

FERN Task Force Detailed Notes

REGULAR TASK FORCE MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month, 1:30-4pm, Fresno
Location: Chicano Youth Center, 1515 Divisadero St. Fresno, CA 93721

ONGOING REPORTS

Dilapidated Septic Tanks in Lanare

2013:

- Problem: Dilapidated septic systems in Lanare threaten public health and groundwater quality. Community wants agencies to look at wastewater disposal alternatives.
- Veronica Garibay of California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) reported at the Nov. 19 FERN meeting that agencies are addressing this issue, which affects most of Lanare (about 150 homes). Studying different possibilities; one of most likely is consolidating with Riverdale.
- No updates at Feb. 25 or March 18 meetings.
- Amparo Cid of CRLAF was not present at the April Meeting.
- On May 20th, Charles Swanson says there may be funding to help with this—EPA/HUD rural development.
- This may become a public health issue.
- On June 17, Cesar reports that he will give a presentation to Lanare residents in the next week after the presentation, he is going to go identify some problems in the Lanare area that may be hazardous. It is important to bring them on board to the FERN effort so that these residents can be our eyes and ears in Lanare. Cesar will try to find out more about these septic tanks.
- On July 15, Betsy Lichti tells us that the county is responsible, at least to a certain extent, about overseeing septic tanks.
- Hector tells us that if the tanks are currently servicing seware, and the sewage is surfacing because of worn out tanks, then the department of public health would go out and require the property owners to maintain them.
- Addresses should be reported via the telephone number: 600-3357.
- On July 16, Chuck Swanson thinks that there may be some programs that help via the Rural Community Assistance Corporation.
- On August 19th, Cesar reports that Chuck Swanson of EPA had a meeting with a person from Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) but hasn't heard from him yet.
- On September 16, Cesar reports that he is meeting with Veronica Garibay after this meeting
- Chuck Swanson of Cal-EPA reports that he is following up with RCAC who may potentially have money to maintain and do updates, Chuck followed up with him last week.
- Fresno County Department of Public Health has jurisdiction on this item and when given locations could go out and look at the problem.

- On October 21, the group reads from Chuck who last communicated with Rural Community Legal Assistance Foundation, and has not been getting much responses about how they can help.
- Cesar spoke to Veronica Garibay of Leadership Counsel, looking for actual addresses where septic tanks are overflowing.
- Hector Sandoval recommends checking with county public works & planning—they have a program called HARP (Housing & Rehab Program) and may have other programs that can assist landlord depending on landlord income and status of housing.
- On November 18, Chuck updates that he got in contact with RCAC about this problem. They wanted more information about what kinds of services we were looking for.
- Cesar and Chuck speak about the importance of giving them an important assessment of the situation in Lanare and give them concrete examples and details in order for them to tell us their capacity to help.
- Chuck understands that they are definitely not the only player in solving this problem of Lanare but would like to foster a working relationship with RCAC and FERN.
- On December 16, Chuck Swanson updates that he has not heard back from RCAC since his email late in November.
- Cesar updates that he met with Veronica Garibay about the septic tank issue. Cesar will be speaking to some community residents next week about putting together a list of addresses that need maintenance to their septic tanks.
- Cesar also updates that he has a lead to work with RCAC through Community water center and LCJA.

2014:

- On January 14, Cesar updates that he has asked residents to provide addresses on the occurrences of overflowing septic tanks. He thinks that residents may be apprehensive about reporting on their neighbors, but is hopeful that he will at least get some addresses.
- Cesar also reports that residents are really worried about Marijuana growths in Lanare.
- Cesar has also asked the residents to provide addresses for this problem, but once again people seemed apprehensive. One of the residents asked him if it was possible to have the sheriff's department do a sweep.
- Hector of DPH has heard in previous instances residents who have complained of the smell—the smell during harvest can be a problem.
- David Ceballos updates that the county has a new law that is going to discontinue any legal growth regardless of the amount. This is supposed to start in February.
- David Ceballos updates that currently they can grow it in a greenhouse 10x10, but when they are trying to add electrical and plumbing they need permits. City and County.
- Hector talks about septic tank issues, he mentions that as long as a resident has an implied warrant of habitability, the Dept. of consumer affairs has a book on tenant/landlord issues. More information can be found on www.dca.ca.gov
- On top of being a water quality issue, surfacing sewage is a public health issue that also includes protection of crops and other food sources, etc.
- At the county level, there are some residences that are Existing Non-Conforming (built before construction permits required), but they still have to meet minimum state habitable standard.

- David Ceballos mentions that they use that code to enforce also. Sometimes the minimum standards is not ideal, and sometimes landlords will do a little more, but minimum standard is all that they can enforce.
- Hector thinks that the best thing for Lanare is to have their own sewage system. Lanare having their own sewage system is a long term project but it is something that FERN may be able to help with in the future.
- On February 11, still working to get addresses from residents in Lanare.
- On March 11, Cesar updates that he has been unable to gather any addresses by residents in Lanare. The residents have been apprehensive about releasing those addresses.
- On March 11, Cesar updates that he has not received an update from Chuck about RCAC.
- On April 8, there is no update on this item.
- On May 13, no update on this item.
- On June 10, Cesar updates that he spoke to Isabel in Lanare and basically had the same conversation. Residents are reluctant to ask for help or release any addresses to Fresno County Environmental Health because any ticket or cost would be extra strain for the community.
- We should look for alternatives that don't involve extra costs to the owners.
- On July 8, Cesar updates that he has not been able to get addresses in Lanare.
- Cesar updates that he got a call from a resident in Dinuba that had similar problems with septic tanks, Cesar called Tulare County Environmental Health and found that they follow a similar procedure as FCEH. Ultimately the landowner is responsible for taking care of it. Cesar will call the resident although, from his communication it sounded like the person might be the landowner of the system that has problems, and may have been looking for help that wouldn't cost him much.
- On August 12, Chuck updates that Lanare was one of the sites that U.S. EPA visited along with CCEJN during Matt Tejada's visit. The item of septic tanks is one that we discussed with residents of Lanare.
- Janet Gardner mentions that often the problem with overflowing septic tanks requires community education. Generally septic tanks are just not pumped often enough. Generally, a typical family will need to pump their septic tank once every 5 years. Residents should know that to prevent overflowing, they can fix leaky faucets or toilets to avoid extra fluid in the tank.
- Environmental Health has a list of certified companies that can pump a tank, and they generally charge \$300 - \$350 to pump a tank.
- FCEH doesn't have the resources to pump individual tanks, but can possibly look for resources through grants to help out with this.
- Janet of EH can go out to make a presentation to a group of residents in Lanare if we schedule it. Cesar can provide translation services for that type of meeting.
- Sandra of Assembly member Perea's office can also look for grants and other funding sources to help with this problem in Lanare.
- On September 9, Cesar updates that he received some information from Janet Gardner of Environmental Health about this and that he is still reviewing it. The information contains pamphlets about how to take care of septic tank systems. They also have information about how often these tanks should be pumped.

