May 18, 2012

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SUBJECT:

RESPONSIBLE PARTY PERJURY STATEMENT FOR ALAMEDA COUNTY FTP WEBSITE TECHNICAL REPORT SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTING OF Former UST Location Investigation for the Kawahara Nursery, 16550 Ashland Ave., San Lorenzo, CA

To Alameda County Environmental Health,

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the information and/or recommendations contained in the technical document designated above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge."

John Kawahara

Kawahara Nursery, Inc.

689 Burnett Ave.

Morgan Hill, CA 95037

PHONE: (408) 640-4289 JKawahara@KawaharaNurseries.com

## **RECEIVED**

8:46 am, May 23, 2012

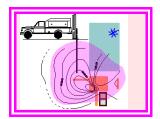
Alameda County Environmental Health

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December 09, 2011

Jerry Wickham Senior Hazardous Materials Specialist ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250 Alameda, CA 94502 (510) 567-6791 jerry.wickham@acgov.org FAX (510) 337-9335

SUBJECT: Former UST Location Investigation for the Kawahara Nursery, 16550

Ashland Ave., San Lorenzo, CA

Mr. Wickham,

On November 30, 2011, a backhoe trenching subsurface investigation was performed at the suspected location of the former gasoline UST located at the north end of the Kawahara Nursery. The magnetic anomalies, previously identified by Blymer Engineers, believed to be associated with the former gasoline UST, were very likely caused by metal debris and abandoned metal water pipes discovered during the excavation activities completed last Wednesday (Figure 1 – Map Showing Limits of Trenching Excavations).

After completion of the backhoe trenching excavation, multiple lines of evidence demonstrated that the former gasoline UST had been removed at some time in the past. Specifically, two sets of water pipes were identified that had been cut, presumably to create an opening to provide a pathway, through which, the former UST could be pulled out of the ground below the pipes. In addition, fill soils comprised of very old potting soil (e.g. vermiculite & crush red lava rock) were identified in a four foot deep pit previously excavated into natural clay soils. It appears that after the UST was removed, the former pit was filled with readily available potting soil.

YOROGEOLOGIST

Franklin J. Goldman

Certified Hydrogeologist No. 466

## CHRONOLOGICAL DOCUMENTATION OF FORMER UST LOCATION INVESTIGATION

Initially, the trenching excavation was performed, with a three (3) foot wide backhoe bucket, at the location where the previous geophysical survey identified a magnetic anomaly at the approximate location where the former gasoline UST was believed to be located (See Attachment A for Photos of Trenching Excavation Activities). Buried debris was identified in fill soils as well as near surface abandoned metal water pipes. Portions of the western extent of the Lath House were removed during excavation activities to make room for the backhoe to operate.

The initial excavation progressed from south to north past the north gate to the Kawahara property. Later in the morning, Mr. Kawahara, more accurately recollected the location of the former gasoline UST. Trenching was then resumed to the south of the completed excavation in a west to east orientation. The west to east trending trench excavation revealed two sets of metal piping that had been cut out at the former pit location and four feet of fill soils, within a former excavation, which were composed of natural clay soils exposed in the sidewalls and bottom of a former excavation pit.

