



Project Name: Regional Groundwater Study

Clients: Group of Oil Companies, Developers and City Agencies

Agency: Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region

Location: Santa Fe Springs, California

Chemical of Concern: Volatile and Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds

Project Goal

The goal of this project was to conduct a groundwater investigation of an oil field owned by multiple parties to determine whether the groundwater beneath the site was contaminated by oil field operations. The assessment was also conducted to evaluate the potential remediation costs associated with future commercial development of the property.

Waterstone's Role

Prior to the initiation of the field activities, Waterstone reviewed aerial photographs to identify past oil field operation areas. Waterstone then designed the groundwater characterization plan for the 260-acre property and collected soil samples from the saturated zone for physical testing and conducted aquifer pump tests to determine hydraulic parameters used to construct a fate and transport model for the study area. Waterstone prepared a comprehensive report that included an evaluation of the water quality and the relationship of oil field operations to groundwater conditions.

Project Challenges and Successes

The main challenges of this project were coordinating with the city redevelopment agency, developers, and oil companies to design a groundwater characterization plan that met the needs of all parties involved; accomplishing the logistics of installing groundwater monitoring wells over a large area. Upon the completion of the project, Waterstone was able to provide information to Regional Water Quality Control Board to exonerate the oil field property from groundwater contamination therefore streamlining the future development of the property.