ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, INC
6620 Owens Drive, Suite A • Pleasanton, CA 94588-3334
TEL (925) 734-6400 • FAX (925) 734-6401

RECEIVED
By lopprojectop at 4:46 pm, Apr 26, 2006

April 26, 2006

Mr. Jerry Wickham
Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
Environmental Health Services, Environmental Protection
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577

Re: Fuel Leak Case No. RO0002585: 2nd Qtr 2006 Groundwater Monitoring Event
Site Location: Wente Vineyards, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA

Dear Mr. Wickham:

In accordance with the guidelines of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, SOMA will be conducting a groundwater monitoring event at the above referenced site. The purpose of this monitoring event is to check the site's ovcrall groundwater conditions.

SOMA has scheduled to monitor the subject site on the date of May 5, 2006. Sometimes, however, unforeseen events may cause us to reschedule the date. Should this be thc case, you will be notified immediately.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mansour Sepehr or me at (925) 734-6400.

Sincerely,

Tony Perini
Senior Project Engineer

cc: Mr. Aris Krimetz

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6620 Owens Drive, Suite A • Pleasanton, CA 94588-3334
TEL (925)734-6400 • FAX(925)734-6401

April 14, 2006

Mr. Jerry Wickham
Environmental Health Services
Environmental Protection
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, California 94502-6577

Subject: Fuel Leak Case No. RO0002585, Wente Winery, 5565 Telsa Road, Livermore, Response to the Alameda County Environmental Health Staff's Comments, Dated February 16, 2006

Dear Mr. Wickham:

On behalf of Mr. Aris Krimetz, SOMA Environmental Engineering, Inc. (SOMA) is pleased to submit this response to comments/work plan for the property located at 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore (see attached site map). This letter is intended to address the Alameda County Environmental Health's (ACEH's) comments, as specified in their February 16, 2006 letter *Fuel Leak Case No. RO0002585, Wente Winery, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA.*

For clarity, our responses to the comments have been organized in the numerical order they appeared in the ACEH's letter. The following are our responses to the comments:

Comment 1

SOMA will comply with the ACEH's directive *"…[e]valuate whether the area of steam-cleaning operations and the Welding Shop is a source for the tetrahydrofuran…"*

SOMA proposes the use of a Hydropunch® type groundwater sampler to collect depth-discrete groundwater samples from two sampling locations (GS-1 and GS-2) adjacent to the CPT-3 and CPT-5 probe locations, respectively (see attached site map for the proposed sampling locations). SOMA proposes that the groundwater samples be collected from the same sampling depth-intervals as from CPT-3 (11 to 16 and 39 to 44 feet below ground surface) and CPT-5 (19 to 24 and 56 to 61 feet below ground surface).

The Hydropunch® type sampler is a groundwater sampler that has a retrievable stainless steel screen with a steel drop off tip. This allows for groundwater samples to be taken at multiple depth intervals within the same borehole location. Please note that in areas of slower water recharge (applies to the *upper water-bearing* zone only), provisions may be

made to set temporary PVC well screens during sampling to allow the drill rig to advance to the next sample location while the groundwater accumulates.

The groundwater sampler operates by advancing 1¾-inch hollow push rods with the filter tip in a closed configuration to the base of the desired sampling interval. Once at the sampling interval, the push rods are retracted; exposing the encased filter screen and allowing groundwater to infiltrate hydrostatically from the formation into the inlet screen. A small diameter bailer (approximately ½-inch) is lowered through the push rods into the screen section for sample collection. Upon completing the sample collection, the push rods and sampler are retrieved to the ground surface, decontaminated and prepared for the next sampling event.

The groundwater samples will be stored in an ice-filled cooler and transported under chain-of-custody to Curtis and Tompkins, Ltd. (CT) of Berkeley, California, a state-certified laboratory. The samples will be analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) using EPA Method 8260 (including tetrahydrofuran as an analyte).