#### CONCLUSIONS

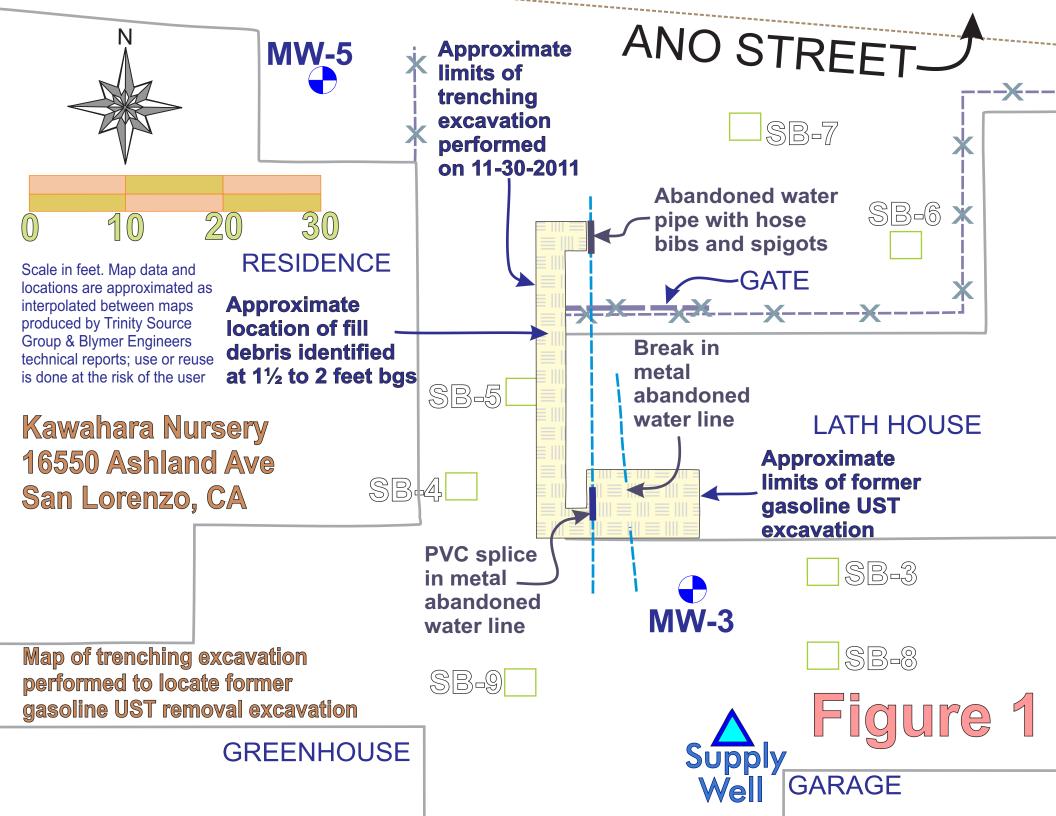
Given that the former location of the gasoline UST was the only remaining obstacle to site closure, and that the former location has been verified, this site should be closed, immediately. Close the site and abandon the monitor wells as per the California Well Standards.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Given that the former location of the gasoline UST was the only remaining obstacle to site closure, and that the former location has been verified, this site should be closed, immediately. Close the site and abandon the monitor wells as per the California Well Standards.

#### **LIMITATIONS**

This report has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted environmental, geological and engineering practices. No warranty, either expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice presented herein. The analyses, conclusions and recommendations contained in this report are based upon site conditions as they existed at the time of the investigation and they are subject to change. The conclusions presented in this report are professional opinions based solely upon visual observations of the site and vicinity, and interpretation of available information as described in this report. All users of this technical report, recognize that the limited scope of services performed in execution of this investigation may not be appropriate to satisfy the needs, or requirements of other state agencies, or of other users. Any use or reuse of this document or its findings, conclusions or recommendations presented herein, is done so at the sole risk of the said user.



# **Attachment A**

**Photos of UST Location Trenching Excavation Activities** 



Photo 1 - View North. Excavation begins at the Lath House adjacent to groundwater monitor well MW-3. Backhoe bucket is 3 feet wide.





Photos 2 & 3 - View to the west of the north-south trending trench. 0 to 1½ ft bgs is fill composed of vermiculite and ground up bone and red lava rock. 1½ to 2½ ft bgs is a natural silty clay, black, soft and moist. 2½ to >4 feet bgs is a clayey silt, light olive green, soft and moist.





Photos 4 & 5 - View to the east of the north-south trending trench. 0 to 4 ft bgs is fill composed of vermiculite and ground up bone and red lava rock. >4 feet bgs is a clayey silt, light olive green, soft and moist.



Photo 6 - Fill debris recovered from 1½ feet bgs from the west side of the trench. Debris composed of bottles, railroad spike, metal pipe, and ceramic plate.

