

**SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2009**

Location: Seascape Golf Club, Monarch Room, 610 Clubhouse Drive, Aptos

1. ROLL CALL

President LaHue called the special meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

3. FORUM ON 1,2,3- TRICHLOROPROPANE (TCP) DETECTION IN THE COUNTRY CLUB WELL

A. Introductions of District Representatives and Expert Panelists

President LaHue introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the special meeting of the Soquel Creek Water District Board to receive information about the levels of 1, 2, 3-Trichloropropane (TCP) detected at the District's Country Club Well. The District is very conscientious about complying with all water quality testing requirements and informing the public of any potential health concerns about the water produced even when a detected contaminant is within existing acceptable levels according to State and Federal drinking water regulations. A notification was sent to all properties that receive water from the Country Club Well when trace amounts of TCP were detected at that well site. The State and Federal officials serving on the panel are responsible for assessing the risk of contaminants in drinking water and enforcing the regulations for acceptable levels of contaminants in the public drinking water. They are here this evening to provide information about any potential health effects from the detected levels of TCP that were found and to respond to questions/concerns from the public.

The following board and staff members and panel of experts were introduced:

Bruce Daniels, Vice President

Directors: Dr. Bruce Jaffe, Dr. Don Hoernschemeyer and Dan Kriege

Staff members:

Laura Brown, General Manager

Taj Dufour, Operations and Maintenance Manager

Christine Mead, Water Quality Technician

Denise Alexander, Board Secretary

Experts:

Dr. Robert Howd, Public Health Goal Manager, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) of the California Environmental Protection Agency

Dr. Bruce Macler, National Microbial Risk Assessment Expert for the Water Division of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9

Gary Hoffmann, P.E., Acting District Engineer for the Monterey Bay Region of the California Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section

B. Staff Presentations

Operations and Maintenance Manager Taj Dufour provided a brief overview of the District's water system and how it works. It was explained that approximately 5,000 customers receive water from the five wells in Subarea 3, including the Country Club Well. Because several wells contribute water to this subarea, the water is mixed or blended within the distribution system and tanks. Country Club Well contributes 10% - 20% of the daily production for Subarea 3. Because Country Club Well is not the exclusive or primary water source for Subarea 3, the concentrations of TCP in the distribution system are reduced to levels that are below the detection ability of current technology.

C. Expert Panel's Response to Questions from the District

The panel responded to questions from the Board.

Dr. Howd stated that, to his knowledge, TCP has never caused toxicity in humans, but is carcinogenic. Dr. Howd and Dr. Macler concurred that they would not be concerned about the amount of TCP that District customers are potentially exposed to from this source. Dr. Howd stated that past use of agricultural fumigants is the most likely source of the TCP.

Mr. Hoffmann stated that no other water agencies within the jurisdiction of District 5 with detected levels of TCP have installed treatment facilities for this contaminant because there is no standard, and it would be cost prohibitive to try to remove such trace amounts.

Additional information from the California Department of Public Health regarding TCP in drinking water can be found at www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/123TCP.aspx and the

toxicology report on this contaminant can be found at <http://oehha.ca.gov/water/phg/pdf/TCPphg091407.pdf>

D. Questions and Comments from the Public

27 members of the public were present.

The expert panel responded to 11 questions from the public.

In response to questions regarding home treatment, the panelists stated that granular activated carbon filtration would probably be effective at removing TCP. Dr. Hoffman recommended consulting the CDPH website on filter certification at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/device/Pages/watertreatmentdevices.asp> The experts reiterated that risks from consuming or bathing in the levels detected were, in their opinions, not something to worry about even for customers with health issues.

The bacteriological water sampling process performed by the District's Water Quality Technician Christine Mead was explained.

A Consumer Confidence/Water Quality Report is prepared by the District annually and sent to all customers. This report presents all positive results of water quality testing from all of the District's supply wells. All test samples are collected and reported in accordance with standards and requirements established by the USEPA and CDPH. A copy of the report can be found on the District's website at www.soquelcreekwater.org

E. Discussion by the Board of Directors and Possible Direction to Staff Re: Follow-up Action

The Board briefly discussed the panelists' remarks and asked staff to clarify the testing schedule. Director Daniels stated that he would be interested in testing again before waiting a year in order to see if there are any changes in the detected levels of TCP.

MOTION: Director Daniels; Second: Director Jaffe: To test Country Club Well for TCP again six months from the initial detection date with a split sample. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
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4. **ADJOURNMENT** – President LaHue adjourned the special meeting at 8:30 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on January 20, 2009.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Denise Alexander, Board Clerk

Dr. Thomas LaHue, President