



City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

September 18, 2012
Unfinished Business

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF THE CAROUSEL TRACT
(FORMER KAST PROPERTY SITE)**

Submitted by Clifford W. Graves
Director of Community Development

Approved by David C. Biggs
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

This report is an update on the environmental investigation of the Carousel Tract.

II. RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE and FILE.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

City Council was last updated on the status of the environmental investigation on July 17, 2012 (Exhibit No. 1). Below is an update of activities since July 17, 2012:

Bioventing Pilot Tests

Access was obtained to conduct bioventing pilot tests as described in the approved Pilot Test Work Plan (Work Plan) at six selected residential properties through the property owner's counsel. Bioventing pilot tests at five properties were completed, and the one remaining property is scheduled to complete tests within the next few weeks. So far, two reports analyzing the test results have been submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) for review. The reports determined that the results of the bioventing pilot tests were inconclusive. The Regional Board is waiting to review and evaluate all six reports in its entirety prior to making a determination.

On June 20, 2012, an informal meeting at 24512 Marbella Avenue was held by the Regional Board at the request of Carousel residents to discuss details of the bioventing equipment and generator. The bioventing test began the following Friday, June 22, 2012. During the initial bioventing test on July 6, 2012, and July 9, 2012, the Regional Board received several complaints from residents in regards to odors and fumes associated with the bioventing activities. The

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Regional Board staff and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) investigated the complaint and conducted a site inspection immediately after receiving the complaints. AQMD provided an inspection report and stated the bioventing equipment and/or generator were not causing odors or fumes and no violations were observed (Exhibit No. 2).

On July 12, 2012, Carousel residents attended a Regional Board meeting to provide testimony during oral communication. In response to the testimony provided, three Board members, including the Chair, visited the Carousel site to observe the ongoing investigation and bioventing equipment for noise and odor issues.

Methane Mitigation Plan

One property located at 378 149th Street will be subject to a *Methane Mitigation System Plan and Design* that was approved by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Regional Board. The results of the sub-slab surface probe within the garage of the property exceeded threshold levels, requiring methane mitigation. No other probes within the property exceeded threshold levels, including indoors. Starting dates for methane mitigation are unknown at this time. The attorneys and homeowners were unable to schedule a time for mitigation and are currently in discussion.

Excavation Pilot Tests

In accordance with the approved Work Plan, excavation pilot tests will be implemented for six properties. Grading permits for the excavation pilot tests have been reviewed and approved by the Planning Division and the Building and Safety Division. Depending on the time needed to obtain access authorization, excavation work is scheduled to begin in October, 2012.

Shell Oil submitted a request for a schedule extension to the Regional Board for the excavation pilot test portion of the Work Plan on July 5, 2012; however, the Regional Board denied the request but allowed for a temporary extension, pending the issuance of grading permits (Exhibit No. 3).

Seismic Refraction Survey Feasibility Test

Shell will be conducting a one-day seismic refraction survey feasibility test at four locations on the streets in the Carousel neighborhood on September 26, 2012. The purpose of the test is to evaluate whether the seismic refraction method can be used to detect and map buried concrete reservoir bases. The test will evaluate applicability of the method for larger scale implementation within the neighborhood.

AT&T Trench Excavation Issues

On August 28, 2012, AT&T's contractor, HCI, began excavation work at Marbella Avenue and East 244th Street to install new telephone cable. Regional Board staff and URS personnel (Shell Oil's consultant) were on site and observed the work as required by the Work Plan.

AT&T excavated four trenches that were approximately 2 feet by 4 feet in plain dimension and 3 feet deep. During this time, one of the trenches uncovered oozing tarry material that was highly viscous and coming out from the trench walls. The other three trenches had variably stained and odorous soil; however, the oozing tarry material was not present in the other trenches.

Air monitoring tests were completed by URS, and readings did not warrant immediate health concerns or exceed threshold levels. AT&T continued to complete their work, and URS documented the soil/tar material, took samples for analysis and pictures of the incident. The Regional Board required Shell to file an incident report and subsequently issued an order in accordance to the approved Clean-Up and Abatement Order (COA) to delineate the extent of the waste in the soil, develop a work plan to completely delineate the extent of the black and viscous material, and to propose a plan for cleanup or abatement of the waste. The Regional Board is requiring the work plan to be completed by October 12, 2012 (Exhibit No. 5).

Results of the samples taken of the black tarry material have been submitted for analysis and will be available in a few weeks. At this time, the Regional Board cannot confirm the nature of the material.

