was issued to Honeywell, International, Incorporated on February 3, 2010, in the amount of \$24,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2009-0024, NPDES Permit No. R4-2010-0010-M CA0062162 for the Gardena Groundwater Remediation System Facility. The Permittee has until April 5, 2010 to respond.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0012-M was issued to Jamison Services, Incorporated, on February 10, 2010, in the amount of \$66,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2008-0032, NPDES Permit No. CAG994004 for Encino Executive Plaza. The Permittee has until March 11, 2010 to respond.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0014-M was issued to the City of Simi Valley, on February 11, 2010, in the amount of \$9,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2003-0081, NPDES Permit No. CA0055221 for the Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant. The Permittee has until March 15, 2010 to respond.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0015-M was issued to Arden Realty Incorporated, on February 11, 2010, in the amount of \$57,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2003-0111, NPDES Permit No. CAG994004 for Encino Executive Plaza. The Permittee has until March 15, 2010 to respond.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0004-M was issued to Maple Plaza, LTD, on February 24, 2010, in the amount of \$39,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2003-0111, NPDES Permit No. CAG994004 for 345 North Maple Drive Office Building. The Permittee has until March 25, 2010 to respond.

Settlement Offer No. R4-2010-0016-M was issued to Jamison Services, Incorporated, on February 24, 2010, in the amount of \$27,000 for alleged violations of Regional Board Order No. R4-2003-0111, NPDES Permit No. CAG994004 for Westwood Terrace Building. The Permittee has until March 25, 2010 to respond.

Site Clean up III

Briefing on Playa Vista Environmental Overview

Dr.Noori Alavi

Background:

Playa Vista originally encompassed approximately 1,087 acres known as Areas A, B, C and D.

In late 2003, Playa transferred title and relinquished rights to Areas A, B, and C. The current commercial and residential redevelopment site consists of Area D only (460 acres). Area D is divided by Playa into Phase I and Phase II for development purposes.

Area D is the former location of aircraft manufacturing and industrial activity, including the original headquarters of Hughes Aircraft Company.

Historical industrial activities resulted in soil and groundwater contamination, particularly with volatile organic compounds (VOCs)

Environmental, Investigation of the site began as a former UST site in 1983; however, RWQCB issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO-98-125) in December, 1998 to Playa capital Company.

In compliance with Cleanup and Abatement Order 98-125, Playa has conducted several site characterizations, which identified potential source areas and implemented appropriate soil and groundwater remediation plans in those areas.

Remediation:

Various methods have been employed to clean up soil and/or groundwater contamination in selected areas at Playa Vista.

Soil remediation has been accomplished by excavation and offsite disposal of impacted soil or by operating a soil vapor extraction system

At Playa Vista, there are three areas that are subject to groundwater treatment via different remedial technologies. They are as follow:1) TEST Site 2 with In-situ enhanced bioremediation; 2)-Fire Safety Training Area with : extraction and above ground treatment and,3)-CAMPUS Area also with extraction and above ground treatment system.

Clean-Up Accomplishments:

Upon completion of the site assessment and cleanup, selected areas have received No Further action (NFA) determination status from the RWQCB. The following actions have been issued in selected areas either only for soil portion or both soil and groundwater;

- 9 soil NFAs issued;
- 4 groundwater NFAs issued; and
- 2 soil NFAs are pending

Methane Issue at Playa Vista:

Playa Vista site is located in an area on the Los Angeles Basin where naturally-occurring methane gas is present beneath the surface.

The City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) is the lead agency for overseeing methane related issues. In accordance with the City of Los Angeles Methane Ordinance, a methane mitigation system is required for all structures at Playa Vista under the supervision of LADBS.

Groundwater dewatering is required for methane mitigation systems installed at or near the water table to protect the system's integrity. Dewatering is conducted under an NPDES or LA Department of Sanitation permits

Personnel Report

As of April 1, 2010 our staff total is 135: 119 technical staff (including 1 part-time staff), 7 permanent analytical staff and 9 permanent clerical staff.

The following promotions were made:

Vilma Correa, from Sanitary Engineering Technician to Sanitary Engineering Associate effective December 11, 2009.

The following separated from Region 4:

David Bacharowski, Assistant Executive Officer, retired from State service effective December 1, 2009.

Maryann Jones, Engineering Geologist, retired from State service effective December 4, 2009.

Stephen Cain, Senior Environmental Planner, separated from State service effective December 16, 2009.

Xavier Swamikannu, Senior Environmental Scientist, retired from State service effective December 30, 2009.