



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Maziar Movassaghi
Acting Director
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Sent Via Email

December 10, 2009

Ms. Yvonne Meeks
Portfolio Manager – Site Remediation
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
4325 South Higuera Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

ACCEPTANCE OF FINAL GROUNDWATER RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT, TOPOCK
COMPRESSOR STATION, NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA (EPA ID NO. CAT080011729)

Dear Ms. Meeks,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has received the final risk assessment report (Report) titled: ***Human And Ecological Risk Assessment Of Groundwater Impacted By Activities At Solid Waste Management Unit (Swmu) 1/ Area Of Concern (Aoc) 1 And Swmu 2.*** Although the Report is dated November 2009, the final report was received on December 7, 2009. DTSC notes in the PG&E transmittal letter of the Report that there has not been any subsequent changes to the Report since the redline strikeout (RLSO) version submitted to the agencies on November 12, 2009.

As documented in our November 23, 2009 response to the review of the RLSO version of the Report, DTSC does not have any additional comments on the Report and will accept the Report as presented. Although DTSC accepts the information contained within the Report, this acceptance does not imply concurrence with all technical statements made within the Report. To clarify, DTSC agrees, in general, with the assumptions and calculations presented within the report, and that “hexavalent chromium is present at concentrations that could pose a potential hazard to future hypothetical groundwater user.” DTSC, however, has reservations with PG&E’s conclusion which limits the Chemicals of Concern to hexavalent chromium. DTSC concludes that although the non-cancer hazards associated with selenium, molybdenum and nitrate are much lower than those associated with hexavalent chromium, these constituents do have risks above a hazard index of one and they do contribute to a hazard quotient greater than one at localized areas within the hexavalent

Ms. Yvonne Meeks
December 10, 2009
Page 2 of 2

plume. Also, because PG&E acknowledged that there are limited data for these constituents, which can contribute to uncertainties, DTSC concludes that these constituents should be further monitored in the groundwater monitoring program and their associated impacts be considered during the soil and soil to groundwater risk evaluation as part of corrective action for the site.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact me at (714) 484-5439.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Yue', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Aaron Yue
Project Manager
Geological Services Branch

Enclosure

aky:120901A

cc: PG&E Topock Consultative Workgroup Members – Via e-mail
PG&E Topock Geo/Hydro Technical Workgroup Members – Via e-mail
Tribal Representatives in PG&E Contact List – Via e-mail