- Hector Sandoval of FCEH updates that this is a problem that has continued to happen in Lanare and that in many cases leaky faucets or toilets add to the overflowing of septic tanks.
- Community education is needed in these areas so that communities know about proper upkeep of their septic tanks.
- Community information is needed but also there is the need for resources that will help residents be able to afford septic tank pumping services.
- Rey Leon of SJV Leap makes a comment that often times community benefit fundraisers are important in unincorporated communities and could be a way to approach this.
- Cesar mentions that although community benefit fundraisers are important and can serve to build community cohesion, there is also a responsibility from elected bodies and governments to be able to provide funds for basic public health services.
- The taskforce will continue to look for opportunities of investment and opportunities for community education.
- No updates for Oct. (Cesar to follow up with Sandra and Janet)
- On November 12, 2014 Cesar updates that after the meeting last month, members of Community Water Center informed him that they had done some groundwork to get the IRWMP to put this as one of the projects that they could fund. This is the Kings IRWMP.
- The community project was ready to be added to the project list, however the application did not go through. Cesar mentions that Sue Ruiz, may have more information about this, since he thinks that Self Help can help with the application process.
- Another option would be to write a formal letter to RCAC requesting technical assistance with the application.
- On December 9, Sue Ruiz updates that the outgoing supervisor did not appoint a Lanare resident that was willing to serve on the CSD. The board is not able to conduct business or pursue a waste water system planning grant without the board's approval.
- On December 9, Janaki Jagannath of CRLA updates that usually there isn't any prerequisites to getting appointed to these boards. She also mentions that there are other ways in which the Lanare residents can inform the board of the need and get involved to inform the board about other options.

2015:

- On January 13, 2015, Cesar updates that he spoke to Sue about the problem with the septic tanks. We talked about some options that may work in Lanare and came to the conclusion that having a system that pays for residents to get the septic tanks pumped may not be the most cost effective way of helping Lanare, and will also only help in the short-term. A suggestion to find ways to pay for a good comprehensive engineering study would be much more helpful. Having a study will help the community understand the costs of consolidation, or the costs and management type for a sewer system. The primary thing is a study. The thing with these studies is that they usually cost a lot of money and it can be up into the million-dollar mark.
- Further working with the county representative to appoint a third resident to the Lanare CSD will be able to help with the process because at least that will make it a functional board.
- On February 10, Veronica Garibay of LCJA updates that they are continuing this work to find an opportunity to do a study in Lanare.

- Veronica updates that Supervisor Mendes will make an appointment to the Lanare CSD. This will make the CSD have quorum and make it a functional board.
- Janet Gardner asks if the community did express interest in doing some septic education workshops.
- Cesar updates that as far as he knows, the residents are pretty busy with the water distribution.
- On March 10 2015, Cesar updates that the presentation with environmental health has not happened yet.
- On April 14, no update.
- On June 9, no update.
- On July 14, George of LAFCO updates that they are going to be updating Lanare's municipal service review in the near future and this document could be important for Lanare, as it can discuss some feasibility studies for Lanare septic tanks and water.
- George also updates that earlier this month Buddy Mendes, the supervisor for this area held a community meeting in Lanare, where residents were able to talk to him about some of their concerns. The supervisor mentioned that there were two applications for candidates that could be appointed to the board. This would make the CSD a functional board.
- On August 11, George UC of LafCo updates that they held a meeting with Supervisor Mendes at the location recently. They talked about a lot of community concerns and the residents were able to speak with the supervisor about the issues that they feel are important. In relation to the CSD board. In relation to the CSD board the staff expects Supervisor Mendes to appoint a new person to the CSD board during the next LafCo meeting.
- Leticia of Leadership Counsel updates that they were also present at this community meeting and felt that there should have been a larger focus on the community and the things that the community is in fact doing in that place, including that the residents have kept up the community center and so on.
- On September 8, no update. We are still looking to do community education.
- On October 19, George Uc of LAFCO updates that just last week on Tuesday 10/6 the Lanare CSD Board held a meeting. 3 of the board members were there and they do have a quorum. The next scheduled board meeting is November 10th.
- Leticia Corona of LCJA mentions that LCJA did have presence there and they are continuing to work with the community to look to fill other seats on the Lanare CSD (2 seats have not been appointed).
- The Lanare CSD board has contracted with Self-Help enterprises to receive technical support and proper training for the new board members.
- Both LCJA and Lafco will be present in the next board meeting.
- On November 8, George Uc of LafCo mentions that LafCo will present to the board later that day – about the Municipal Service Review that is scheduled for the community of Lanare in 2016. The presentation will be about general information about the review.
- Self-help enterprises will be providing training to the board, now that they have quorum. This is the largest board that Lanare has had in years.
- On December 8, George Uc of LafCo updates that the last Board meeting for the Lanare CSD was very productive. The board is making progress in understanding their responsibilities and are staying on track to maintain quorum and a full board in the

community. This is important because it will allow the community to apply for grants and other type of services. For example, Self-Help recently received funds to administer a feasibility study on behalf of the community. This study is to understand the feasibility of the community being connected in a sewer system. The proposal for the study was signed and approved during the last meeting.

- Leticia Corona of LCJA updates that the community continues to be engaged with this process. LCJA continues to attend the meetings and continues to provide support for the community of Lanare. She mentions that they are looking forward to the feasibility study and will work with the community to make the study as strong as possible.
- Cesar of CCEJN updates that he recently spoke to a resident of Lanare about the illegal dumping that occurred in the community and mentioned the resources that the taskforce was working on. The resident invited Cesar and Leticia of LCJA to bring that information to the residents and do other types of community education.

