
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

August 13, 2024 (FY)
GeoTracker: [L10006224883](#)

City of Berkeley
Department of Public Works, Engineering Division
Attn: Mary Skramstad
1947 Center St., 4th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
Sent via email only: mskramstad@berkeleyca.gov

Subject: Concurrence with Revised Investigation Work Plan at Berkeley Landfill, Alameda County

Dear Mary Skramstad:

Regional Water Board staff has reviewed the City of Berkeley's August 6, 2024, *Revised Work Plan for TENORM and OCP Health and Safety Survey (Plan)* submitted in response to Regional Water Board's 13267 Order, which required a work plan to conduct a one-time, representative sampling of soil and groundwater at the former Berkeley Landfill (now Cesar Chavez Park).

The Plan consists of the following items:

1. A pilot study using a drone to establish background radiation levels (already performed), followed by a full-site gamma radiation survey also using a drone. The City has partnered with the University of California at Berkeley's Nuclear Engineering Department to perform the gamma drone survey (GDS). The purpose of the GDS is to determine if above-background levels of radiation can be detected on or near ground surface at Cesar Chavez Park. The results of the GDS will help assess potential radiological risks to workers or the public from radioactive material that may have been historically disposed in the landfill and to estimate the lateral extent of any surface radioactivity. After evaluating the resulting data, additional focused gamma surveying may be conducted to validate the initial findings.
2. A Liquids Sampling and Analysis during the next semi-annual monitoring event to sample all Site groundwater and leachate monitoring wells for additional non-routine compounds. The compounds to be analyzed are Thorium-228, 230, and 232, Uranium-234, 235, and 238, Radium-226 and 228, Lead-210, and organochlorine pesticides.

Regional Water Board staff concurs with the revised Plan. Please contact Fangli Yin with any questions at (510) 622-2406 or fangli.yin@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Eileen M. White, P.E.
Executive Officer