The incident above received media attention, and several local news stations reported the incident. In addition, on August 31, 2012, a group of residents and Robert Bowcock, an environmental consultant working on behalf of the residents, temporarily halted AT&T from completing work due to concerns regarding the waste and potential safety issues. Both the Los Angeles County Sheriff and the Los Angeles County Fire Department were called to investigate. The Battalion Chief advised that testing and site observations confirmed that there was no immediate threat to public safety, and AT&T was able to perform appropriate activities to fill the trench. The Regional Board staff was present and instructed that activities were to continue to be performed pursuant to approved protocol. Additional information can be reviewed on the City's website and through a link to the Regional Water Quality Control Board website.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

VI. EXHIBITS

- 1. City Council Staff Report dated July 17, 2012. (pgs. 5-7)
- 2. AQMD Report. (pgs. 8-9)
- 3. Extension letter from Regional Board dated July 6, 2012. (pgs. 10-16)
- 4. Seismic Refraction Notice. (pg. 17)
- 5. Directive letter for Clean-up dated September 10, 2012 (pgs. 18-20)

Prepared by: Sharon Song, AICP Associate Planner

TO: Rev09-04-2012

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

Action taken by City Council	
Date _____	Action _____



City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

July 17, 2012
New Business Discussion

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF THE STATUS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD IN THE CAROUSEL TRACT

Submitted by David C. Biggs
City Manager

Approved by David C. Biggs
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

At the July 3, 2012, Council meeting, several residents of the Carousel Tract spoke under oral communications about the environmental investigation taking place by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board). Following those comments it was requested that a status report be given to the City Council on this matter.

II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

1. RECEIVE and FILE the memo dated June 14, 2012, on the status of the Carousel Environmental Investigation.
2. APPROVE the sending of a letter on behalf of the City Council to the Regional Water Quality Control Board requesting that this matter be placed on their agenda in order to give the residents of the Carousel Tract an opportunity to engage in discussion.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

On June 14, 2012, the Planning Officer forwarded a memo to the Mayor and City Council providing an update on the Carousel environmental investigation (Exhibit No. 1).

After the time this staff report was written, staff was made aware that many of the Carousel Tract residents were planning to speak at the Regional Board meeting on Thursday, July 12, 2012. Staff understands that the matter of the Carousel Tract environmental investigation is not on the Regional Board's July 12th agenda (Exhibit No. 2). Requiring our residents to speak under public comment affords no opportunity for the residents to fully address their concerns or to hear from the Boardmembers. Therefore, a letter has been prepared for the City Council's signature requesting that the Regional Board place this matter on their agenda in

order to provide an opportunity for discussion (Exhibit No. 3).

Attached is the retainer agreement between the City and the law firm of Girardi & Keese (G & K) to undertake a public nuisance abatement action on behalf of the City of Carson on a *pro bono* basis (Exhibit No. 4) as approved by the City Council. Under the terms of the agreement, "G & K acknowledges and agrees that its representation of Client shall be governed by the requirements of *County of Santa Clara v. Superior Court* (2010) 50 Cal. 4th 35, and G & K agrees that the representation of Client shall require G & K to obtain the ***advance consent of Client's City Attorney before making all "critical discretionary decisions" in the prosecution or defense any action(s)*** within this Scope of Services." (Emphasis added.)

The agreement further provided "G & K will take reasonable steps to keep Client, through its City Manager and City Attorney, informed of all critical discretionary decisions or actions and will promptly respond to Client inquiries." Since the execution and return of the agreement to G & K, neither the City Manager nor the Office of the City Attorney have had any further communication with this firm, and no legal action has been filed in the name of the City to the knowledge of the City Attorney's office.

V. **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

VI. **EXHIBITS**

1. Status Report provided to the City Council dated, June 14, 2012. (pgs. 4-142)
2. Regional Water Quality Control Board July 12, 2012, Agenda. (pgs. 143-147)
3. Draft Letter to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (pg. 148)
4. Retainer Agreement. (pgs. 149-154)

Document3

Prepared by: Lisa Berglund, Principal Administrative Analyst



City of Carson

Report to Mayor and City Council

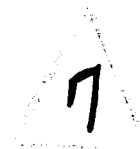
July 17, 2012

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Development Services
Economic Development	Public Services

Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____



South Coast Air Quality Management District

Air Quality Complaint Report

Complaint 224658

Receive By: MNUNEZ on 6/29/2012 16:27:00 Assignment No: 1312968
Assign By: mnunez on 7/2/2012 09:12:37 Inspector: GARRETT KAKISHITA (GK03)
Dispatch On: 6/29/2012 Instruction:
Team: X
Type: ODORS
Description: REC BY OPER#8. EXHAUST ODOR COMING FROM TENT THAT HAS OPERATING GENERATOR IN IT. COMPLAINANT WORKING IN AREA WHEN HE NOTICED IT. PLEASE CONTACT.