2016

- **January 2016 meeting:** On January 12, George Uc of LafCo updates that “The District did not hold a December meeting due to the holidays; Christmas and the New Year. To my knowledge, the District is planning to reconvene January 18-19 at 5 p.m. to hold its board training workshop, followed by the District meeting. At the November 4, 2015, meeting it was planned that the District board would be nominating its officers; a President, Secretary, and Treasure on this upcoming January meeting. If the officers are selected, [LafCo can begin] to coordinate the MSR update with the officers and include the Lanare team... having the officers would help establish a point of contact with the CSD board.”
- Leticia Corona of LCJA updates that they are continuing to work with community members through this process and will be present at the next CSD meeting.
- **February 2016 meeting:** On February 9th, George (LAFCO) updates that the Lanare CSD now has enough quorum and has elected a President, Vice President and Secretary for the local government and move forward on tasks.
- **March 2016 meeting:** No updates.
- **April 2016 meeting:** No new updates.
- **May 2016 meeting:** George Uc (LAFCO) updated that the water district is still working on grant work with Self-help inc. and continue trainings for the district board members. CCEJN will get in contact with residents from Lanare to schedule an educational meeting. Janet (Env. Health) can do an educational presentation and see if there is any opportunity for funding opportunities.

CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin contacted Janet Gardner from the Health Department asking if they could provide a presentation to the residents at Lanare about how often they should pump their septic tanks. Janet responded sending a link with resources to share with community members and agreeing to present at Lanare at a time and date that is convenient to the residents. Nayamin met with Leticia Corona (Leadership Counsel). Leticia will meet with “Lanare Community United” and ask if they would like to receive that presentation. Leticia (Leadership Counsel) reported that they continue to meet regularly with Lanare residents. Last meeting was in June. Regarding funding, Public Works will be submitting on 6/15/16 a proposal to get funding for active living infrastructure. Residents decided to use those funds for sidewalks. They attended the Board of Supervisor’s meeting

where they discussed this proposal. Leticia also updated that the deadline to recruit the 4th board member is 6/21/16. She is trying to meet with Lanare residents to follow-up on this to ensure that they meet this deadline, otherwise they would have to request an extension.

Nayamin talked to Sue Ruiz (Self Help) on 6/9/16, she shared that regarding the sewage, the options are: a) Owning septic tanks; b) Having a sewage system for the community that is run by the Lanare Water Board; c) Having a sewage system connected to Riverdale. A study was completed that assess that there is a possibility to connect to Riverdale but the study was not an in-depth engineering feasibility study. In order to do one, they would need access to government funds and for that they need to have a functioning local water board.

Self Help offered some training to the current board members on Brown Act, they were getting ready to offer the financial training but that is when one of the board members resigned (April 21). The board met earlier this week and decided to postpone the financial training until they recruit another board member. The deadline to do this is approaching soon, since it is within 60 days after the board member resigned. If the current board members don't appoint someone, the Board of Supervisors would do it.

- June 2016 Meeting: Nayamin summarized the outcomes of the calls she made to the agencies involved in this case (Leadership Counsel, Self-Help). Additionally, George Uc mentioned that LAFCO could schedule the municipal review in case the local water board could not become a functioning board.
- July 2016 Meeting: Self-Help reported: a) Training to LCSD: Due to lack of quorum at 2 of the 3 recent meetings because the fourth member resigned in April, and because the Board members had enrolled in a series of Rural Leadership Training workshops provided by Self Help and RCAC, the LCSD decided to place on hold the TMF Training in hopes a fourth board member could be secured. The 6-month Rural Leadership Training Workshops began in June; however, none of the Lanare board members attended the June sessions; b) Board member recruitment: The 60 days for the Board to make an appointment has passed. Neither the Board nor the community was successful in recruiting a new Board member. Fresno County Supervisor Mendez can now appoint a replacement.
Leadership Counsel & CCEJN reported that they had a community meeting in June with Lanare residents where they expressed concerns about the cost of pumping the septic tanks but they want to receive more information about this.
- August 2016 Meeting: Leticia Corona (Leadership Counsel) reported that the Lanare CSD Board voted to resume the monthly training that SHE provides. One board member and 2 community members attended Self Help's Rural Leadership Workshop in July and found it very helpful. There has been no progress on recruiting another board member.
- September 2016 Meeting: Self-Help continues providing training to board members. On Sept. 7, Janet Gardner (Environmental Health) gave a presentation to community residents on how they should maintain their septic tanks and how often. Approximately 16 residents attended this presentation.
- October 2016 Meeting: Amanda Monaco (Leadership Counsel) reported that the deadline for Supervisor Mendez to appoint another board member to the Lanare Community Service District has expired. Since LCSD doesn't have the funds to pay for a special election they will have to wait until 2018. Current board members will be evaluated by the State Water Board to determine if they can manage their water system.
- November 2016 Meeting: No updates.

- December 2016 Meeting: Self-Help will be submitting an application for a Waste Water Feasibility Study, but there are several steps to take before we they do so and the emphasis in Lanare has been on the water system and SGMA engagement. The Waste Water Feasibility Study application will be submitted in mid-2017. Self-Help continues providing monthly Technical, Financial and Managerial (TMF) training to the Lanare CSD.

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: Self Help (SHE) has submitted a workplan to the State to work with the LCSD to submit an application for a Feasibility Study. The training for the Board is ongoing monthly.
- February 2017 meeting: Sue Ruiz (SHE) reported via email: Self Help will work with the Lanare CSD Board to complete an application for a Sewer Planning Study and work conjunctionally with Leadership Council to do outreach to the entire community to determine the level of support from the community for a sewer project.
- March 2017 meeting: Sue Ruiz (SHE) reported via email: Self Help will work with the Lanare CSD Board to complete an application for a Sewer Planning Study and work conjunctionally with Leadership Council to do outreach to the entire community to determine the level of support from the community for a sewer project. Leadership Counsel will survey the community in the next few months.
- April 2017 meeting: No updates.

Water not drinkable in Lanare

- See previous notes for more information (edited to conserve space)

2013:

- Betsy Lichti, DPH Drinking Water Program also described new joint funding that's become available from the State Board and the California Department of Public Health. The funding's intended to provide an emergency interim drinking water supply for communities that are severely disadvantaged and seeking funding for a permanent solution. Interim solutions include possibilities like bottled water, a kiosk/vending machine (cost = \$9k to purchase, not including transportation and installation, and community would need to identify a secure location and ensure able to meet monitoring and maintenance requirements), filtration systems, etc. The maximum grant is \$50k to be used over a 3-year period.
- A lot of issues need to be evaluated with each application, including what kind of solution the community wants. There are only 3 parties who can apply for these grants – the water system itself, a county health officer, or the county environmental health director.
- Lanare is eligible for this funding, but the community hasn't found an entity to apply yet. The receiver can apply on behalf of the water system but right now the receiver's spending money on a lot of other aspects of the water system and when they considered what the added burden would be to their workload with this grant, they decided they couldn't do it. So they punted it to the county – the county doesn't think it's their job to do this. So CRLA has asked the Fresno County Superior Court whether the CSD would be legally able to apply on their own behalf, separate from the operations of the water system, which is still in place with the receiver. Next court date is March 12.

