

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION
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OAKLAND 94607

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January 15, 1986
File No. 2199.9227(PCM)

Peter Zaklan, President
Western Forge and Flange Co.
780 Reed Street
Santa Clara, CA 95052

**Subject: Status of water quality concerns at Western Forge and Flange's
Albany facility**

Dear Mr. Zaklan:

The purpose of this letter is to formally state Regional Board staff assessment of the pollution definition and cleanup activities at the subject site.

Brown and Caldwell's May 1985 Correction Documentation Report on the subject site as well as their May 23, 1985 submittal of a supplement to that report summarize cleanup activities at the site and include groundwater monitoring data. Past site operations have resulted in the heavy contamination of soils with metals and oil and grease.

Regional Board staff are satisfied with the soil cleanup activities involving the removal of highly polluted soil according to DOHS specifications. The removal of polluted soil results in the mitigation of a potential longterm source of pollution of surface and groundwater. Staff is also satisfied with the installation of more effective wastewater collection systems at the facility.

The shallow groundwater at the site does contain dissolved metals, including lead, above established drinking water action levels. Oil and grease have also been detected in the groundwater. However, the shallow groundwater in this area is slightly saline, is high in Total Dissolved Solids and is therefore of limited beneficial use. Furthermore, the aquifer is situated in low permeability clayey soils which limit the spread of the pollutants in question in the groundwater. Based on these considerations, Regional Board staff do not believe that a costly groundwater cleanup program is warranted for this site.

In conclusion, Regional Board staff believe that with cleanup of site soils according to DOHS specifications the pollution problem at the subject site will have been adequately mitigated. Based on the information regarding the pollution problem at the subject site available to Regional Board staff, it has been concluded that the site does not pose a significant threat to the beneficial uses of the waters of the State.

In regards to the monitoring wells presently on site, I see no reason to require that they remain accessible for future use and recommend that they be removed from service. Craig Mayfield, (415)443-9300, at the Alameda Flood Control District must be notified to ensure that the wells are properly sealed and abandoned according to Department of Water Resources standards.

Thank you for your cooperation with us in this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact Phillip Mellen of our staff at (415)464-1247.

Sincerely,



Roger B. James
Executive Officer

cc. Erwin Koehler, California Department of Health Services
Thomas Kasnick, California Department of Fish and Game
Mark Ransom, Southern Pacific Transportation Company
William Cosden, Alameda County District Attorney