Likely, partially, responsible for magnetic anomaly at suspected gasoline UST location.



Photo 7 - View to the south of the north-south trending trench. Depth in photo is 7½ feet bgs. Depth reached was 8½ feet bgs. No groundwater encountered. No olfactory or visual evidence of hydrocarbons encountered.



Photo 8 - View to the north of the north-south trending trench of the excavation extension to the north past the fence line.



Photo 9 - View to the south of the north-south trending trench extended to the north past the fence line. Depth in photo is 7 feet bgs. Depth reached was 8½ feet bgs. No groundwater encountered. No olfactory or visual evidence of hydrocarbons encountered.



Photo 10 - View to the northwest of the termination of the northsouth trending trench and the initiation of a new trench extending to the east.



Photo 11 - View to the west of the extended eastwest trending trench. See the abandoned water line encountered to the east at the bottom of the photo.



Photo 12 - View to the north of the north-south trending abandoned metal water line. This water line extends to the south and crossed over the top of the former gasoline UST, south of the fence line. This is very likely the cause of the magnetic anomaly identified to the north of the suspected former gasoline UST and north of the fence line.



Photo 13 - View to the northeast of the termination of the south end of the north-south trending trench where a new trench was extended to the east at the suspected location of the former gasoline UST.



Photo 14 - View to the north of the former gasoline UST trench with cut off metal pipe sticking out of side wall.

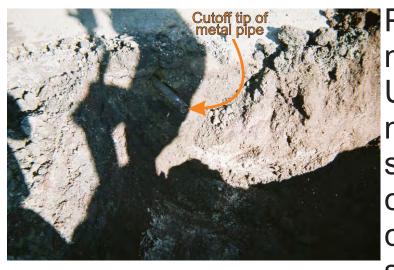


Photo 15 - View to the north of the former gasoline UST trench with cut off metal pipe sticking out of side wall. Notice the reddish colored vermiculite and crushed lava rock potting soil used as fill in the side wall.





Photos 16 & 17 - View to the north of the north wall of the former UST tank pit. soil layers are composed of 3½ feet of vermiculite fill underlain by a ½ foot thick conglomeritic concrete over a foot of crushed red lava rock that is now seen as a clayey sand (fill 0 to 41/2 feet bgs). Photos show trench to a depth of 41/2. Trench was excavated to 7½ feet bgs. Below the fill is 2 feet of soft, moist, black clay over 2 feet of firm, moist, green silty clay (natural soil 4½ to 7½ feet bgs).



Photo 18 - View to the northeast of the north-south trending trench and the former gasoline UST trench.



Photo 19 - View to the north of the cutoff metal water pipe.



Photo 20 - View to the east of the east-west trending former gasoline UST pit with a cutoff metal water pipe sticking out of the south wall of the trench.



Photo 21 - View to the north of the east-west trending former gasoline UST pit showing the metal water pipe cut out over the trench.





Photos 22 & 23 - View to the east along the former UST pit. A 2nd water pipe was exposed while excavating immediately west of the 1st water pipe discovered. The 2nd water pipe shown is a PVC splice inserted between the previously removed section of a metal water pipe. It appears that both sets of water pipes had their sections cut out to provide access to remove the former UST. Also, the magnetic anomalies identified by the former geophysical survey were likely picking up these metal pipes. Photo 23 shows a closeup of the PVC splice of the water pipe.



Photo 24 - Closeup of the coupling that connects the cut metal pipe with the PVC splice.



Photo 25 - View to the east along the former UST pit. The north wall of the trench shows the reddish fill soil to a depth of four feet bgs.



Photo 26 - View to the east along the former UST pit.
After the fill, which was shown standing against the sidewall, caved into the bottom of the trench, natural black clay soil was now exposed in the side wall. It appears that the newly exposed side wall is the north wall of original gasoline UST removal pit.



Photo 27 - Width of the original gasoline UST pit is shown to be 7 feet across, and a depth of approximately 4 feet. The olive green clayey silt was observed at the bottom of the trench.