Instance Start Date:

Instance End Date:

Complainant

First Name:
Address:
Phone:

Alleged Source

Name: ENCLOSED GENERATOR
Address: 24512 MARGELLA, CARSON, CA 90745 (Sector LL)

Actual Source

Name: UNKNOWN
Address: 24512 MARBELLA, CARSON, CA 90745 (Sector LL)

Disposition

SUNK on 7/6/2012 15:45:44

Inspector Comment

7/6/12

I received a telephone call from AQMD Inspector Mitali Datta about Complaint 224658 and she explained that it concerned AQMD Rule 1166-excavating contaminated soil. She requested that the complaint be transferred to the Toxics Unit.

At 0950, I attempted to telephone the complainant and left a message as there was no answer.

At 1100 hours, I drove in the area of the alleged source, where I noted that the street name was Marbella (not Margella as recorded in the complaint). The alleged source address was a single-unit residential dwelling on a residential street in the Carousel Housing Tract, which consisted of approximately 250+ houses. Driving down Neptune Street toward Marbella Street, I saw several houses with signs posted in the front yard stating: "Danger-High levels of methane and benzene in our homes and streets. Boycott Shell Oil Co". The house at 24512 Marbella had caution tape and orange cones around the yard area. I did not observe any equipment as described by the complainant in or near the residence at the time of inspection. I smelled no odors and did not observe any construction or excavation nearby at this time.

At 1410 hours, I received a return phone call from the complainant and he identified himself as a

He gave me a brief history of the neighborhood in that the land was previously owned by the Shell Oil Co before the 1960s, and the neighborhood is now having problems with soil contamination. He said that the Shell Oil Co has hired URS Corp. to conduct various tests around the neighborhood and they recently used diesel combustion equipment that was causing odors and fumes to bother the residents of the neighborhood. He stated that they had put the combustion equipment inside an enclosure to help with the sound; but it created bad diesel odors. I told him that I had driven around the neighborhood and I did not see any equipment. He stated that it had already been removed from the site; but would return at a different location at a later date. He stated that he would email me a schedule as well as a site history. He had further concerns of the excavation around the neighborhood and I explained that if they are excavating VOC contaminated soil, they would be subject to AQMD Rule 1166 and would require a R1166 plan prior to excavating. I told him that I would investigate when he sent me a schedule of the dates for future work.

See Notification #308723 for report of SVE equipment onsite and R1166 compliance.

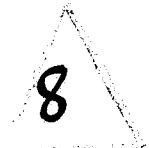
INSPECTOR: signature _____

DATE: _____

SUPERVISOR: signature _____

DATE: _____

EXHIBIT NO. 2



South Coast Air Quality Management District

Air Quality Notification Report

Notification 308723

Receive By: SCOTTR on 7/6/2012 14:25:00 Assignment No: 1313869 Inspection Date: 07/13/2012
Assign By: gkakishi on 7/13/2012 16:21:22 Inspector: GARRETT KAKISHITA (GK03)
Dispatch On: 7/10/2012 Disposition: Operating in Compliance at time of inspection
Team: X
Activity: R203 VOC DECONTAMINATION - EXTRA
Instruction:

Description: SVE PILOT TEST - WE WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A SITE INSPECTION - R203 VOC DECONTAMINATION - EXTRACTION

Instance Start Date: 07/09/2012 00:00 Instance End Date: 07/20/2012 00:00

Notifier

Facility: 136381 ECOTECH ENVIRONMENTAL, CORPORATION
First Name: JEFF Last Name: GREEN
Address: VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN SCAQMD, Unit F86543, FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92708
Phone: (714)423-9392 (Work)

Site Location

Facility: KAST
Address: 24722 RAVENNA, CARSON, CA 90745 (Sector LL)

Inspector Comment

7/13/12

At 0940 hours, I arrived at 24722 Ravenna, Carson for an inspection of Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) equipment. AQMD was notified on 7/6/12 as required, that equipment with Various Locations Permit to Operate F86543 would be operating at this location. The location was the front lawn of a single-unit residential dwelling in the Carousel Neighborhood. I was informed, in a telephone conversation with Jeff Green of Ecotech Environmental Corporation that the neighborhood of over 200 single family homes was going through several tests due to contaminated soil. This particular project was a pilot test in using SVE equipment and a 15 foot horizontal well dug to a depth of 5 feet.

