

## Emerging Constituents Program Task Force

January 24, 2022

### ATTENDEES:

City of Beaumont, Thaxton Van Belle\*  
City of Corona DWP, Jennifer McMullin\*  
City of Corona DWP, Korina R.\*  
City of Rialto, Thomas Crowley\*  
City of Riverside, Bobby Gustafson\*  
City of Riverside, Greg Herzog\*  
City of Riverside, Nicole Greenwood\*  
EVMWD, Lenai Hunter\*  
EVMWD, Mike Ali\*  
EVMWD, Sudhir Mohleji\*  
EMWD, Al Javier\*  
EMWD, Doug Edwards\*  
Eurofins, Rick Zimmer\*  
IEUA, Bonita Fan\*  
IEUA, Richard Lao\*  
Irvine Ranch Water District, Jim Colston\*  
Kahn, Soares, & Conway, LLP, Theresa (Tess) Dunham\*  
OCWD, Crystal Nettles\*  
OCWD, Jason Dadakis\*

OCWD, Lily Sanchez\*  
OCWD, Patrick Versluis\*  
RWQCB, Cindy Li\*  
RWQCB, Mona Behrooz\*  
SAWPA, Bruce Whitaker\*  
SAWPA, T. Milford Harrison\*  
SAWPA, Jeffrey Mosher\*  
SAWPA, Mark Norton\*  
SAWPA, Rick Whetsel\*  
SAWPA, Haley Mullay\*  
SCCWRP, Alvina Mehinto\*  
SBMWD/RIX, Jennifer Shepardson\*  
SBMWD/RIX, Marissa Flores-Acosta\*  
SBVMWD, Matt Howard\*  
WMWD, Anthony Budicin\*  
WMWD, Michelle Adams\*  
Yorba Linda Water District, Rosanne Weston\*  
Yucaipa Valley Water District, Ashley Gibson\*

\*Participation via conference call

### Introductions

The Emerging Constituents (EC) Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m. in a virtual Zoom Meeting, in response to, and in compliance with, COVID-19 regulations. Brief introductions were made.

### Approval of November 21, 2021 Meeting Notes

Meeting notes were approved with minor edits from Cindy Li, of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### PFAS Regional Analysis Phase I RFP Development – SAWPA

Mark Norton, of SAWPA, introduced Jeffrey Mosher, General Manager of SAWPA, to give a verbal presentation of upcoming analysis work that SAWPA intends to take on. The proposal would be a regional study regarding PFAS, and evaluating surface water, storm water and explore the possibility of using existing models to help predict how PFAS will impact water quality. Currently, it's anticipated that there will be a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) and scope of work in February for review and approval of being published. The draft RFP and scope of work has been developed in collaboration with many agencies in the area, including Orange County Sanitation District. Mike Ali, of EVMWD, made a comment that their agency has been completing some PFAS monitoring and sampling in their area and throughout the watershed. EVMWD is also working on a PFAS pilot study on the treatment of PFAS in water quality.

### SAWPA Compilation Watershed POTWs EC and PFAS Monitoring Data Report– SAWPA

Mark Norton, of SAWPA, gave an overview of the PFAS compounds data compilation for the Santa Ana Region. There would be a lower level of analysis and not as comprehensive as past combined ECs and PFAS reports. This report is planned to reflect the 2021 State required PFAS monitoring by POTWs necessary to comply with the State Order 13267.

## **SWRCB CEC Aquatic Ecosystems Panel and SAR Watershed CEC/Bioassay Study Status Report Report-SCCWRP**

Alvina Mehinto, of SCCWRP, gave an overview of the progress on the CEC (constituents of emerging concern) Panel and their study report. The panel will be meeting in-person again next month to review all the data collected within the state over the past 5 years. There is a meeting set for the beginning of September and it is their goal to have a draft report ready before that meeting as well as potential monitoring recommendations. The deadline for the public release and meeting in Spring 2022 (May) is the current anticipated period for the draft report to be released for public comment. SCCWRP's website has resources and information for those who would like to reach out with comments and questions for them.

The SCCWRP made a presentation to the Task Force last spring/summer on a CEC/Bioassay study in the Santa Ana River Watershed targeting specific chemistry levels. The data results are in the beginning stages of analysis, but Alvina mentioned that there is not much activity detected for the various compounds in the bioassays. There were 15 sites selected based off the data and monitoring will focus on those sites during the wet season. The rain level trigger (6 inches of rain) for sampling was met in December 2021 and the group will begin working to sample and collect data from the planned sites in the coming weeks.

### **Overview of Regional Board PFAS Source Investigations – Regional Board**

Mark Norton, of SAWPA, introduced Cindy Li, of Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), to provide the updates on the PFAS Source Investigations.

#### **a. Temescal Creek/Corona Area**

Cindy Li, of RWQCB, provided the update that since the last meeting, the RWQCB has approved the workplan from 3M. The El Sobrante landfill conducted their sampling and uploaded it to Geotracker. The Dewatering Permit with Monitoring Reporting Program (MRP) for All American Asphalt has been approved, which concludes the PFAS investigation for them.

#### **b. Next steps for airports, landfills, chrome platers investigations in watershed**

Mona Behrooz, of the Site Cleanup Program at the Santa Ana Region RWQCB, provided an update on the status for the airports, landfills, chrome plater investigations. Source investigations began at military sites, airports and landfills began back in 2015/2016. Two commercial airport sites had investigations conducted in 2019. For both airports, they will be active investigations and remediation sites under a case manager at the RWQCB. In October 2019, investigations were ordered for chrome platers (44 in our region). A few chrome plater workplans have been submitted, but lack of RWQCB staffing caused delays in progress. With new added staff at the RWQCB, there should be more progress in the chromium plating investigations. Landfills have had orders issued for investigations, four facilities completed sampling and data were uploaded to Geotracker. Previous independent investigations conducted by Orange County Water District in 2018 and 2019, have been helpful for the RWQCB to get an idea of any other potential sources in the Santa Ana Region. Other data submitted by wastewater treatment plants and bulk terminals/refineries will be evaluated to map future sources and investigation areas.

### **Regulatory Report and Updates – KSC**

Tess Dunham, of KSC, provided updates on PFAS and microplastics regulations.

#### **a. PFAS Update**

Tess Dunham, of KSC, provided an update on the PFAS regulations by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). They are currently reviewing the comments received on the draft Public Health Goals and will provide responses when done evaluating.

**b. Proposition 65 Developments**

At the December 6, 2021 meeting of the Carcinogenic Committee of OEHHA, PFAS was adopted as being subject to Proposition 65. PFOA, PFOS, and PFNA compounds were also added to the Proposition 65 and PFDA was not added to Proposition 65.

**c. Any New Statewide Investigation Orders**

There were no recent investigative orders.

**d. Microplastics**

Tess Dunham reviewed updates on microplastics. The California Ocean Protection Council drafted a microplastics strategy that's been published for public review, with comments due this past Friday, January 21, 2022. Once comments are reviewed, and updates made to the draft strategy, it is anticipated it will be presented for consideration in late February. In the strategy, there recommendations for pathway interventions (stormwater, wastewater, and aerial transport) and recommended actions for various agencies. There was also an expression of expanding monitoring requirements for microplastics at wastewater treatment plants with planning and implementation anticipated in 2023 and 2024.

**Schedule Future Meeting**

The next Emerging Constituents Program Task Force is scheduled for Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.