Comment 2

SOMA will comply with the ACEH's request that SOMA *"…[i]nclude molybdenum on future tables showing groundwater analytical results."*

As documented in SOMA's July 25, 2005 *Phase 1: Soil and Groundwater Investigation* and SOMA's December 6, 2005 *Additional Site Investigation to Evaluate the Extent of Groundwater Contamination* reports, SOMA concurs that*"…[m]etals were detected in groundwater at concentrations exceeding the Tier 1 ESL."* However, further clarification is needed as to how the ACEH wants SOMA to *"…[a]ddress the issue of elevated concentrations of metals in soil and groundwater in the area of the Welding Shop…"*

Based on SOMA's July 25 and December 6, 2005 reports, the issue of *elevated concentrations of metals* in the area of the Welding Shop has already been addressed and evaluated. In summary, the grab groundwater sample from B-10 showed elevated concentrations of cadmium, chromium, lead, nickel, and zinc in the groundwater, which were above the Environmental Screenings Levels (ESLs). However, due to the presence of suspended sediment in the sample, the results are not an accurate representation of dissolved phase metal concentrations. The sample from CPT-3 (11-16) showed slight concentrations of mercury and nickel above the ESLs; the sample from CPT-3 (39-44) showed only a slight detection of mercury above the ESL; and the sample from CPT-5 (19-24) showed slight detections of arsenic, copper, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, and selenium above the ESLs.

Since the dissolved phase metal concentrations in the groundwater are only slight and not elevated as compared to the ESLs (where groundwater is a current or potential source of drinking water–*Screening for Environmental Concerns at Site with Contaminated Soil*

and Groundwater, RWQCB, February 2005), further site remedial action is not recommended because contaminant levels do not present an imminent or substantial endangerment to human health and/or the environment.

Comment 3

SOMA has complied with the ACEH directive that *"…[a] map showing the locations of the stained soil and the unlined drainage ditch is to be included with the Response to Agency Comments or Work Plan."* Please note that the unlined drainage ditch no longer exists and is hereby referred to as the *former unlined drainage ditch* (see attached site map).

As documented by Clayton Group Services in their *Phase I Environmental Site Assessment of the Wente Winery*,

> *"… [a] former steam-cleaning bay reportedly existed at the south end of the steel storage and welding shed and in 1990 the County Health Department issued a violation notice to cease use of the system because waste water was being discharged to an open "ditch" adjacent to the facility and waste sludge was not being properly disposed of. The violation notice required that the site be cleaned up and soil sampling be conducted in the area of the ditch and around a stained drum location. No documentation was found to indicate if the cleanup had been conducted properly and if any soil sampling had been conducted."*

Therefore, SOMA will comply with the ACEH directive to initiate a soil-sampling scheme around the former steam-cleaning area (Welding Shop) to determine whether shallow residual contamination remains in the soil from the former activities conducted at the Site; as outlined in the December 11, 1990 Notice of Violation (NOV) issued by the ACEH.

To implement the soil-sampling scheme, SOMA proposes collecting shallow soil samples from nine sampling locations (HA-1 to HA-9) at the 1- to 1½-, 2- to 2½- and 3- to 3½-foot sampling depths utilizing a hand auger and soil core sampler (see attached site map for the proposed sampling locations). A hand auger will be used for the manual excavation of a small borehole. The auger is rotated so that the cutting blades dig into the soil and force the loosened matter up and into the auger bucket. A soil core sampler, which allows the recovery of an intact soil core from the bottom of the hand-augered hole, is then used. A sturdy push-tube is manually advanced into the targeted soil, driven with a slide hammer. An internal liner captures and holds the recovered soil intact. The sample sections (liners) will be stored in an ice-filled cooler and transported under chain-of-custody to CT. The soil samples will be analyzed for metals using EPA Method 6010.

Upon completing the field activities, SOMA will prepare and submit a technical report, whereupon a detailed description of the investigation will be presented. In addition,

along with SOMA's technical report, if residual soil contamination is proven to exist in the former steam-cleaning area, a work plan will be written proposing the removal of the contaminated soil.

