

Monitoring Wells - Article 5

Groundwater Remediation Project

Carmichael Water District and Aerojet signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a groundwater remediation project in July 2005. The goal of the MOU is the capture, remediate and prevent migration of Aerojet's contaminant plumes of groundwater from reaching CWD's groundwater supply, without any financial impacts to CWD's customers.

N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) was detected in an Aerojet monitor well located near Grant Avenue and Hollister in February of 2004. NDMA is a byproduct of combustion from liquid rocket fuel and is believed to be a possible carcinogen. Since that time Aerojet has installed seven monitor wells within the CWD service area to identify the extent of the contaminant plume. Of the seven monitor wells, four are free of contaminants and three wells located at Amy Avenue, Ancil Hoffman Park and Grant Avenue have detections of NDMA ranging from 2 ppt to 93 ppt. Since 1999 CWD has been testing all District supplies for NDMA and to date no NDMA has been detected in any of CWD's drinking water supplies.

The groundwater remediation project will consist of installing groundwater extraction wells, pipelines and a treatment plant to remove NDMA. Once the water supply has been treated for NDMA it will be discharged into the American River or it could be used as an irrigation supply for the Ancil Hoffman Golf Course or for other environmental restoration projects.

The schedule for the project is:

- Pre-design completed by December 2005
- Environmental Document completed by March 2006
- Final Design May 2006
- Construction beginning July 2006
- Plant Startup January 2007.

Why is CWD working with Aerojet on this project and what is the benefit to CWD? In the past, remediation projects in other parts of the county have been slowed down or even stopped for various reasons such as litigation, obtaining permits and environmental concerns. Working together will ensure that the project moves forward on schedule and is the first step in protecting the groundwater basin from further contamination. Protection of the valuable groundwater resource is vital to our community. In addition CWD's MOU ensures that Aerojet pays the bill for the groundwater cleanup not CWD's customers.