
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

August 14, 2015
File No. 43S0065 (mej)

Amanda Cruz
San Francisco Planning Branch
US Army Corps of Engineers
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA
Amanda.B.Cruz@usace.army.mil

SUBJECT: Berryessa Creek Channel Modification Project, adjacent to the former JCI Jones Chemicals Facility, 985 Montague Expressway, Milpitas, Santa Clara County

Dear Ms. Cruz:

Thank you for meeting with Regional Water Board staff to discuss the upcoming creek channel modification project being conducted by the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers and the Santa Clara Valley Water District. As we have discussed, the groundwater contaminant plume of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) originating from the former JCI Jones facility passes beneath passes beneath Berryessa Creek, immediately to the west of the former facility.

We understand that you will be working in the creek bed immediately adjacent to the former Jones site. As part of the construction, groundwater may be encountered. To manage groundwater that may be encountered during construction, a groundwater management plan will be developed that will include control and diversion of water, if necessary, using the most efficient means such as coffer dams, sump pumps, dewatering wells or other techniques. Any water that may be generated will be treated and discharged downstream or to a storm drain. The treatment standards for this discharge water will comply with those set forth in our NPDES General Permit (R2-2012-0012) for fuel and VOC impacted sites. However, you will not be obtaining an NPDES permit for this work. A copy of the groundwater management plan will be submitted to this agency for our review and comment.

Based on our understanding of the work outlined above and with the condition that the groundwater is treated to the standards described, we will not recommend enforcement for discharging without a permit.

The work in the creek bed will also include movement of soil/sediment as part of the construction activities. As discussed, there is no reason to believe shallow soil/sediment in the area adjacent to the former Jones facility is impacted. This being the case, no soil/sediment management plan is necessary for movement of the materials. In the case that impacted soil is encountered, it will be segregated and stockpiled for offsite disposal. We find this acceptable.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Johnson of my staff at (510) 622-2493 [e-mail mjohnson@waterboards.ca.gov].

Sincerely,

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer

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