Onsite, I met with Bobby Ponce, Environmental Engineer, who showed me the well drilled in the center of the resident's lawn. An inline temperature meter indicated the air being pulled out was 67 F. at a rate of 111 SCFM (permit limit 500 SCFM). The SVE equipment was inside a covered trailer with a exhaust extension that was greater than the required 16 feet high. The AQMD Various Locations Permit to Operate was posted and the equipment matched the description on the permit. The identification plate on the equipment indicated it was a Pego Systems, Model 500, Serial number ECO 06. I smelled no odors around the equipment or at the site of the wells. Mr. Ponce provided me with a copy of the Rule 1166 plan #531521, expiring 1/31/13, issued to American Integrated Services that was used to excavate the wells. AQMD was Notified on 6/28/12 (Notification #308149) prior to the start of excavation and there were no readings while monitoring the soil greater than 50 PPM according to records.

I observed a diesel powered portable internal combustion engine (ICE) onsite, used for power/electricity to run the fan on the SVE equipment. There was a large sound enclosure around the unit (approximately 8-10 ft high) with an exhaust tube extension (10 ft above the top of the ICE). The ICE was operating at the time of inspection and I saw no emissions and smelled no odors around the unit. The CARB Registration placard was visible (#142280, expiring 2/28/14). There were 4603.0 hours on the totalizer of the ICE. The identification plate on the ICE showed that the engine was an Isuzu, model BB-4J6TT, serial # 71041-0000353, rated at 57 hp. The information matched the description on the CARB Registration.

Mr. Ponce informed me that they collected lab samples for analysis as required for the first week of operation of the equipment and I requested he provide me with the analysis data when it becomes available to verify with compliance of permit conditions.

I observed no violations at the time of inspection.

INSPECTOR: _____ DATE: _____
signature

SUPERVISOR: _____ DATE: _____
signature



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 6, 2012

Mr. Edward E. Freed
Shell Oil Products US
Environmental Services Company
20945 S. Wilmington Ave.
Carson, CA 90810

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF STATUS REPORT AND SCHEDULE EXTENSION REQUEST FOR THE SUBMITTAL OF A PILOT TEST REPORT PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13304 CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. R4-2011-0046

SITE: FORMER KAST PROPERTY TANK FARM LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARBELLA AVENUE AND EAST 244TH STREET, CARSON, CALIFORNIA (SCP NO. 1230, SITE ID NO. 2040330, CAO NO. R4-2011-0046)

Dear Mr. Freed:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) is the state regulatory agency responsible for protecting water quality in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including the above referenced site. To accomplish this, the Regional Board issues investigative orders and requirements for submission of technical reports authorized by the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The Regional Board issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R4-2011-0046 (Order) to Shell Oil Products US (Shell) on March 11, 2011.

The Regional Board has received and reviewed your letter dated July 5, 2012, providing a *Status Report and Request for Schedule Extension - Remedial Excavation and In-Situ Pilot Testing* dated July 5, 2012, for the former Kast Tank Farm Property (Site) prepared by URS Corporation on behalf of Equilon Enterprises, LLC, doing business as Shell Oil Products US (Shell). The letter summarizes the pilot testing progress, focusing on activities that have been completed since May 17, 2012. In addition, the letter requests an extension to the current submittal date for the Pilot Test Report of July 9, 2012 as set forth in the Regional Board amendment to Order dated March 22, 2012 (copy attached). Specifically, you request an extension of the submittal date for in situ pilot testing and remedial excavation pilot testing reports. The rationale for the time extension takes into account the additional time it took to obtain access to properties to perform bioventing pilot test and the uncertainty in the length of time to acquire approval of Grading Plans from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and in order to allow adequate time for the implementation of the remedial excavation pilot testing activities.

