Meeting Minutes

CCLEAN Steering Committee
December 20, 2007
10:00 – 12:00 a.m.
Watsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant

Participants:
Barbara Pierson: City of Watsonville, (831) 768-3179
Dane Hardin: Applied Marine Sciences, (831) 426-6326
Akin Babatola: City of Santa Cruz, (831) 420-6045
Garrett Haertel: Monterey Region Water Pollution Control Agency,(831) 883-6176
Patrice Parsons: Monterey Region Water Pollution Control Agency,(831) 883-6120
Greg Antoz: Monterey Region Water Pollution Control Agency,(831) 883-1118
Chris Coburn: County of Santa Cruz, (831) 454-2763
Mike Higgins: Central Coast Water Board. (805) 542-4649
Karen Worcester: Central Coast Water Board. (805) 549-3333 (Speaker Phone)

Agenda Items:

1) **Review of last meeting minutes**: The minutes from the 10-30-07 meeting were approved. They will be posted on the website.

2) **Financial Update**: The City of Watsonville has collected $1,971549 from the member agencies over the past 6 1/2 years and has spent $2,500637

The breakdown is:

Applied Marine Science	$621079
Weston Solutions	$376,628
Kinnetic Laboratories (KLI)	$1,199914
Monterey County	$ 34,665
Santa Cruz County	$ 45,400
Monterey Bay Analytical	$ 20,815
City of Santa Cruz	$ 6,524
City of Watsonville	$ 12,635
Carmel Area Wastewater	$ 3,098
BC Laboratories	$ 6287
Brock Bernstein	$ 10,000
Administration Fee (7%)	$177,703

All CCLEAN agencies are up to date on their payment through the 2nd quarter of the fiscal year 07/08. Barbara is having some problem closing out the books for the first 6 years of CCLEAN. The issue is figuring out which invoices go to which fiscal year. Dane will meet with Barbara the first week of January to help her resolve this issue. By next meeting Barbara will have a financial break down of what has been spent by CCLEAN and the total paid by each agency in the first 6 years. We will then start fresh with fiscal year 07/08. There was a request that CCLEAN invoices that the City sends out to the other agencies be more descriptive (i.e., include the quarter for which

the billing is). Akin asked that the billing for the San Lorenzo River monitoring be included in the next quarter's invoice for the City of Santa Cruz.

3) **March's Regional Board Meeting:** The renewal of Carmel's and Monterey Regional's permits will be presented at the March 21st Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting, which will be held in Salinas. Matt Keeling wants to get the draft permits out this week to the agencies and give them a week to review them, before they go out for public comments. Dane will send Matt a list of the PBDE congeners and PFC compounds that will be added to the effluent monitoring. The idea is to consolidate the CCLEAN effluent sampling with the compliance sampling, that each of the dischargers are doing on a semi annual basis. A day prior to the meeting, Dane had sent everyone a Report "Draft 2008-2013 CCLEAN Program Plan". In it was a table comparing the results of the two sampling methods: 1) the solid phase extraction (SPE) method that CCLEAN has been using for effluent, river, and offshore sampling for POPs and 2) the semi-permeable membrane device (SPMD) method that Akin has been using for the effluent of the Santa Cruz plant. Side by side sampling was done at the Santa Cruz Plant in February and March 2007, over a 30-day period. The results appeared quite different but Akin explained that the results he had given Dane were the concentrations of POPs in the 2 ml extract from the SPMD, not the calculated results of the effluent. The results have to be converted through "the Water Calculator" to get comparable results. Akin agreed to send everyone the "Water Calculator v5.0 xls" via E-mail. There was also a concern raised that no chlorinated pesticides were detected with the SPMD method compared to a total of 0.671 ng/L with the SPE method. Akin said that these pesticides were not detected because of the extraction method the lab used. He would have to instruct the lab to use different extraction methods to detect all the compounds of concern. We decided that we needed to do another side-by-side comparison study of the two methods. In the meantime the dischargers would continue doing their effluent monitoring as they have in the past.

Other concerns that were brought up were: 1) that the SPE method could not be used for all of the table B constituents, 2) that the SPMD method did not include the particulate matter in the effluent. (Akin argued that it did, because the particulate matter attached to the outside of the semi-permeable membrane and the whole membrane, inside and out, is extracted in the lab.) 3) The SPE method is flow proportioned (more samples collected when there is more flow) and the SPMD is not. Dane agreed to put together a table comparing the 2 sampling techniques. Mike said he would send Dane a list of features that they would like to see compared in the 2 methods.