- There are technical assistance providers available to help any community interested in applying for a grant. For Lanare, the provider is Self-Help Enterprises – they put together 7 potential alternatives, and the community has expressed potential interest in 3 of them. In addition to Self-Help Enterprises, CRLA and the Community Water Center are also technical assistance providers. If a community is interested in this grant but is having trouble reaching one of these groups, then can get in touch with DPH’s Fresno office (559-447-3300).
- On May 20th, Betsy Lichti reported that the installation of water meters has been completed. The meters were important because they will hopefully reduce water usage. Since the residents were using so much water, the cost of treatment was too high.
- After court approval CSD is applying for a water vending machine this week. The Dept of Public Health has about a 20 day return period so by next meeting we will learn more.
- The Dept of Public Health also has funds to fund other projects for disadvantaged communities like having bottled water delivered to home—as long as the project doesn’t exceed \$50k.
- On June 17, Betsy Lichti reports that the grant has been submitted, and that she sees nothing that will hold it up. It may take up to a month, but the process has begun.
- On July 15, Betsy Lichti reports that this month residents received their first bill from the meter & it was expensive for many people, because many people use large amounts of water. Currently, DPH is looking to use extra meter funds to provide water conservation education. The meter installation is the first step to reduce water usage, and is crucial to explore other alternatives.
- The vending machine application is being held up because DPH and Community Water Center have identified that the machine may be ineffective at removing arsenic from the water.
- Cesar tells the group that he received another report about poor water in Riverdale—it seems like Riverdale and Lanare have very similar problems.
- Betsy informs us that there is currently a feasibility study being done in order to deem if it makes sense to consolidate both systems.
- Riverdale is currently under an administrative order to reduce the arsenic in their water in order to come into compliance by Jan 23, 2015—Riverdale is doing everything in its power in order to become compliant.
- Chuck informs us that although the enforcement team recognizes the efforts of Riverdale and that adding a fine would only hurt them more.
- On August 19th, Betsy Lichti reports that there is no real update on this item, that they are still working through technical issues related to the vending machine as an interim potable source of water.
- On September 16, Betsy reports that unfortunately we have not been able to get through the evaluation of the vending machine. We are getting information about the actual water quality of the Lanare water to see if the Arsenic would be reduced to a potable standard with the vending machine. Our technical specialist was working with Shen, the membrane manufacturer that is used inside of these vending machines, hopefully the membrane will reduce arsenic.
- On the issue with water in Riverdale is that they are so large, that our funds for Emergency interim water supply would not do much. The funding is only a \$50,000 grant, Riverdale is a medium size community and \$50,000 would not go very far.

- Any option for Riverdale?
- They are very close to getting agreement for 2 arsenic treatment plants finalized; but the plants won't be ready until ~2014.
- In the interim the chronic long term contaminants do not pose an immediate threat—the arsenic level standard is 10 MCL now, the arsenic level used to be 50MCL, the water used to be in complaint but are no longer. Residents have been advised to not drink the water since the new standards now places the water out of compliance.
- The action to treat is a more viable alternative for these type of communities.
- Coagulation filtration is usually the go to process for this type of communities; In Lanare and Riverdale this failed, because they could not afford to maintain a plant since they used so much water, options are being discussed (especially with the implementation of the new meters) or maybe even bring them together with Riverdale.
- Residents were using potable water for irrigation and other things, but this is because that is the only water that they were given. In the end you cannot send potable and non-potable water in the same system so you would have to do two different systems.
- They do not have the money to reactive the water treatment plant.
- On October 21, Besty mentions that there is no update this month unfortunately it has been a slow process to find an interim water supply for Lanare.
- On November 18, Betsy Lichti says that there is no update at this time, they are expecting to have some development for December, we can hear about that next meeting.
- On December 16, Betsy updates that DPH is looking at other vending machine options that would clean the water. The vending machine as an interim supply would be located at the community center. Meanwhile they are considering a plan to remedy the Arsenic problem, currently they have three options 1) new wells since they did find sources of clean potable water, 2)consolidation with Riverdale & 3) Reactivation of the old water treatment plant.
- The Department under prop 84 is required to contract with consultants for the plan and carrying out of any plan that would create new wells. In this case, they have contracted Multivertical 5 in order to carry out those duties.
- DPH will be holding a meeting with the Lanare Board, residents and interested parties, sometime in January. Betsy will add Cesar to be contacted for that meeting.

2014:

- On January 14, Cesar updates that the DPH is holding a stakeholders meeting to provide an update on the feasibility study. The meeting will be on Thursday, Jan 16 at 3:00pm at 5895 S Elm Ave.
- On February 11, Betsy updates that the vending machine will no longer be an option since they determined that it wouldn't solve the problem. DPH met with the Lanare Board and encouraged them to change the application to get bottled water. On Tuesday (Feb 11) they will be talking with the Lanare Board and furthering that process. The application turnaround time is of about 1 month. There is a 50k limit and they are hoping that it would serve for 2.5 years.
- The prop 84 planning study funded 3 technical reports – the options were 1) construction of a new well—they drilled a test well and found clean water tested at two different time periods 2)reactivation of the existing on-site water treatment plant or 3)consolidation with Riverdale. DPH is proposing the new well as the recommended project. Betsy

updates that they received an EJ concern letter with their proposed project, from an NGO. That letter will be reviewed and totally addressed.

