Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
COMPREHENSIVE CHROMIUM-CONTAMINATED
GROUNDWATER CLEANUP STRATEGY,
FROM PG&E's HINKLEY COMPRESSOR STATION
Public Questionnaire

1. Do you plan to read the Draft EIR? (check one)
   - ☐ Yes, most or all
   - ☐ Yes, only the Summary or Fact Sheet
   - ☐ Maybe ☐ No

2. Would you rather the chromium-contamination **cleanup time** be (choose one):
   - ☐ a. As quick as possible regardless of the environmental impacts (lower water table, byproducts created, chromium left in aquifer, habitat loss, etc, with most offset by mitigation measures).
   - ☐ b. Equally balanced between speed and environmental impacts.
   - ☐ c. Take as long as necessary to avoid most or all environmental impacts.
   - ☐ d. Not sure.
   - ☐ e. Don't care.

3. Which cleanup option in the Draft EIR affecting the entire plume do you prefer (rank 1 for most favorite and 6 for least favorite—see handouts).
   - _____ a. **No Project**—only activities occurring today to be continued in future (in-situ treatment for chromium at and near source (Compressor Station) plus 3 agricultural (ag) fields for lower chromium levels to the north--one crop)—yields longest cleanup time of <u>>1,000 years</u>.
   - _____ b. **4B**—same as No Project but with 6 ag fields operating 8 months per year (one crop)—yields cleanup time of <u>40 years</u> to 3.1 ppb Cr[VI] and <u>95 years</u> to 1.2 ppb Cr[VI].
   - _____ c. **4C-2**—same as No Project but with 10 ag fields operating year round (two crops) —-- yields cleanup time of <u>39 years</u> to 3.1 ppb Cr[VI] and <u>90 years</u> to 1.2 ppb Cr[VI].
   - _____ d. **4C-3**—in-situ treatment for chromium at and near source plus 10 ag fields operating 8 months per year (one crop) plus an above-ground treatment facility to remove chromium from groundwater in north during winter months and disposal of chromium elsewhere—yields cleanup time of <u>36 years</u> to 3.1 ppb Cr[VI] and <u>85 years</u> to 1.2 ppb Cr[VI].
   - _____ e. **4C-4**— same as No Project but with 26 ag fields operating year round (two crops)—yields fastest cleanup time of <u>29 years</u> to 3.1 ppb Cr[VI] and <u>75 years</u> to 1.2 ppb Cr[VI].
   - _____ f. **4C-5**—an above-ground treatment facility at and near source to remove chromium from groundwater and disposal of chromium elsewhere plus 10 ag fields operating 8 months

per year (one crop) for lower chromium levels to the north-- yields second slowest cleanup time of 50 years to 3.1 ppb Cr[VI] and 95 years to 1.2 ppb Cr[VI].

4. Check the environmental impact(s) are you willing to accept as part of the final chromium cleanup strategy.

_____ a. Some temporary lowering of water table, to be restored in future.
_____ b. Lots of lowering of water table with possible permanent aquifer compaction and land subsidence, and changes in water chemistry (arsenic or uranium) in wells. Mitigation to be provided: alternate water supply, and water table and water quality restored in future[1]—water yield likely not restored if compaction occurs.
_____ c. Loss of use of domestic well for indoor use and given alternate water supply; domestic well can still be used for outdoor uses, such as landscaping. Mitigation would be alternate water supply, with water table restored in future.
_____ d. Loss of endangered desert tortoise and Mohave ground squirrel habitat in the project area, with possible land swap elsewhere for habitat.
_____ e. Some temporary byproducts in aquifer (manganese, iron, arsenic) due to in-situ remediation, with water quality to be restored in future.
_____ f. Lots of temporary byproducts (manganese, iron, arsenic) to groundwater due to in-situ remediation, with water quality to be restored in future. Mitigation until aquifer is restored will be monitoring and possible alternate water supply until water quality is restored in future.
_____ g. Some temporary TDS (total dissolved solids) increase in groundwater from additional agricultural fields, with water quality to be restored in future.
_____ h. Lots of temporary TDS (total dissolved solids) increase affecting groundwater quality from many additional agricultural fields. Mitigation will be to provide alternate water supply until water quality is restored in future.
_____ i. Leaving chromium in the aquifer at the source area as solid Cr(III) (trivalent[2]).
_____ j. Leaving chromium in the soil at the agricultural unit areas as solid Cr(III) (trivalent).

[1] depending on the alternative – would be from 30-100 years.
[2] Cr(VI) hexavalent chromium is the toxic form of chromium. Cr(III) trivalent chromium has very low toxicity.

Provide other comments:

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Name (optional) Address (optional)

ALL COMMENTS ARE DUE TO THE WATER BOARD BY November 5, 2012.

For questions, contact Anne Holden at (530) 542-5450 or aholden@waterboards.ca.gov.

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Fold line

Place stamp here

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