JOINT MEETING OF
TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
AND
AB3030 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, 2001

Present: Serge Birk, Chairman; Jim Lowden; Steve Kimbrough; Gary Antone; William Richardson; Kevin Borror; George Russell; Bill Borror; Charles Willard; Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager.

1. The meeting was called to order by Serge Birk, Chairman of the AB3030 TAC at 2:00 p.m.

2. Introductions of members of the TAC and also those attending: Dan McMannus, DWR; Bob and Linda Lasero, residents of Corning; Tim Potanovic of Environmental Health Dept.; Tim Metland and Jack Roberts of Corning Development Group; Delrae Violetti of Public Works and Erick Rapport of Regional Water Quality Control Board. Late arrivals were Gary Plunkett of Public Works and Nelson Buck, County Counsel.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Erick Rapport discussed groundwater contamination of the Dudley-Petty Truck Stop in the Corning area within the city limits. Cancer causing elements were found to be from diesel, gasoline, and chlorinated solvent releases. The State Water Resources Control Board is currently funding the site investigation and cleanup. Off-site domestic wells on Houghton and Toomes have been impacted by these solvents.

   Several features may have acted as sources of contamination:

   · Fueling islands
   · Aboveground Tank Farm
   · Underground Storage Tanks
   · Truck Wash
   · Radiator Shop
   · Service Station
   · Card Lock
   · Underground Piping
   · Former Water Supply Wells

   At the above ground tank farm, more solvents have been found in shallow groundwater and overlying soils and soil gas. The exact location of the spill is on the property line. Evidence of a 200' deep potable supply well next to the service station into which septage and diesel fuel was purposely dumped. In the mid 70's patrons complained of diesel taste in the water. At the same site, another potable well was discovered to have had the septic tank clean-out routed directly into the well. At that time, both wells were plugged and abandoned.

   Mr. Rapport reviewed the historical dates on the site

·	1940s-60s	Service Station, shop construction
·	1961	D & P Deed
·	1970s-80s	Truck Stop Expansion
·	1986	D & P Filed for Bankruptcy
·	1987	UST Closure Files
·	1991	RWQCB Detects TPH/CH7 Bankruptcy
·	1996	CAO 96-701
·	1999-2000	TCE found in off-site wells/wellheads treated
·	2001	Site in escrow

Testing began in 1999 by the Regional Board sampled off site domestic wells along Toomes Avenue which was one block east of the site. Chlorinated solvents were found in five of the approximately 10 wells that were sampled below maximum contaminant levels. In 2000, repeated samples were done and an additional two blocks east to Houghton tested, and at that time concentrations in wells went up and five to six wells were found to go over the MCL's and Public Health goals. Environmental Health placed wells on granulated activated carbon filtration at that time.

Mr. Rapport discussed site investigations and the level of efforts:

- Trenching RWQCB staff (1991) observed free product on-site and off-site to east
- Preliminary Site Assessment McLaren Hart (1992) indicated petroleum fuels, potential solvents
- Card Lock Investigation Lawrence & Associates (1994) install monitoring wells, detect free product
- Site-wide investigation Metcalf & Eddy (1996) sample fourteen monitoring wells, detect TCE, cis-1, 2 DCE in three near east site boundary
- Domestic well sampling RWQCB staff (1999, 2000) detected TCE, cis-1, 2 DCE in private wells, Toomes and Houghton Avenues
- Preliminary Site Assessment RWQCB staff (2000) interviewed knowledgeable party, evidence of waste disposal in supply well. TCE Investigation Haling & Associates (2001) in progress.

Present Wellhead Treatments:

- SWRCB funded granulated activated carbon (GAC) wellhead treatments for chlorinated solvents
- Culligan installed GAC units under RWQCB supervision
- RWQCB monitors for VOC's fuel oxygenates, chloroform bacteria, nitrate

Funding Sources:

- SWRCB UST Cleanup Fund and Cleanup and Abatement Account obligated $500,000 for investigation and cleanup, $40,000 for wellhead treatment. It was noted by Mr. Rapport this estimate was done in the early 90's by a consultant and largely focused on petroleum fuels.

