



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region

2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, California 96150
(530) 542-5400 • FAX (530) 544-2271
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan>



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

January 20, 2012

Tom Wilson
Director, Remediation Program Office
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
3401 Crow Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA 94105-1814

INVESTIGATIVE ORDER NO. R6V-2012-0007 FOR NEW WELL INFORMATION, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E) COMPRESSOR STATION, HINKLEY, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

AND

ACCEPTANCE OF REQUEST TO ABANDON MONITORING WELL MW-40

This investigative order requires PG&E to provide technical information concerning water quality for new wells to replace monitoring well MW-40. The information is needed for evaluating chromium contamination in groundwater from the Hinkley Compressor Station. This investigative order is issued pursuant to California Water Code section 13267.

Background

On January 3, 2012, the Water Board received a letter from PG&E requesting to abandon monitoring well MW-40 because access to the property at APN 049-261-37(sic) on which the well is located is being denied by the property owner.

Water Board staff has no objection to abandonment of MW-40 but believe that a new well pair is needed for monitoring the western chromium plume boundary. When MW-40 is destroyed, the resulting 2,000-foot distance between monitoring wells MW-37 and MW-73 is too great to accurately monitor chromium movement along this boundary considering the close proximity of nearby domestic wells.

Directive

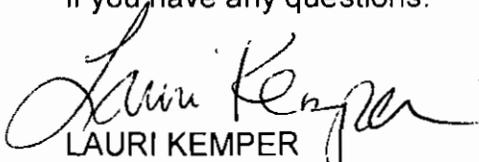
PG&E is hereby required to install a new well pair on or near Mountain View Road for monitoring the western chromium plume boundary to assist in monitoring the western chromium plume boundary. The new well pair shall be installed in the shallow and deeper portions of the upper aquifer for evaluating the vertical thickness of the chromium plume.

Pursuant to section 13267 of the California Water Code, PG&E shall report the results of water quality from the new well pair in the first quarter 2012 groundwater monitoring report, due by April 30, 2012. Well designs and lithologic log must also be included in the report.

These technical reports required by this Order are necessary to investigate the water quality in the Hinkley basin during PG&E's ongoing cleanup of the hexavalent chromium pursuant to Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R6V-2008-0002. The need for this information outweighs the burden on PG&E to produce the information in that the supply well users in the Hinkley basin depend on the monitoring information to assess the water quality in their supply wells.

Any failure to furnish the required technical or monitoring reports subjects PG&E up to \$1,000 a day in administrative civil liability for each violation pursuant to Water Code section 13268.

Please contact Lisa Dernbach at (530) 542-5424 or at ldernbach@waterboards.ca.gov, if you have any questions.



LAURI KEMPER
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Enclosure: Section 13267 Fact Sheet

cc: PG&E Technical Mail List and Iyris list (and web posting)

LSD/clhT: PG&E MW-40 abandonment 1-12
Send to file: WDID 6B369107001 (VVL)