

BRISBANE BAYLANDS COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (BBCAG)

November 15, 2015

Brisbane Community Center, 250 Visitacion Avenue, Brisbane, CA 94005

PRESENT: MARY GUTEKANST, CLARA JOHNSON, IRIS GHALLAGER, DANA DILLWORTH, TERRY O'CONNELL, CAROLYN PARKER, **There was a quorum.**

GUESTS: THERE WERE 9 GUESTS INCLUDING CHIP GRIBBLE AND WAYNE HAGEN

SPEAKER: Jay Davis, Program Director and Senior Scientist: Topic: SFEI Aquatic Science Center; Work with Government Agencies www.sfei.org or jay@sfei.org

The agencies has 3 major programs: 1) Clean Water: focus on water quality monitoring; 2) Historical Ecology: Looking at ecology before modern times using old maps and diaries; 3) Goals for Wetland Restoration - need to restore and protect wetlands.

Monitoring program for SF Bay-Best monitored estuary in the world. There has been substantial funding for last 20 years – Beginning in 1993-3.5 million yearly of stable funding. Funding consists of 75 different groups including municipal, industrial projects, dredgers, provisions on permits. All the different groups see value in the monitoring because systematic monitoring generates a holistic picture of entire SF Bay

Status & Trends Monitoring – Water: every 2 years; Bird Eggs: every 3 years; Sediment: every 4 years, Then there are special studies and literature review.

Observations: Sediment moving studies. SF Bay is sediment starved. Fear is there is not enough sediment to feed wetland restoration.

Periodical: Pulse of the Bay available through website: Each periodical has a different topic focus. This year is the topic: What SF Bay will look like in 50 years.

Questions from BBCAG and guests to Jay Davis, SFEI

- 1) **Q-** Contaminants? **A-**Concerns are Mercury, PCB, Pathogens, Dioxins as well as Selenium, DDT, Legacy pesticides, Chipinole (flea control) PDEE - Flame retardants (which were banned 10 years ago, which are in rapid decline, more rapid than expected)
- 2) **Q-** PCB? **A-** PCB in fish is higher than safe; High PCB levels: is Oakland Eddy Street Station; Regions near Baylands; Carquines Straights disposal site; Any loading areas into the Bay; Stormwater- anywhere near older developments; Hunters Point which shows high levels in small fish samples. Note: Small fish near sources have higher level of PCB than in large fish in open Bay
- 3) **Q-**Do you get information from dredging? **A-** Done by a separate group,
- 4) **Q-** Mud Flats sampled? **A-**Not sampled because too shallow. Will be using shallow boat to start sampling at Candlestick Point.
- 5) **Q-**Concerned that there is insufficient testing of runoff at the Kinder Morgan Tank Farm. How to get some investigation? **A-**Could cost \$600-\$700 per sample. All other contaminant studies would be in same range.
- 6) **Q-**Garage Dump **A-** Not seen any reports
- 7) **Q-**Tire Dump Fire decades ago? Contamination issues? **A-**Would lend nasty carcinogenics for

generations

- 8) **Q**-Sources of PCB? **A**-Caulk, carbon-less carbon paper, PCB used along rail lines roadways for dust control.
- 9) **Q**-PSHS **A**- Boards treated with Creasoles
- 10) **Q**- Findings of concern from various studies **A**- Toxic crabs, Another is marine animal studies on sea otters in Monterrey Bay - Otters eat the Clams
- 11) **Q**- Nutrients sufficient in SF Bay? **A**- Low turbidity. Concerns about nutrients from algae blooms common along the Coast. Less up-welling - Blobs of warm water.
- 12) **Q**- What are the highest concerns for swimmers in SF Bay **A**- Bacteria contamination, SF Bay is generally good for swimming.
- 13) **Q**- How do you test for interactions of different chemical soups? **A**- Wild fish, checking livers and hormones.
- 14) **Q**- Higher temperatures will contribute to higher contamination? **A**- Possibly

SPEAKER: Alex Karpowitz - Regional Quality Water Board; Topics: 1) Report on Kinder Morgan Tank Farms, 2) Report on Contamination of the former VWR site next to the Brisbane Lagoon

Kinder Morgan: Status report. Non aqueous hase-removed the 2 times a month testing February, 2015.Gasoline surface water. Tenderline creek for surface water-testing contains very little contaminants.

Questions from BBCAG and guest to Alex Karpowitz, RWQB

1. **Q**- BBCAG There is constantly a 40 foot pond of water on asphalt at entrance of Tank Farm which appears to have a slick oil film on the asphalt. Is this water tested? **A**- Does not pose a problem and no interest in testing.
2. **Q**- BBCAG- Concerned that SFRQWD is not interested in testing. **A**- The water ponding is from another location on the Baylands, not from the Kinder Morgan trucks. The area around the gate is the cleanest area on the site.

Request from BBCAG – Groundwater. What about using an absorbent sock to test how much product is in the sock? The wells are not sampled.- Perhaps remove 50 gallons of water to test-let it rebound take a sample.

Report status on Tank Farm

- 2008- Highest Concentration of contaminants,
- 2015 – Greatest cleanup goals. Now not sampling wells with free faced hydro carbons. Middle of the site are 19 of the hottest site. Have 10 years of data that required sampling 2 times a year.
- The wells with product are checked every 2 months
- Stopped checkeding every 4 months - result was little product, so will reduce sampling some wells from quarterly to semi annual
- Kinder Morgan is also reducing geo-chemical collecting data from 15 product sampling to 8 product sampling.

VWR Site Report

Parcel A is larger and older than Parcel B which now contains an Asian grocery distribution center. Univar provided the bulk of chemicals to VWR and VWR shipped them off. 1976 Univar discontinued the tank farm storage on site to storage in a building. There is no inventory information of what was in the tanks.

Pictures of site: 1946- Nothing on site; 1956 Highway 101; 1969 Tank farm and building; 1982 Replaced building with current one 1976-1982 no information on what was on site and in building.

There are different levels of fill on site. Arsenic and lead are in shallow fill; Deeper level is high concentrations of lead; Deepest layer of fill is debris from the 1906 earthquake which contains nail, glass, ceramics.

The VCR buildings are 800,000 square foot. Sent a camera through some glass pipe lines which showed leaks and breaks.

Remediation and Cleanup. Univar and VWR will share responsibility for the cleanup. The new tenant is highly motivated to cleanup the site and everyone is volunteering to move quickly. Ambition to cleaning up Parcel A within 2 years.

The buildings are currently safe to work in.

1. **Q**-Why can't there be testing of the lagoon area at VWR site? **A**- Depending upon the types of contamination, then there may be a need to test the lagoon.
2. **Q** - Land around VWR? **A** - Presently the railroad will not give access for testing because of Kinder Morgan pipelines.

SCHLAGE OU Remediation Activities – Monthly Updates: Wayne Hagen, Chip Gribble reporting.

Site will be certified middle of 2016, Groundwater concentrations continue to heal. Chip Gribble gave examples of other DTSC sites that are currently finding new contaminants and needing remediation as well as others that are being monitored.

BBCAG Business: Mary Gutekanst will continue as Chair, Carolyn Parker will continue as secretary. Clara Johnson motioned, and Iris Gallagher seconded.