As stated in the Cleanup and Abatement Order Section 11, the Regional Board, through its Executive Officer or other delegate, may revise this Order as additional information becomes available. Upon request by the Discharger, and for good cause shown, the Executive Officer may defer, delete or extend the date of compliance for any action required of the Discharger under this Order. The authority of the

MARIA MEHRANIAN, CHAIR | SAMUEL UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

320 West 4th St., Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

RECYCLED PAPER

EXHIBIT NO. 2

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Regional Board, as contained in the California Water Code, to order investigation and cleanup, in addition to that described herein, is in no way limited by this Order.

I agree that your letter of July 5, 2012 provided good cause to grant the extension requests for portions of the Pilot Test Report and I am, therefore, granting your requests for extension of the submittal date for the Pilot Test Report regarding in situ pilot testing and remedial excavation pilot testing as set forth below. As stated in your letter and as confirmed by Regional Board staff, it took longer than expected to obtain access to properties to perform pilot tests but you have now obtained the necessary access agreements. With respect to the grading permits, while you have submitted the necessary information and have engaged in discussions with City and County staff, you have not yet received the necessary grading permits from the City of Carson. As you explained, the City of Carson requires the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Department of Building and Safety and Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Geotechnical Materials Engineering Division to approve grading plans and geotechnical investigation reports before the City will issue grading permits. Once you have received the approvals, you intend to proceed to obtain the grading permits.

To remain in compliance with the Cleanup and Abatement Order, you must submit the following reports by the dates specified.

1. Provide a Bioventing Report on the findings of the front yard vertical well test located for the 24512 Marbella Avenue and the Report for the front yard horizontal well test at 24722 Ravenna Avenue by **August 24, 2012**.
2. The submittal date of July 9, 2012 for the Remedial Excavation and In-Situ Treatment Pilot Testing Report is temporarily suspended pending receipt of approval of the grading permits. You are required to notify the Regional Board upon County approval of the grading plan and geotechnical investigation reports and the City of Carson's issuance of the grading permits. **Upon receipt of the approvals, the Executive Officer will determine a new submittal date for this Report.**
3. You have already timely submitted the In-Situ Chemical Oxidation Pilot Test – Bench Scale Evaluation Report. As you know, on June 6, 2012 we held webinar technical discussions regarding that Report. Based on that webinar, I request that you submit by **July 16, 2012** a revised Bench Scale Evaluation Report that includes the information presented at the webinar.

The Regional Board is also concerned with the repeated objectionable odor complaints reported by the Carousel Tract residents. Therefore, you are required to notify the Air Quality Management District (AQMD) as per the air quality notification, monitoring and reporting requirements outlined in Section 5.9.2 of the May 10, 2011 Pilot Test Work Plan.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted regulations requiring the electronic submittals of information over the Internet using the State Water Board GeoTracker database. You are required not only to submit hard copy reports required in this Order but also to comply by uploading all reports and correspondence prepared to date and additional required data formats to the GeoTracker system. Information about GeoTracker submittals, including links to text of the governing regulations, can be found on the Internet at the following link:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/electronic_submittal

Edward E. Freed
Shell Oil Products US

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July 6, 2012

Please note that, the Regional Board requires you to include a perjury statement in all reports submitted under the 13304 order. The perjury statement shall be signed by a senior authorized Shell Oil Products US representative (and not by a consultant). The statement shall be in the following format:

“ I, [NAME], do hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of State of California, that I am [JOB TITLE] for Shell Oil Company that I am authorized to attest to the veracity of the information contained in [NAME AND DATE OF REPORT] is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed at [PLACE], [STATE], on DATE.”

If you have any questions, please contact the project manager, Dr. Teklewold Ayalew at (213) 576-6739 (ayalew@waterboards.ca.gov), or Ms. Thizar Tintut-Williams, Site Cleanup Unit III Chief, at (213) 576-6723 (twilliams@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,


Samuel Unger, PE
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Review of Bi-monthly Status Reports & Request for Schedule Extension dated March 22, 2012

cc: Mailing List

Mailing List

Laura Richardson, Honorable Congresswoman, US House of Representatives,
California's 37th District
Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles
Warren T. Furtani, Assembly member, 55th Assembly District
Jim Dear, Mayor of Carson
Sheri Repp-Loadsman, City of Carson
Ky Truong, City of Carson
Jennifer Fordyce, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board
Alexander Morelam, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Patrick Schanen, LAUSD
David Biggs, Carson's City Manager
James Carlisle, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Robert Romero, Department of Toxic Substances Control
Bill Jones, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Barry Nugent, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Shahin Nourishad, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Miguel Garcia, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Alfonso Medina, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Cole Landowski, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Angelo Bellomo, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Karen A. Lyons, Shell Oil Products US
Alison Abbott Chassin, Shell Oil Products US
Hal Dash, Cerrell Associates
Roy Patterson, URS Corporation
Chris Osterberg, URS Corporation
Michelle Vega, Edelman
Robert Ettinger, Geosyntec
Thomas V. Girardi, Girardi and Keese Lawyers
Robert W. Bowcock, Integrated Resources Management, LLC