We also discussed endocrine disrupting compounds other than PCBs and PBDEs, specifically "estrogen mimicking" compounds. It was suggested that instead of measuring the concentration of these compounds in the effluent, that we do a flow through bioassay screening of the effluent using feminization of the test organism as an end point. Akin had sent the steering committee members a draft study plan, "Comparative Evaluation of Fathead Minnow Assay for Detecting Endocrine

Disrupting Chemicals" as an example of a technique that is being evaluated by the EPA for this kind of screening. We discussed the possibility of having a trailer equipped with a flow through bioassay set-up that could be rotated among the four POTWs. Dane will bring budgetary numbers for this kind of equipment to the next meeting for consideration of the Steering Committee.
Patrice mentioned that she had heard of a bioassay technique for endocrine disruption developed at the University of Wisconsin that uses yeast as the test organism. She will send Dane and Akin a reference to this method. MRWPCA has been doing SPMD & POCIS sampling for this last year. They have been sampling for pharmaceuticals and person care products. They are willing to share their results with CCLEAN. Mike is also interested in these data.

4) **Budget, MOA, for Fiscal Year 07-08** We decided that the existing MOA can suffice for now, but we need to redress this issue at a later date

5) **Report from Meetings.**

A) **Meeting of the California Aquatic Bioassessment Workgroup:** Both Barbara and Karen attended this 14th annual meeting. This was a 2-day meeting held at UC Davis, November 29 and 30, 2007. There is a nation wide effort to characterize the surface waters in the United States. In California the data are being collected in SWAMP and include bioassessment as well as water chemistry and physical characterization of the waterways. Nation wide there is a randomized program called E-map. There were representatives from different western states who reported on the benefits and shortcoming of the program. In Nevada, of the 300 E-map sites, there was water in only 30 locations. There is a push to include bioassassment in monitoring programs for hydroelectric dams.

B) There was an ASBS stakeholders meeting on December 19, 2007, in Monterey. They are working on developing a program that compares the water quality of ASBS sites to reference sites (areas with little human influence). If the results from the ASBS are not with in the 95% envelope of the reference sites then additional monitoring probably will be triggered. The grant money for this program goes away in March and no monitoring has began in this area. They have decided to add PBDEs to the bioaccumulation monitoring constituents.
Dane has been talking to representatives of the Aquarium, Pebble Beach Co, City of Monterey and the City of Pacific Grove. There is still some interest in them joining CCLEAN. It has been suggested that the ASBS storm water agencies have a separate steering committee, but still be part of CCLEAN. There was sentiment expressed at our meeting that a single steering committee would be better, but it is still open for discussion.

6) **Project Update:**

A) **River Sampling**: This will just be the Pajaro and San Lorenzo Rivers. The cost will be covered by Watsonville and Santa Cruz respectively. They will be sampled during the same time period as the Effluent sampling.
B) **Effluent Sampling**: The wet weather sampling will occur in February and March of 2008
D) **Sediment Sampling:** will not be done this year. Data analysis of the historical results over the last 6 years will be done instead.
E) **Mussel Sampling:** Mussel sampling will be done during the wet season.
F) **Offshore Ambient Monitoring:** The wet weather sampling will be done in February and March of 2008.
G) **Proposition 50 Grant:** We just completed the Quarterly sampling at the Treatment Plants. The storm water samples are collected on a monthly basis. Dane will provide data from this program when they are available.

7) **NORMAN: Network of reference laboratories, research centers and related organizations for monitoring of emerging environmental substances:** Akin would like CCLEAN to consider joining NORMAN. He sent us an e-mail describing this organization prior to the meeting. The website is www.norman-network.net

8) **CCLEAN expanding Region wide:** We discussed the possibility of expanding CCLEAN to other dischargers in the Water Board region (south to Ventura County). Mike commented that the politics in Morro Bay are much more conducive to this idea than they were when CCLEAN started 7 years ago. They are no longer on a waiver monitoring program and have plans to go to tertiary treatment in the near future.

9) **Set Date for the next Meeting:** The next meeting was set for Friday, January 18, 2008 at the WWTP in Watsonville. The time will be 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.