- On March 11, Betsy updates that the Lanare Board decided to re-submit information to re-apply for bottled water. Self-Help is handling the application. The interim water project will free up to \$50,000 for bottled water. The Lanare board chose to do home deliveries for water, and the homes will receive 12 1gal bottles a month for about 28-30 months given the estimates.
- On April 8, Betsy Lichti updates that the grant funding agreement for the bottled water delivery has been executed, and the Lanare CSD Board is developing a distribution program to begin deliveries at least by the first week of May.
- On May 13, no update.
- On June 10, Betsy Lichti updates that DPH has begun water deliveries in Lanare. During the distributions they are also handing out flyers to residents that did not sign up at the beginning about other opportunities for them to sign up and get water. Overall DPH estimates that more than 2/3 of residents are already signed up and receiving water.
- The residents began paying for water usage measured by meter in July 2013. In the past there was community education to the community about water conservation and other things.
- DPH is moving forward with the project of the 2 groundwater wells, the next time that they go to court they will move from the planning stage onto the construction stage.
- In the coming months after the project, DPH will also be holding trainings with the Lanare water board that train the board about financial capacity. In the past the board did not have the financial capacity to maintain a treatment plant and thus this training will be good for them about maintaining financial capacity.
- On July 8, no update from Betsy.
- On August 12, no update from Betsy.
- On September 9, Betsy Lichti updates that the water system has been invited to apply for construction project of 2 new wells under prop 84.
- Betsy also mentions that recently Self-Help Enterprises was able to apply on behalf of Lanare residents to the Clean-up & Abatement Fund, to increase the amount of water that they currently receive. If granted the new application will provide up to ½ gallon of water per person per day, and even more in some cases.
- Cesar asks a question about Point of Use services under the Clean-up & abatement fund and how to leverage Operations & Management for these type of projects.
- Betsy mentions that there are several cases in Fresno County in which POU systems are being tried out including the Candon Trailer Park (25 mobile homes) and Zonanville? (35 homes). In both cases the owner of the system has been the applicant and this makes it a lot easier for POU systems to be made available.
- Betsy mentions that as they keep working on POU implementation, bottled water is still a good way to get some potable drinking water.
- No updates in Oct. (Follow up with Betsy Lichti)
- On Nov 12, Sue (self-help) updates that the community has begun receiving the increased drinking water supply granted through the clean-up and abatement fund. The community is up to 48 gallons per month of drinking water.
- Besty Lichti (Drinking Water Program) updates that the two new wells for water will hopefully begin construction next year.

- On December 9, Sue updates that the residents are already getting the increased gallons of water.
- **2015:**
- On January 13, 2015 Sue updates that there aren't a lot of updates on this one. The community is still getting the bottled water and are still receiving 48 gallons a month.
- On February 10, Betsy updates that the deliveries are still happening and not a lot has changed.
- On March 10, Besty updates that there hasn't been an update with the situation in Lanare. The process for digging the new wells is ongoing.
- On April 14, Betsy Lichti of the Drinking Water Program updates that we are just waiting for DFA to issue the funding agreement for the construction project. Once issued, we will have a court hearing to get the court approval to allow the receiver to move forward with the project.
- Betsy explains that due to fiscal mismanagement the community currently does not have ownership of the system therefore they need approval from a court to enter into these type of funding agreements.
- On June 9, Betsy updates: we still don't have construction funding...waiting for the funding agreement to be finalized. I was hoping by next month we would have a clear understanding what the timeline would be.
- On July 14, Betsy of the Drinking Water Program updates that last month the funding agreement was issued to the receiver—the court has to give their approval. This funding will be to complete the wells and to replace the distribution system and those projects should start in late August. The replacement of the distribution system is due to leaks within the system and also because there wasn't enough valves in the system to make it feasible for upgrades without service interruption.
- George Uc of Lafco asks if there is any funding to provide ongoing capacitation for the board members. Betsy Lichti responds that they have already done 6 months of trainings on board responsibilities including water, septic, and others. Only 1 of the current board members was present for that. She mentions that this can happen if the board demonstrates that they have and continue to have quorum, then the SWRCB can approve technical, managerial, and financial capacity assistance.
- On August 11, Bestsy Lichti updates that the court hearing is scheduled for Aug 12th for approval of the funding contract, and it will be by phone conference between the judge and the DAG.
- George UC updates that Self-Help submitted comments to the report regarding water in Lanare saying that they support the community getting grants.
- On September 8, Betsy Lichti updates that on August 12th the judge signed the order to allow receiver to initiate funding for the project. This indicates that the community can move forward with the process to dig the new wells. They are in the countdown to begin construction and it could begin as early as in 3 months. The thing that may cause a delay with this project is that currently there is a long waiting list for digging new wells. The project has to move through a bidding process where the Drinking Water Program will evaluate what are the best options for the community. In some cases, some drillers report almost a 1 year list, but because this project is to dig two new wells, it may be a little more lucrative and a driller would be interested.

- Betsy updates that the cost estimate that was prepared for this community was prepared with drought prices in mind and factored in well construction costs.
- George Uc of LAFCo updates via e-mail that on August 25th the BOS approved a third member to the Lanare CSD Board. This gives the board at least quorum.
- On October 13, 2015, Betsy Lichti of the DWP updates via e-mail that the prop 84 funding agreement for construction of the two new wells was executed on September 24, 2015, so the project will be getting underway at any time now. They are expecting to send the project out to bid in the next couple of months.
- George Uc of LafCo mentions that in order to start the municipal service review in the community, they needed a point of contact and the board to have a quorum. They have established contact and will be working with Gerardo, now that the board has a quorum.
- Leticia Corona of LCJA mentions that the board is coordinating to receive an update from the receiver which will elaborate on this project. They were scheduled to be there in October, but they cancelled and didn't make it.
- On November 10, Betsy updates that the funding agreement was executed to construct two additional wells—the well construction permits are being executed. Betsy believes that after that they are going to set the bid documents to see the availability of drillers.
- Besty adds that they are funding self-help enterprises to conduct board trainings. They are looking to be able to retain that board and not lose the training as people leave the board. As of now, there are 4 board members and it is expected that another member will be appointed on December 4th. The trainings will cover responsibility of their community, roles & responsibilities to maintain an active viable board. The trainings will last 6 months, board will understand their responsibilities if they were to run a public water system—something that they feel they are capable of doing.
- Betsy also mentions that the board is soon paying a fine from the Air District for dumping and burning of tires that occurred in the well facility. The fine is \$150. This happened in the well #1 property where a large # of tires (about 60) were dumped. This is an ongoing problem in Lanare.
- Daniel Martinez from the Air District mentions that he hasn't heard of this fine, he will look into it at the air district.
- On December 8, Cesar updates that Betsy mentioned that they are still in the process of setting out the bid for the well construction.

2016:

- On January 12, Betsy updates via e-mail that there are no updates on the project for this month.
- The well bid package has been approved. It was approved prior to the CSD going on break.
- On February 2nd there was an update that stated in Mid-Feb there would start work for the 2 drilling wells and place a bid for water connection, another update stated that Self-Help was funding a feasibility study.
- On March 8th, Betsy (Water Board) updates that a funding agreement for 2 new wells has been reviewed and a bid been approved, currently looking for well drill sites. Drilling will start soon. Betsy also updates what funding for replacement of pipelines or “water mains” are also been reviewed for approval.
- In April, there was no new update.