California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

320 West Fourth Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600 • FAX (213) 576-6640
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles>

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

March 22, 2012

Mr. Edward E. Freed
Shell Oil Products US
Environmental Services Company
20945 S Wilmington Ave.
Carson, CA 90810

REVIEW OF BI-MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS AND REQUEST FOR SCHEDULE EXTENSION PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13304 – FORMER KAST PROPERTY TANK FARM LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARBELLA AVENUE AND EAST 244TH STREET, CARSON, CALIFORNIA (SCP NO. 1230, SITE ID NO. 2040330, CAO NO. R4-2011-0046)

Dear Mr. Freed:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) is the state regulatory agency responsible for protecting water quality in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including the above referenced site. To accomplish this, the Regional Board issues investigative orders and requirements for submission of technical reports authorized by the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

The Regional Board has received and reviewed the documents titled *Status Report on the Remedial Excavation and In-Situ Pilot Testing* dated January 23, 2012, and *Status Report and Request for Schedule Extension* dated March 21, 2012, for the former Kast Tank Farm Property (Site) prepared by URS Corporation on behalf of Equilon Enterprises, LLC, doing business as Shell Oil Products US (Shell). The bi-monthly technical reports are required under the Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO NO. R4-2011-0046). The first bi-monthly progress report itemizes status of activities underway since the approval of the Pilot Test Work Plan on November 23, 2011, and includes: 1) list of suitable properties for pilot testing; 2) status of bench-scale testing for in-situ treatment of soil; and 3) drafting of WDR application submitted to Regional Board. The status report also indicated that the implementation of the remaining tasks of the remedial excavation and in-situ pilot testing is dependent on the timely access to properties identified for the pilot test.

The latest bi-monthly status report summarizes the activities in progress such as the evaluation of the bench testing data, property surveys, geotechnical investigation, grading permits and access issues. The report indicated that access was granted at properties identified for pilot tests on March 9, 2012. In addition, the report includes the Request for Schedule Extension for Remedial Excavation and In-Situ Pilot Testing. The rationale for the time extension includes the uncertainty in the length of time to acquire City permits and in order to allow adequate time for the implementation of the pilot testing activities.

The CAO stipulates submittal of the Pilot Test Report 120 days after the pilot test work plan approval date or March 22, 2012. However, based on the information provided, the Regional Board approves a

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Edward E. Freed
Shell Oil Products US

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March 22, 2012

time extension for submittal of the Pilot Test Report to the Regional Board by July 9, 2012 which is 120 days from the date that access was granted.

The submittal of the required technical reports by the specified due date above is an amendment to the existing California Water Code Section 13304 Order dated March 11, 2011. Pursuant to section 13350 of the California Water Code, failure to submit the required reports by the due dates above may result in civil liability penalties administratively imposed upon you by the Regional Board in an amount up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day the report is not received.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted regulations requiring the electronic submittals of information over the Internet using the State Water Board GeoTracker database. You are required not only to submit hard copy reports required in this Order but also to comply by uploading all reports and correspondence prepared to date and additional required data formats to the GeoTracker system. Information about GeoTracker submittals, including links to text of the governing regulations, can be found on the Internet at the following link:

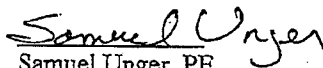
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/electronic_submittal

Please note that, the Regional Board requires you to include a perjury statement in all reports submitted under the 13304 order. The perjury statement shall be signed by a senior authorized Shell Oil Products US representative (and not by a consultant). The statement shall be in the following format:

"I, [NAME], do hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of State of California, that I am [JOB TITLE] for Shell Oil Company that I am authorized to attest to the veracity of the information contained in [NAME AND DATE OF REPORT] is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed at [PLACE], [STATE], on DATE."

