

# Memorandum

*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life*

To: Jennifer Buck, PE  
Project Management Office Chief  
District 1 Program/Project Management

Date: January 2, 2024

File: Alton Interchange  
1-HUM-101-PM 57.0/59.1  
01-29030 / 01 0000 0078

From: Paul Sundberg, PG  
Engineering Geologist – Hazardous Waste/Paleontology Coordinator  
North Region Environmental  
Office of Environmental Engineering - North

**SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE MEMORANDUM - RELINQUISHMENT  
REL #1245**

\* This assessment supercedes the previous assessment provided on December 13, 2022. \*

This memo presents an assessment of known or likely hazardous materials and waste related concerns pertaining to Relinquishment REL- #1245 located on Humboldt US Highway 101 at postmile 57.0 to 59.1 in the City of Fortuna.

## Site Description

REL- #1245 consists of a 136,044 square feet/0.4 square miles parcel(s) as identified on the attached drawing (Right of Way Relinquishment Map, Map No. 1245).

See Attachment #1 for Relinquishment REL #1245 map.

## Current Site Use

The site is presently a frontage road connecting Sandy Prairie Road (County Road #203) to State Route 36 (Segment 1) and cul-de-sac on Drake Hill Road (County Road #C3G165) (Segment 2).

## Use Prior to Acquisition by Caltrans

Caltrans files indicate that the relinquishment parcel was used as Truck Stop (Segment 1) and County Road (Segment 2) prior to acquisition by Caltrans.

## Utility Easements and Pipelines

A review of Caltrans records indicates that the following easements exist on the parcel(s).

1. Electrical power line with transformer and treated wood, owned by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E). Please review the Attachment #2 for location and orientation.

*“Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment”*

### Geotracker/Envirostore Data

The regulatory databases Geotracker and Envirostor maintained by the California State Water Resources Control Board and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) respectively, identified one (1) regulated property adjacent to the relinquishment area. This site has been issued a No Further Action notice, identified as:

- Hansen's Truck Stop, 2404 Sandy Prairie Road, Fortuna, CA 95540

There are *no* active investigation/mitigation sites adjacent to the relinquishment area.

There are *no* permitted underground storage tanks properties adjacent to the relinquishment area.

Attachment #3 provides a screenshot from Geotracker with the Envirostor layer turned on illustrating the relinquishment parcel and surrounding area.

### Aerially Deposited Lead

Tetraethyl lead was first added to gasoline, as an anti-knock additive, in the early 1920s. California ended the use of leaded fuel for any on-road motor vehicles in 1994, with the remainder of the United States banning use in 1996. Lead is still an additive to aviation fuels. Particulate lead was discharged in vehicle exhaust settling on and along California's highways. The lead discharged from motor vehicles that accumulated in roadside soil is referred to as aerially-deposited lead (ADL). Elevated concentrations of ADL are present in roadside soils throughout California.

Caltrans has sampled for ADL in the relinquishment area. A Preliminary Site Investigation for *Highway 101/36 Interchange Humboldt County (January 2001)* had been conducted prior to the construction of the interchange to investigate petroleum hydrocarbon and Title 22 metals impacts within the area of *Segment #1*. An additional Preliminary Site Investigation was conducted in May 2009 for drainage features incorporated in the Alton Interchange project. The reports can be found in Attachment #4 and #5, respectively. Soil with elevated ADL must be appropriately managed.

### Striping/Pavement Markings

Lead chromate was a constituent of striping paint and pavement marking materials but has been phased out by Caltrans. However, older striping and pavement marking materials having elevated concentration of lead may still be present. Caltrans has not tested these materials to determine if they contain lead chromate. These materials must be appropriately managed if they contain elevated lead chromate. Based on the age of the roadways within the relinquishment parcels it is unlikely that striping/pavement markings contain lead chromate.

#### California Geologic Survey Mineral Hazard Database Review

The California Geologic Survey has compiled maps identifying mineral hazards within California, including petroleum, lithologic units and structures containing naturally occurring asbestos, mercury, asbestos and other mineral hazards.

These maps indicate that the relinquishment area is not located within a geologic unit known to contain naturally-occurring asbestos or other hazardous minerals.

There are no faults mapped on the CGS maps within the relinquishment areas where naturally-occurring asbestos may be present on the slip faces.

There are no known gas wells, oil wells, or seeps identified on the CGS maps within or adjacent to the relinquishment area.

#### Chemically-Treated Wood

Wood products such as sign posts are commonly treated with chemical preservatives to protect the wood from insects, microorganisms, fungi, and other environmental conditions that can cause wood decay. Treated wood contains elevated concentrations of hazardous chemicals, once these wood products are removed from service they must be managed under the alternative management standards developed by DTSC.

Based upon visual survey of the relinquishment area by vehicle, guardrail and sign posts may be present within the area to be relinquished.

#### Spills and Accidental Releases

The Caltrans Maintenance program has no records of spills or accidental releases of hazardous materials within the area of relinquishment.

See Attachment #5 for Caltrans Maintenance Communication (Spill and Accidental Release) concurrence.

#### Visual Observations

Caltrans conducted a visual survey of the relinquishment area by vehicle and did identify properties with commercial/industrial uses adjacent to the relinquishment area. The following properties with commercial/industrial uses are located at:

- Goselin Transportation (Old Hansen's Truck Stop), 2404 Sandy Prairie Road, Fortuna, CA 95540
- Commercial/Industrial Property (Old Hansen's Truck Stop), 2500 Sandy Prairie Road, Fortuna, CA 95540

It is unknown whether the identified commercial/industrial properties adjacent to the relinquishment area may have released hazardous materials that could have entered the parcel being relinquished.

Electronic Waste

Caltrans has installed two flashing beacons and an associated controller cabinet which provide a local farmer an option for safe crossing on Sandy Prairie Road.

If there are any questions or comments regarding the information presented within this assessment, please contact the District Hazardous Waste Coordinator by sending an email to [Paul.R.Sundberg@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Paul.R.Sundberg@dot.ca.gov) or by calling (707) 572-8048.

Sincerely,



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Paul Sundberg, PG  
Hazardous Waste Coordinator  
Caltrans North Region Environmental, District 1  
Office of Environmental Engineering – North

Attachments:

- Attachment #1 - Relinquishment REL- #1245 Map
- Attachment #2 - Utility Location Map
- Attachment #3 - Geotracker/Envirostor Screenshot
- Attachment #4 – NCRWQCB No Further Action Letter for Hansen's Truck Stop
- Attachment #5 - Preliminary Site Investigation Report (2001)
- Attachment #6 - Preliminary Site Investigation Report (2009)
- Attachment #7 - Caltrans Maintenance Communication (Spills and Accidental Release)

cc: 1-PSundberg  
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PRS:cf