



Rebecca Chou, Ph.D., P.E.

4/14/2009

Chief of Groundwater Permitting Unit

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region (RWQCB)

320 West 4th Street, Suite 200

Los Angeles, CA 90013

(via e-mail and U.S. Mail)

cc. Susan Callery & Tom Seckington - DTSC, Paul J. Davis - City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation, Shelly Backlar Friends of the Los Angeles River, David Beckman NRDC, Christina Walsh Cleanuprocketdyne dot org, Phyllis Winger for Los Angeles City Council District 12 Councilmember Greig Smith, Barri Worth for Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Aron Miller for State Senator Fran Pavley.

Dear Ms. Chou,

On March 4, 2009 ACME received the RWQCB Report of Wastewater Discharge (ROWD) and supporting documents as specified in the RWQCB Order dated November 19th of 2008 regarding the effluent from the Chatsworth Train Tunnel No. 26 that drains into the currently Closed Los Angeles City Park known as Chatsworth Park South and from there in the Los Angeles River.

On page 6 of 8 in the Table 1 – Water Sample Results... There are Radionuclides mentioned above the detection limit and 3 samples noted as Counting Errors. Can you please explain this? Are these sampling errors blamed on the in-depth description of the Matrix interference that refers to sample characteristics that interfere with the test method execution such that reliable data cannot be generated? It also states the Common matrix interference is the presence of a non-target compound in high concentrations. Even though this compound may not be of interest to the client, the sample often requires dilution in order to prevent contamination of instrumentation. Would these findings spike before dilution?

As stated in our previous correspondence, ACME is concerned about Trichloroethylene (TCE) and other Aerospace toxins that could be drawn towards this area from the daily 4300 gallons pumped out of this tunnel for flood controlling purposes and do not want anything to fall through the cracks.



The evidence of Benzo[a]pyrene is alarming, recently found in the Northern Drainage Cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory in similar elevated levels. $C_{20}H_{12}$, Benzo[a]pyrene is a five-ring polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon that is mutagenic and highly carcinogenic. It is a crystalline yellow solid and Benzo[a]pyrene is a product of incomplete combustion at temperatures between 300 and 600 °C. Benzo[a]pyrene was determined in 1933 to be the component of coal tar responsible for the first recognized occupation-associated cancers. What is the source of this pollution?

Thank you in advance for all your work on these issues.

William Preston Bowling
Founder/Director

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