If you have any questions, please contact the project manager, Dr. Teklewold Ayalew at (213) 576-6739 (tayalew@waterboards.ca.gov), or Ms. Thizar Tintut-Williams, Site Cleanup Unit III Chief, at (213) 576-6723 (twilliams@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,


Samuel Unger, PE
Executive Officer

cc: Mailing List

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Mailing List

Laura Richardson, Honorable Congresswoman, US House of Representatives, California's 37th District
Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles
Warren T. Furtani, Assembly member, 55th Assembly District
Jim Dear, Mayor of Carson
Sheri Repp-Loadsman, City of Carson
Ky Truong, City of Carson
Jennifer Fordyce, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board
Alexander Morelam, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Patrick Schanen, LAUSD
Jerome G. Groomes, Carson's City Manager
James Carlisle, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Robert Romero, Department of Toxic Substances Control
Bill Jones, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Barry Nugent, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Shahin Nourishad, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Miguel Garcia, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Alfonso Medina, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Cole Landowski, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Angelo Bellomo, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Karen A. Lyons, Shell Oil Products US
Alison Abbott Chassin, Shell Oil Products US
Hal Dash, Cerrell Associates
Roy Patterson, URS Corporation
Chris Osterberg, URS Corporation
Michelle Vega, Edelman
Robert Ettfinger, Geosyntec
Thomas V. Girardi, Girardi and Keese Lawyers
Robert W. Bowcock, Integrated Resources Management, LLC



September 2012

Former Kast Property Tank Farm
Carson, California
CAO No. R4-2011-046

NOTICE OF WORK

SEISMIC REFRACTION SURVEY FEASIBILITY TEST

Under the direction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), a URS subcontractor on behalf of Shell will be performing a one-day seismic refraction survey feasibility test at a maximum of four locations on the streets in the Carousel Neighborhood. The purpose of the test is to evaluate whether the seismic refraction method can be used to detect and map buried concrete reservoir bases in portions of the footprints of the former Kast Tank Farm reservoirs within the Carousel Tract neighborhood. The feasibility test will evaluate applicability of the method for larger scale implementation.

WHEN: The test is scheduled on **Wednesday, September 26, 2012** and is anticipated to take only one working day. The work will take less than two hours at each of the four locations and occur **between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm**. Traffic controls will be set up at each location to protect workers who will be working in the streets.

Where: The test surveys will be conducted at four locations: 1) E. 247th Street between Marbella and Neptune Avenues, 2) Neptune Avenue near E. 244th Street, 3) E. 248th Street between Neptune and Ravenna Avenues, and 4) near 24513 to 24523 Ravenna Avenue. At each of these four locations, sensors, connected by wires, will be secured to the street using sand bags. A sledge hammer will then be used to generate a signal by striking a steel plate on the street a total of approximately 10 times at each location. The signal produced by the hammer will be recorded by the sensors.

During the testing there may be a slight increase in noise levels for a brief time. Crews will conduct the test in a manner that minimizes the noise levels and any impact to the community. Shell will work to minimize disruption and inconvenience to the residents where this one day feasibility test will take place.

CONTACT: If you would like more information, please contact Dr. Teklewold Ayalew, Project Manager, at (213) 576-6739 (tayalew@waterboards.ca.gov) or Gita Kapahi, Director of Public Participation of the California State Water Resources Control Board, at (916) 341-5254 (gkapahi@waterboards.ca.gov).

You may also contact Shell's Kast information line at (310) 857-2355.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

September 10, 2012

Edward E. Freed
Shell Oil Products US
20945 S. Wilmington Ave.
Carson, CA 90810

DIRECTIVE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AND CLEANUP OF THE AT & T TRENCH EXCAVATION WORK IN THE VICINITY OF 305 AND 311 EAST 244TH STREET PURSUANT TO CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER - FORMER KAST PROPERTY TANK FARM LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARBELLA AVENUE AND EAST 244TH STREET, CARSON, CALIFORNIA (SCP NO. 1230, SITE ID NO. 2040330, CAO NO. R4-2011-0046)

Dear Mr. Freed:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) is the state regulatory agency responsible for protecting water quality in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including the former Kast Tank Farm Property (Site). Under the oversight of the Regional Board, Shell Oil Products US on behalf of Shell Oil Company (collectively, Shell) is investigating and remediating soil and groundwater impacts at the Site.