- TCE investigation in progress to assess other potential sources (e.g., CalEPA, USEPA)
- Commercial real estate concern has filed escrow, would assume cleanup costs

Data Gaps: Chlorinated Solvents Contaminant Pathways

- On-site TCE sources found in soil gas (service station), groundwater data support limited. (15' to 20' down) Mr. Rapport commented that there is a question of was the release at depth in the potable supply well?
- Source found along eastern boundary (near AST tank farm). Mr. Rapport added the exact source is not known whether to be on the Dudley-Petty site or on the orchard services side.
- Chlorinated solvents in other areas of South Corning (K-Tire, Houghton Avenue municipal well) Mr. Rapport commented that flow directions are being examined at the shallowest groundwater.
- Additional State funding for alternative water supplies based on clear link between D&P site and off-site domestic wells.

Domestic wells on the south end of Toomes measure in depth of 80 to 120 feet and some deeper to 175 feet. Houghton Avenue is about the same.

It was questioned if there was data on how the material moves in water and if soluble. Also, it was questioned if all the wells were irrigation or domestic. Mr. Rapport answered that the water moves, is soluble and the wells tested were domestic.

Discussion continued regarding piped water:

- City of Corning presented engineers estimate of $600,000 to extend services along Toomes and Houghton Avenues east of Dudley & Petty.
- Total extend of chlorinated solvent contamination is still unknown. It is a possibility that in the future, another well may be discovered contaminated.

There is additional off-site and on-site investigations required to link chlorinated solvents on the Dudley & Petty site and domestic wells. There are sites to the north on Solano and a City well at Houghton and Fig with solvent contamination. Investigation funding has exceeded obligated funding and additional funding sources may include CalEPA, USEPA and commercial real estate buyer. The main cost driver is what to do about chlorinated solvents. There is a mile long plume and what needs to be done about it. One effective technology to treat chlorinated solvents is iron filings mixed with gravel. But, if the plume extends down up to 200 feet it would not be feasible to do that. State Water Quality Regulations require that it is not treated at just the well head, but treat the resource itself to the maximum extent practical and feasible as well.

With regard to public outreach, Mr. Rapport discussed his agency was ethically compelled to do what they did. Sampling and follow-up correspondence to those sampled was done to keep in communication with the owners.

Well locations and information access to this committee was discussed. Mr. Rapport would have to

discuss with his superior the release of this information. Steve Kimbrough felt it was not a possibility at this time.

Linda Lasero, property owner affected by this problem, prefaced that as a property owner those that do know have been very quiet about the problem and keep it at the level it is. The value of property and health of families are key issues.

Steve Kimbrough discussed the need for funding to repair damage done to the residence east of the County, and the County possibly seeking a water quality or community development block grant to assist the property owners.

5. Groundwater Study Antelope Area/Proposed Sewer Treatment Plant: Tim Potanovic of Environmental Health discussed the Antelope pollution control issue which began in the mid 80's with studies by DWR and Environmental Health. The scope of the studies was to determine levels of nitrate in the Antelope area groundwater. The nitrate chemical was identified as hazardous to human health in the form of “Blue Baby Syndrom” interfering with oxygenation in the blood of infants under the age of six months. The minimum contamination level set by the State of California is 45 milligrams per liter. Targeted wells identified nitrates from 20 to 35 milligrams per liter. Based on studies the three contributors of nitrates in groundwater were fertilizers, septic tanks and the Tehama District Faire Grounds. This sewer plant would help elevate the problem.

   Charles Willard, Supervisor, discussed the area of concern and looking at this in the County perspective of studies, costs and growth potentials.

   Gary Antone discussed funding problems and the size of the plant. This $40 million dollar project will be a long process, who it will serve and involve water quality.

6. Staff report: Ernie Ohlin distributed his report for the TAC’s information. Accepted as presented.

   Serge Birk gave information regarding Dan Keppen of the Bureau of Reclamation has accepted a new position as Executive Director of Klamath Water Users.

7. November 19, 2001 Next Meeting Date. No comments

8. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.