- In May 10th, Betsy (State Water Board) stated that currently the district is been overseen (receivership) by another entity, and also stated that the board and water systems training will continue until the water district can be self-sustaining again. Betsy also stated that 2 current wells had arsenic contamination and therefore 2 new wells with capacity need to be drilled to funnel in clean water and dilute the arsenic. The district is also working on funding agreement to replace the districts water distribution system, which should start in 2017.
- Gus and Nayamin (CCEJN) will soon reach out to George (LAFC), Veronica and Leticia from Leadership Council along with Betsy and Sue Ruiz to continue the work and updates on this report.
- Action Item: Betsy Lichti will update us on the progress next month

CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin (CCEJN) talked to Sue Ruiz (Self-Help); they have completed the board training on Brown Act but the financial portion was postponed until they recruit the new board member (the person who resigned at the end of April was the Treasurer).

- June meeting: Nayamin reported the update shared by Self-Help regarding the training and no further updates were made. Betsy wasn't present to report on the wells.
- July meeting: Leadership Counsel confirmed that the bottle water program will be in place until the water of the new wells is connected. There were no updates on the wells' construction.
- Aug. 2016 meeting: Leticia Corona (Leadership Counsel or LCJA) stated that LCJA recently started to represent the LCSD legally. Betsy Lichti informed that they received a letter from the Receivership on Aug 4th with an update on the wells construction project in Lanare. The timeline is to complete the work by March 2017. Water still needs to be tested for water quality standards. However, according to recent testing, well #1 "Does not meet Arsenic levels" for safe drinking water. (Attach letter from the water board to Notes.)
- September 2016 meeting: No updates were presented at the taskforce meeting but CCEJN knows that Leadership Counsel, Betsy Lichti and LCSD board members were meeting with representatives of the receivership company on 9/13/16.
- October 2016 meeting: Amanda Monaco (Leadership Counsel) reported that the two new wells are not producing the estimated quantity of water and one of them is contaminated with arsenic. The receiver is proceeding with the construction of the water distribution system while it gets the driller to repair the flaws in the new wells, which they hope will solve some of the production, contamination and turbidity problem. The timeline to complete the new wells is still May 2017
- November 2016 meeting: Betsy Lichti reported that the problem with the newly constructed wells is being resolved with additional development pumping, with a well-yield test to be conducted on each well by end of December, 2016.
- December 2016 meeting: Betsy Lichti upated via email: "The issue with the newly constructed wells is being resolved with additional development pumping, with a well-yield test to be conducted on each well by end of December. We are optimistic that this well resolve problems identified during the initial well development. The distribution system replacement project should be under construction by Spring 2017".

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: Two wells were completed, one was accepted because no arsenic was detected after taking multiple samples and production was good. The second well had high levels of arsenic and turbidity; thus, it will be abandoned. A third well will be drilled instead. The Lanare CSD is still receiving training from SHE for technical and financial management, and will be meeting regularly with the State water board to talk about what the community wants to do with their water system - consolidate management with Riverdale, CSD take over control of water system, or have the system managed by a public utility. This decision won't have to happen for a while.
- February 2017 meeting: Self Help continues providing TMF training to Lanare's Board; board members are demonstrating more and more management capacity. Board is also working on recruiting additional board members. Two new wells were drilled but one has low output and high arsenic levels. The state recommended abandoning that well and drilling a third well. State Water Board had a meeting with the Lanare Community Service District and explained that LCSD has until the end of this calendar year to prove their capacity to administer their water system. The different options LCSD has are: a) taking over the water administration; b) consolidating with Riverdale; c) having Fresno County manage their water system; d) having another receiver administer their water.
- March 2017 meeting: Betsy Lichti reported that two wells were constructed, one was accepted and one rejected due to construction problems. Additional funds are needed to construct a third well but funds haven't been approved.
- April 2017 meeting: No updates.

Stinky runoff stream in drainage ditch close to resident's homes in Huron

- **Problem:** Uncovered drainage ditch very near residential homes has stinky runoff. During summer season, the water is particularly smelly and a reddish-brown color, often with foam on it. There's no barrier between the ditch and family homes, and kids play or fall into the water - when they do, skin turns red, get rashes and sores (see prior FERN notes for more details).
- At Feb. 25 meeting, Anthony reported that the owner of the property is Wolf. He'll contact Wolf to ask about putting a fence up. Sarah A. reported that she's been playing phone tag with Eddie of Fresno County Code Enforcement.
- At March 18 meeting, Anthony of RWQCB-Fresno reported that he's in the process of getting the contact info for Wolf. He wants to walk the area and show them where fencing's needed. Sarah A. of CPR reported that Eddie from Fresno County Code Enforcement told her he thought the Environmental Services of the Department of Public Health would be responsible for posting warning signs. During March 18 meeting, the Taskforce agreed that it's not within the jurisdiction of DPH to post such signs; if it's private property, then the owner is responsible for putting up signs. For private owner to put up "no trespassing" sign, first has to put up fencing, then no trespassing signs, then let law enforcement know.
- On April meeting there is still no fence put up to shield the complex.
- On May 20th, Anthony reported that irrigation has started—he also knows that Wolf was responsible for the fence that was put up. He has a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday to talk about possibly expanding the fence and posting signs around the apartment complex.

