

ALAMEDA COUNTY  
HEALTH CARE SERVICES



AGENCY  
DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
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June 6, 2008

Anthony & Marlene Varni  
P.O. Box 570  
Hayward, CA 94543-0570

Subject: Fuel Leak Case No. RO0000322 and Geotracker Global ID T0600101435,  
Varni Property, 2691 Castro Valley Boulevard, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Dear Mr. and Ms. Varni:

Alameda County Environmental Health (ACEH) staff has evaluated the case file for the above-referenced site to determine whether the site qualifies for case closure. According to our file, a 1,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) that stored diesel range petroleum hydrocarbons was removed from the site in June 1988. A report documenting the UST removal cannot be found and hence was not submitted. Soil and groundwater samples appear to have been collected during the UST removal, which indicate low concentrations of hydrocarbons were detected in soil while elevated concentrations of hydrocarbons were detected in water. However, it is not clear whether the water represents liquid present in the UST or water collected from the UST excavation. Subsequently, ACEH requested a limited subsurface investigation to assess subsurface conditions at the site in letters dated November 25, 1996, November 19, 1998, March 11, 1999, and May 25, 1999. In your June 4, 1999 correspondence, you indicated that a structure has been constructed over the location of the former UST and "[i]t is now impossible to comply with your [ACEH] request." Based on the available data, case closure cannot be considered for this site since the extent of contamination has not been delineated and risk to human health and the environment has not been assessed. Although a structure currently overlies the former UST, an evaluation of subsurface conditions can still be performed.

ACEH request that you address the following technical comments and send us the work plan requested below. It is also recommended that you apply for investigation/cleanup cost reimbursement to the State Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund. Please note that one of the conditions for eligibility for cost reimbursement monies is that you maintain compliance with directives from this agency.

**TECHNICAL COMMENTS**

1. **Contaminant Source Area and Site Characterization** – In June 1988, a 1,000-gallon UST was removed from the site. Detectable concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons were identified in soil samples collected during the UST removal. Additionally, elevated concentrations of contaminants were detected in the water sample collected from the site. Based on the analytical data available, the site appears uncharacterized. Please propose a

scope of work to address the above-mentioned concerns and submit a work plan by the date specified below.

2. **GeoTracker Non-compliance** - A review of the case file and the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) GeoTracker website indicate that the site has not been claimed in GeoTracker and electronic copies of analytical data have not been submitted, rendering the site to non-compliance status. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 16, Article 12, Sections 2729 and 2729.1, beginning September 1, 2001, all analytical data, including monitoring well samples, submitted in a report to a regulatory agency as part of the UST or LUST program, must be transmitted electronically to the SWRCB GeoTracker system via the internet. Also, beginning January 1, 2002, all permanent monitoring points utilized to collect groundwater samples (i.e. monitoring wells) and submitted in a report to a regulatory agency, must be surveyed (top of casing) to mean sea level and latitude and longitude to sub-meter accuracy using NAD 83. A California licensed surveyor may be required to perform this work. Additionally, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 30, Articles 1 and 2, Sections 3893, 3894, and 3895, beginning July 1, 2005, the successful submittal of electronic information (i.e. report in PDF format) shall replace the requirement for the submittal of a paper copy. Please claim your site in GeoTracker, complete the surveying, and upload all applicable electronic submittal types such as the analytical data (EDF), survey data (GEO\_XY and GEO\_Z), and PDF reports from July 1, 2005 to current to GeoTracker by the date specified below. Electronic reporting is described below.

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

ACEH's case file for the subject site contains the following reports listed on our website (<http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop/ust.htm>). You are requested to submit copies of all other reports related to environmental investigations for this property (including Phase I and Phase II reports) by **July 21, 2008**.

### **TECHNICAL REPORT REQUEST**

Please submit technical reports to Alameda County Environmental Health (Attention: Paresh Khatri), according to the following schedule:

- **July 21, 2008** – Complete Electronic Uploads to GeoTracker
- **August 5, 2008** – Soil and Water Investigation Work Plan

These reports are being requested pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10. 23 CCR Sections 2652 through 2654, and 2721 through 2728 outline the responsibilities of a responsible party in response to an unauthorized release from a petroleum UST system, and require your compliance with this request.

### ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL OF REPORTS

ACEH's Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC) require submission of reports in electronic form. The electronic copy replaces paper copies and is expected to be used for all public information requests, regulatory review, and compliance/enforcement activities. Instructions for submission of electronic documents to the Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Program FTP site are provided on the attached "Electronic Report Upload Instructions."

Submission of reports to the Alameda County FTP site is an addition to existing requirements for electronic submittal of information to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Geotracker website. In September 2004, the SWRCB adopted regulations that require electronic submittal of information for all groundwater cleanup programs. For several years, responsible parties for cleanup of leaks from underground storage tanks (USTs) have been required to submit groundwater analytical data, surveyed locations of monitoring wells, and other data to the Geotracker database over the Internet. Beginning July 1, 2005, these same reporting requirements were added to Spills, Leaks, Investigations, and Cleanup (SLIC) sites. Beginning July 1, 2005, electronic submittal of a complete copy of all reports for all sites is required in Geotracker (in PDF format). Please visit the SWRCB website for more information on these requirements ([http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/electronic\\_submittal/report\\_rqmts.shtml](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/report_rqmts.shtml)).