On March 11, 2011, the Regional Board issued Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. R4-2011-0046 pursuant to California Water Code section 13304 and 13267, requiring Shell to cleanup and abate the effects of petroleum hydrocarbon compounds and other contaminants of concern discharged to soil and groundwater at the Site. Among other requirements, the CAO required Shell to completely delineate the extent of waste in soil, soil vapor, and groundwater caused by the discharge of wastes including, but not limited to, TPH and other TPH-related waste constituents at the Site into the saturated and unsaturated zones. Assessment has been ongoing under Regional Board oversight, but assessment is not yet complete. If ongoing reinterpretation of new data derived from the tasks performed suggests that modification or expansion of the tasks approved by the Regional Board is necessary for complete assessment, the Discharger is required to submit a work plan addendum(a).

On Tuesday, August 28, 2012, AT&T's contractor, HCI, began work at the intersection of Marbella Avenue and East 244th Street at the Former Kast Property. The work consisted of excavating a series of pits along the north side of East 244th Street and using a subsurface jacking device to install new telephone cable between the pits. The Regional Board staff and URS personnel were on site and observed part of this work.

Following this observation, the Regional Board staff requested a preliminary field observation by URS Corporation (URS) personnel working on behalf of Shell. On August 30, 2012, URS submitted to the Regional Board a letter providing a *Summary of Observation, AT&T Excavation at 305 and 311 244th Street* (correspondence) for the Site. The correspondence provided a summary of HCI's trench excavation activities performed at locations between 305 and 311 East 244th Street (A244305ES East); in front of 305 East 244th Street (A244305ES West); between 301 and 305 East 244th Street (A244301ES); the east

MARIA MEHRANIAN, CHAIR | SAMUEL UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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side of the driveway at 24401 Marbella Avenue (AM24401EY1); in the street between 24401 Marbella Avenue; and 301 East 244th Street (AM24401ES1), and in the street in front of 301 East 244th Street (A244301ES2). Each trench excavation was approximately 2 feet by 4 feet in plan dimension and 3 feet deep.

The correspondence described the presence of soil staining and odor and a soft, black material at a shallow depth of approximately 1 and 2.5 foot below ground surface (bgs) in the excavation trench between 305 and 311 East 244th Street (A244305ES East). This material was highly viscous and oozed out of the wall of the excavation 2 to 3 inches. Air monitoring readings in the operator breathing zone using a photo ionization detector (PID) and flame ionization detector (FID) were 0.0 parts per million by volume (ppmv) and 6.7 ppmv, respectively. Air monitoring readings at the point of operations (measured within a few inches of the excavation face) using a PID and FID were 0.0 ppmv and 4.8 ppmv, respectively.

Although variably stained and odorous soil were also observed in the other four excavation trenches, soft, black material observed in excavation A244305ES East was not present in the other trenches. Air monitoring readings in the operator breathing zone using a PID and FID were 0.0 ppmv and 6.4 ppmv, respectively in all trenches.

Consistent with the CAO requirement to completely delineate the extent of waste in soil, you are required to develop a work plan to completely delineate the extent of the black and viscous material described above and to propose a plan for cleanup or abatement of the waste. The work plan is due by **October 12, 2012**.

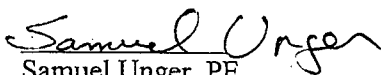
All technical reports are required to be submitted by the due dates specified above are in accordance with the existing CAO dated March 11, 2011. Pursuant to section 13350 of the California Water Code, failure to submit the required reports by the due dates above may result in monetary civil liability administratively imposed upon you by the Regional Board in an amount up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day the report is not received.

Please note that, the Regional Board requires you to include a perjury statement in all reports submitted under the 13304 order. The perjury statement shall be signed by a senior authorized Shell Oil Products US representative (and not by a consultant). The statement shall be in the following format:

" I, [NAME], do hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of State of California, that I am [JOB TITLE] for Shell Oil Company that I am authorized to attest to the veracity of the information contained in [NAME AND DATE OF REPORT] is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed at [PLACE], [STATE], on [DATE]."

If you have any questions, please contact, Dr. Teklewold Ayalew, project manager, at (213) 576-6739 (tayalew@waterboards.ca.gov), or Ms. Thizar Tintut-Williams, Site Cleanup Unit III Chief, at (213) 576-6723 (twilliams@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,


Samuel Unger, PE
Executive Officer

cc: Mailing List

Mailing List

Laura Richardson, Honorable Congresswoman, US House of Representatives, California's 37th District
Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles
Warren T. Furtani, Assembly member, 55th Assembly District
Jim Dear, Mayor of Carson
Sheri Repp-Loadsman, City of Carson
Ky Truong, City of Carson
Jennifer Fordyce, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board
Alexander Morelam, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Patrick Schanen, LAUSD
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