- Anthony will also take samples of the water to find out what is in it, at this point it doesn't seem like the stream is contaminating ground water, but it will be beneficial to know what is in it anyway. Anthony also mention that a new irrigation program will include monitoring effects to ground water not just to surface water.
- On June 17, Rey reports that the height of the tomato season has not begun yet, but will in the upcoming months. He thinks that Anthony should sample the water then.
- Anthony reports that the rancher has placed warning signs at one-hundred yard intervals along the area in question. He has not yet sampled water from this ditch, but hopes to soon.
- On July 15, Anthony reports that because this system uses recycled water, this no longer represent a water quality issue—if we want to continue tracking this, we will need to do it as an open ditch nuisance an no longer as a water quality issue.
- Cesar will follow up with Rey Leon about providing resident education.
- Perhaps we can ask the company to extend their fencing around the ditch also.
- On August 19th, the taskforce resolves to do public outreach in this area, informing the residents of the chemicals in the water, we want Rey Leon to take the lead on this.
- On August 19th, after the meeting Cesar spoke to Hector of DPH who asked him to share a copy of the chemicals used in this ditch and hopefully environmental health can follow up after that.
- On September 16, Anthony tells us that the water is not characterized, since it is a closed loop. Currently the RWQCB is coming up with regulations for irrigated farmlands; the previous regulations had to do with surface runoff and now they're being developed to include groundwater. The stream is still odorous and we can follow with the County Environmental Health as a nuisance in that way. This wouldn't be an issue for mosquito abatement either, because we haven't seen standing water and thus no vector cultivation.
- Rey reports that a couple of members of Valley LEAP live right next to the site and they could take care and spread the work to residents to not get in the water.
- Hector Sandoval reminds us that any pictures or complaints can be sent to environmental health through 559 600-3357
- On October 21, Anthony updates the exact address is on the intersection of Route 269 and then West Tornado Ave—just to the east of Lassen Ave and just south of bordering Tornado Ave—it's the southeast corner intersection, the one closest to the apartment complex.
- On November 18, Cesar reported this to Environmental Health. Hector of Environmental Health, reports that this is not within their jurisdiction and thinks that they may actually under the jurisdiction of the RWQCB.
- Cesar looks through the notes and mentions that this item was officially reviewed by the RWQCB but they informed us that because this was a closed loop, they could not enforce, but were working on some regulations for irrigated farmlands that may make it so they could enforce.
- Hector thinks that there may be something about them violating their tail water permits from the RWQCB. Anthony is not here to participate.
- Rey Leon of SJV LEAP mentions that they did put up signs but of course a fence would have been better. He mentions that we didn't take samples to characterize the water this year, but mentions that we should do that next year.

- We will pass this information and questions along to the RWQCB so they can provide more information, possibly about timelines for their new set of regulations.
- On December 16, Cesar updates that he was unable to set up a meeting between Hector and Anthony to talk about jurisdiction for this site.
- Hector updates that he went to the site with his supervisor to make him aware of the problem and they think that this is still the jurisdiction of the RWQCB. Anthony could not attend the meeting so it is unclear at this point. This problem, is more pressing during tomato season when we have tail water runoff.
- Rey updates that what we need here is a physical barrier like a fence that will prevent children from entering this 10ft diameter, 5 ft deep pond. Rey would like to join the meeting with Hector, Anthony and Cesar to talk about this.
- On January 14, Cesar updates that he was not able to schedule this meeting before, but will like to do it before next month. We will have to wait for Rey to come back into town.
- On February 11, Cesar updates that he e-mailed Hector and Anthony about scheduling a meeting.
- On March 11, Cesar, Anthony, and Rey decide to propose Wednesday 19th of March at 11am for a meeting. They will share this meeting time with Hector to see if he can attend. If he can't they will reschedule.
- On April 8, Anthony updates that the RWQCB never took samples of this location since they realized that it is all recycled water and there is no discharge.
- Hector of FCEH updates that the department has been aware of the situation, but since this facility has no permits with Env. Health, anything that they would do would be a general clause for a nuisance, but the office feels that there is more substance with a nuisance through the RWQCB since they are actually permitting the facility.
- Anthony updates that the RWQCB is currently updating their Irrigated Land Program rule that may have a groundwater requirement to it. This component may include a piece to regulate runoff water from farms.
- Rey updates that currently tornado Road is being expanded to connect Azteca Blvd. This may in fact change the way the stream is shaped.
- On May 13, Hector wants to clarify that the facility has active EH permits and listed as: small quantity generator and an extremely hazardous substance handler with a Cal-ARP program level 2. These permits are not tied to their waste water discharge. Our office feels that any waste water drainage issues belongs to the RWQCB since they permit them under their waste water program requirements/regulations.
- Anthony Medrano of the RWQCB also updates that the nuisance is not in the facility—this ditch is irrigation water that they are recycling—the facility has permits for doing this and there is no discharge from the facility. The actual problem is that there is an open canal that has no fencing around it and children are getting in there. This, to him, seems just like a public nuisance in that way—there is no regulation violation here but it could be considered a public nuisance. Anthony mentions that in the past he was able to talk to the owner, and the owner actually put up a fence and signs in the area. However there was a part of the canal that was left untouched. But again, they are in compliance with all RWQCB regulations.
- On June 10, no update—still hoping to do community education in the area.
- On July 8, no update on this one. We are still waiting on doing community education in the nearby community. Rey has the relationship with the community.

- On August 12, still waiting on the opportunity to do community education.
- Janet of FCEH thinks that USDA would have regulations about tomato solids and other things that relate to this ditch that can be leveraged for coming into compliance.
- On September 9, Cesar updates that Anthony could not attend the meeting but would update next month.
- A new question surfaced during the meeting: if Los Gatos tomato plant is just recycling the water, where does the water originate from? Are we sure that the tomato plant is not using this as tailwater or discharged water.
- Gus Aguirre Jr. with CCEJN updates that he began looking at USDA regulations to find anything about tomato solids that could potentially be used as leverage for this ditch.
- ****After the meeting*:** Anthony updates that given that this item has been of continuous concern he has asked the enforcement division to re-open this case and look at it further. A letter sent to the plant seeks to understand the origin of the water.
- On Nov 12 Anthony mentions that after several concerns raised through this group, they have asked the ag owner of the tomato plant to demonstrate how exactly it is that none of their discharge is going into the canal and how it is a closed loop system.
- Anthony mentions that the plant came back and found that after further review there was some discharge going into this canal and they have put a plan together to prevent this from happening. Anthony and the RWQCB will review this plan.
- On December 9, Anthony updates that this has been kicked over to the enforcement unit. The company had submitted a work plan to get feedback on and for the RWQCB to give them approval.
- Daniel Benez is the contact person for the case.
- On January 13, 2015 no update from Anthony.
- On February 10, Anthony updates that the workplan to redirect the water is being reviewed by the RWQCB and will be finished before the start of the season.
- On March 10, Anthony from the RWQCB updates that the enforcement unit has been in contact with Los Gatos Tomato. The proposed modifications to re-route water away from the intersection of Tornado Ave. and Lassen Ave. are underway. The work is scheduled to be completed prior to the start of the next growing season.
- On April 14, Anthony updates that “according to [the RWQCB] enforcement unit, the work is expected to be completed as scheduled prior to the growing season.
- On June 9, Anthony updates that the work to re-route the discharge from the tomato plant—that process has been complete. In the past the RWQCB had found that the route went 40ft from residences when they were supposed to be at 100ft.
- Anthony updates that the tail water may still smell because of pesticides & fertilizers but this is a closed loop and there is no discharge out of the loop.
- Rey Leon mentions that he can look at this ditch and report back if during production the problem persists. If we are content with the project, we can close this item.
- On July 14, Anthony of the RWQCB mentions that they have the requirements for a completion report. They are redirecting their discharge out of the facility to no longer utilize the canal since the canal goes closer to residences than 100ft. This canal will still be there, and there is still a need for community education about not entering this canal, even if the facility discharge is redirected.