### PERJURY STATEMENT

All work plans, technical reports, or technical documents submitted to ACEH must be accompanied by a cover letter from the responsible party that states, at a minimum, the following: "I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the information and/or recommendations contained in the attached document or report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge." This letter must be signed by an officer or legally authorized representative of your company. Please include a cover letter satisfying these requirements with all future reports and technical documents submitted for this fuel leak case.

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION & CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

The California Business and Professions Code (Sections 6735, 6835, and 7835.1) requires that work plans and technical or implementation reports containing geologic or engineering evaluations and/or judgments be performed under the direction of an appropriately registered or certified professional. For your submittal to be considered a valid technical report, you are to present site specific data, data interpretations, and recommendations prepared by an appropriately licensed professional and include the professional registration stamp, signature, and statement of professional certification. Please ensure all that all technical reports submitted for this fuel leak case meet this requirement.

### UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLEANUP FUND

Please note that delays in investigation, later reports, or enforcement actions may result in your becoming ineligible to receive grant money from the state's Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (Senate Bill 2004) to reimburse you for the cost of cleanup.

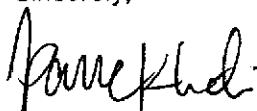
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**AGENCY OVERSIGHT**

If it appears as though significant delays are occurring or reports are not submitted as requested, we will consider referring your case to the Regional Board or other appropriate agency, including the County District Attorney, for possible enforcement actions. California Health and Safety Code, Section 25299.76 authorizes enforcement including administrative action or monetary penalties of up to \$10,000 per day for each day of violation.

If you have any questions, please call me at (510) 777-2478 or send me an electronic mail message at [paresh.khatri@acgov.org](mailto:paresh.khatri@acgov.org).

Sincerely,



Paresh C. Khatri  
Hazardous Materials Specialist



Donna L. Drogos, PE  
Supervising Hazardous Material Specialist

Enclosure: ACEH Electronic Report Upload (ftp) Instructions

cc: Donna Drogos, ACEH  
Paresh Khatri, ACEH  
File

<b>Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC)</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE:</b> July 5, 2005
	<b>REVISION DATE:</b> December 16, 2005
	<b>PREVIOUS REVISIONS:</b> October 31, 2005
<b>SECTION:</b> Miscellaneous Administrative Topics & Procedures	<b>SUBJECT:</b> Electronic Report Upload (ftp) Instructions

Effective January 31, 2006, the Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC) require submission of all reports in electronic form to the county's ftp site. Paper copies of reports will no longer be accepted. The electronic copy replaces the paper copy and will be used for all public information requests, regulatory review, and compliance/enforcement activities.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- Entire report including cover letter must be submitted to the ftp site as a **single portable document format (PDF) with no password protection**. (Please do not submit reports as attachments to electronic mail.)
- It is **preferable** that reports be converted to PDF format from their original format, (e.g., Microsoft Word) rather than scanned.
- Signature pages and perjury statements **must** be included and have either original or electronic signature.
- **Do not password protect the document.** Once indexed and inserted into the correct electronic case file, the document will be secured in compliance with the County's current security standards and a password. **Documents with password protection will not be accepted.**
- Each page in the PDF document should be rotated in the direction that will make it easiest to read on a computer monitor.
- Reports must be named and saved using the following naming convention:  
RO#\_Report Name\_Year-Month-Date (e.g., RO#5555\_WorkPlan\_2005-06-14)

#### Additional Recommendations

- A separate copy of the tables in the document should be submitted by e-mail to your Caseworker in Excel format. These are for use by assigned Caseworker only.

#### Submission Instructions

- 1) Obtain User Name and Password:
  - a) Contact the Alameda County Environmental Health Department to obtain a User Name and Password to upload files to the ftp site.
    - i) Send an e-mail to [dehloptoxic@acgov.org](mailto:dehloptoxic@acgov.org)  
or
    - ii) Send a fax on company letterhead to (510) 337-9335, to the attention of Alicia Lam-Finneke.
  - b) In the subject line of your request, be sure to include "**ftp PASSWORD REQUEST**" and in the body of your request, include the **Contact Information, Site Addresses, and the Case Numbers (RO# available in Geotracker) you will be posting for.**
- 2) Upload Files to the ftp Site
  - a) Using Internet Explorer (IE4+), go to <ftp://alcoftp1.acgov.org>
    - (i) Note: Netscape and Firefox browsers will not open the FTP site.
  - b) Click on File, then on Login As.
  - c) Enter your User Name and Password. (Note: Both are Case Sensitive.)
  - d) Open "My Computer" on your computer and navigate to the file(s) you wish to upload to the ftp site.
  - e) With both "My Computer" and the ftp site open in separate windows, drag and drop the file(s) from "My Computer" to the ftp window.
- 3) Send E-mail Notifications to the Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs
  - a) Send email to [dehloptoxic@acgov.org](mailto:dehloptoxic@acgov.org) notify us that you have placed a report on our ftp site.
  - b) Copy your Caseworker on the e-mail. Your Caseworker's e-mail address is the entire first name then a period and entire last name at acgov.org. (e.g., [firstname.lastname@acgov.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@acgov.org))
  - c) The subject line of the e-mail must start with the RO# followed by **Report Upload**. (e.g., Subject: RO1234 Report Upload)