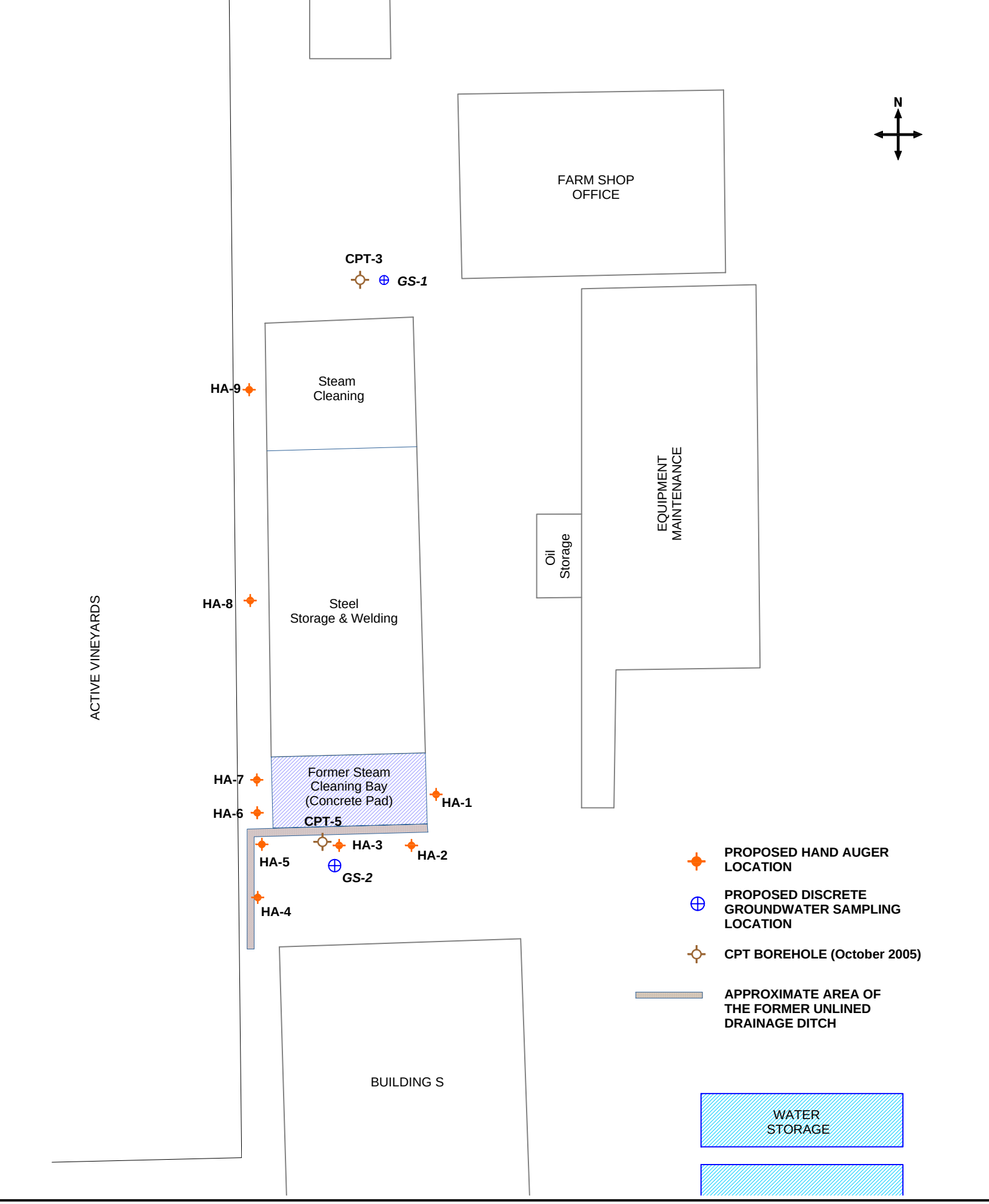
This concludes our response to the ACEH's comments. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me at (925) 734-6400.

Sincerely,

Mansour Sepehr, Ph.D., P.E.
Principal Hydrogeologist

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Aris Krimetz



approximate scale in feet

0 20 40

Site Map Showing the Proposed Hand Auger and Discrete Groundwater Sampling Locations

SOMA
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, INC.
SAN RAMON CA (925) 244 6600