

Oct. 28 '92

M E E T I N G

Alameda County and Berkeley Farms
STID #3734

Attending:

Juliet Shin - Hazardous Materials Specialist
Scott Seery - Senior Hazardous Materials Specialist
Edward Howell - Chief Executive Officer, Haz. Mat. Div.
Frank E. Sabatte - Chairman of the Board, Berkeley Farms
Tim Blaney - Loss Control Division, Berkeley Farms

Mr. Sabatte stated that, when Berkeley Farms had met with the County in the past, they thought they were given permission to hold off on conducting any further investigations or cleanup until they were ready to sell the property. Mr. Howell stated that Mr. Sabatte had misunderstood the County's statements. The County requires that investigations be conducted. If investigations and remediation are postponed, the problem would only get worse, and more time and money may have to be spent in cleaning the contamination up.

Mr. Blaney and Mr. Sabatte stated that they doubt that any vandalism has occurred. Mr. Sabatte requested that a County representative come out to the site and check it out.

Mr. Blaney stated that there is still floating diesel product in the site's water well. The last time this floating product was sampled was 3 or 4 months ago. At that time, there was approximately 30 inches of floating diesel observed in this well.

Ms. Shin requested that Berkeley Farms submit the following pieces of information to the County:

- 1) The October 10, 1990 Soil and Ground water Investigation Report;
- 2) Information on the analysis, by Chevron, of the floating diesel product; and
- 3) A well log for the production or water well on site

Mr. Blaney stated that the excavated soil from the tank removal was placed back into the tank pit at the time of the removal.

Mr. Blaney stated that the depth to ground water at the site is approximately 20 feet below ground surface. Mr. Blaney stated that he is fairly certain that the diesel is not coming from their site because, as far as he knows, the former on-site tank was never used to store diesel and considering that the diesel was so fresh he feels that it is coming from an off site release. Mr. Seery stated that the soil contamination observed immediately beneath the former on-site tank, collected from native soil, was very high (42,000 ppm diesel). If the depth to ground water is in fact 20 feet below ground surface, than Mr. Seery stated that it would be unlikely that fluctuations in the ground water table would result in such high concentrations immediately beneath the UST.

The County stated that investigations, probably involving the installation of additional monitoring wells both up- and downgradient of the former UST and soil borings or hydropunching, will be required. Mr. Sabatte stated that he would like some County representatives to come out to the site before they begin investigations. Mr. Howell requested that Mr. Blaney call back with several possible dates for a site reconnaissance.

Mr. Blaney suggested that Berkeley Farms employees pump out some of the floating product, maybe about 550 gallons, to show that the contamination is not coming from their site. The County representatives suggested that this may not be a good idea because the Berkeley Farms employees need to be adequately trained in Health and Safety, and Berkeley Farms may not approach the pumping of product in a cost effective and thorough manner. Also, requirements for retaining a Certified Engineer and Geologist were cited. Additionally, it was emphasized that just pumping this floating product will not necessarily prove that the floating product is not coming from their site.

Mr. Blaney suggested that Berkeley Farms dig a trench going east and west, north of the former tank to try and show that there is a channel running through the property that is carrying contamination from off site. However, the County representatives indicated that that would not prove anything since a ground water and contaminants can enter a trench from all sides.