- On August 11, Anthony updates that the requirements are completed and the water has been redirected and no longer goes in the canal near the residences. Nonetheless, these are not clean waters and people shouldn't swim in there.
- Potential to do community information work.
- On September 8, no update. We are still looking to do community education.
- On October 13, no update.
- On November 10, no update.
- On December 8, Cesar of CCEJN and Anthony of RWQCB agree to travel to Huron to provide community education about the tail water in the canal. After the community education happens we can close this item.
- On January 12, Rey Leon of SJV LEAP, updates that as the city is looking to expand that avenue, some residents are advocating to cover up that ditch. The city has some funding from CBDG to be able to do this, and if successful, the ditch would be covered up so people could no longer get in there.
- On February 2nd, FERN updated that we would need to update with Rey on this report.
- On March 8th, there was no update from task force.
- In April, Anthony Medrano (RWQCB) states that from their end this case is closed, however, there was still outreach that needed to take place from some community member's perspective on outreach and education around this run-off. Anthony also stated that the company has placed signs to prevent people from swimming in the run off.
- In April, Anthony also updated that Rey Leon (SJV-LEAP) wanted to be a part of this effort. Gus (CCEJN) will reach out to all parties interested.
- On May 10th, Gus and Nayamin (CCEJN) will reach out to Rey Leon to determine if more community outreach needs to happen or if this report can be closed?
- Action Item: Cesar will set up a meeting to talk with Anthony, Hector, and Rey about the jurisdiction of this assignment.
- Action item: Cesar will update in Nov. regarding the meeting with Hector and Anthony.
- Anthony from the RWQCB will look at the origin of the water.

CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin (CCEJN) met with Rey Leon who explained that the city is expanding the avenue and the ditch will be covered. City has CBDG funding to complete this work.

ACTION ITEM: REY LEON RECOMMENDS CLOSING THIS REPORT.

- June meeting: Nayamin shared Rey's update and his recommendation to close this item, the task force members were in agreement. ***THE ITEM WILL BE CLOSED AND REMOVED FROM ONGOING REPORT LIST.***

Wingate Chemical Company

- No longer in business in Fresno, but Task Force believes company formerly produced pesticides.
- Roger Kintz of DTSC reported that DTSC went out there many years ago after an incident where a dog swam in one of the processing pools (because the fence was down) and immediately died.

- Anthony of RWQCB-Fresno reported that company is doing water sampling for sulfates but they're waiting on the lab results right now. To his knowledge no groundwater sampling has been done.
- At Jan. 28 FERN meeting, Anthony reported that his colleague Greg Issinghoff spoke with the responsible party. The ponds are gone. The report Wingate owes RWQCB-Fresno is overdue but should be completed within next 2 weeks. If it's further delayed, RWQCB-Fresno will send a series of increasingly strong reminder letters.
- At Feb. 25 FERN meeting, Anthony reported that the report's been completed but the consultant's not releasing it until he gets paid. RWQCB-Fresno has already sent one ding letter; they're exploring what to do next.
- At March 18 FERN meeting, Anthony reported that RWQCB-Fresno is still waiting on Wingate report, which is now 6 weeks past due. RWQCB-Fresno will either get the report or will send out another letter that will begin the fine process.
- Anthony of RWQCB reports that the initial report has been received and is being reviewed. Initially it was thought to be an issue of pesticide but that wasn't the case—however this may be an issue of sulfates.
- On May 20th, Anthony reports that he received the results of prior tests and there in fact is a problem with sulfates and the water came back with a low pH. There is no maximum levels of sulfates so they look for pH as an indicator of what needs to be taken out.
- This poses a threat to water quality as it may move into groundwater.
- Anthony informs us that 350 cubic yards will be taken out.
- At the June meeting, Anthony reports that there is still some contamination in the area and they are still waiting for a work plan to remove approximately 300 cubic yards of impacted soil at the site.
- (correction) On June 17, Ignacio reports that the regional water board has been waiting for a report from the consultants—to learn if there are any contaminants in the area—that threaten ground water.
- On July 15, Anthony reports that the ground water investigation shows low pH soil plan still done. The proposed work plan takes 6 weeks to 2 months to get it—we will trail this item until next month.
- ON August 19th, Cesar reports that he did not get an update from Anthony on this item. Anthony is out of the state and will update us next month.
- On Sept 16, Anthony Medrano: we received a work plan and the case worker is still reviewing it at this time. To address the removal of material that has previously been identified, there are several items coming from them, underwater monitoring, proposal to remove the materials, and additional soil delineation.
- On October 21, Anthony reports that the company is 2 weeks overdue in sending another work plan to RWCB, so the water board is going to send them another “ding” letter.
- On November 18, Anthony updates that the RWQCB have sent the company a “ding” letter requesting that they expedite their payment to Twining Labs (Env. Consultant) so that they will release the required overdue Soil and Groundwater Investigation report.
- No update on December 16, Anthony was unable to attend.
- On January 14, Anthony updates that the company submitted their report, it was overdue a couple of month. The report details their soil and groundwater operations that they had

required. The report is currently being reviewed. Anthony is unsure how long it will take, but usually it takes a few weeks to study the report.

- On February 11, Anthony updates that the company finally released the money for the study from the consultant. Now, the consultant is 1 week late from their due date to release the report. That report will be looked at as soon as they get it.
- On March 11, Anthony updates that the company finally paid the consultant and so the consultant was able to go and finish up some work that was still pending. They did some groundwater monitoring to study sulfate plume migration. Greg Issinghoff will receive the report on Friday, March 14.
- On April 8, Anthony updates that Greg Issinghoff finally received the report from the company, he is currently drafting a memo and getting approval to send it. The RWQCB is asking the company to do more excavation in the soils looking for sulfate contaminants and to also do it in adjacent properties to also test for sulfates and low pH. They have to dig deep enough to find acceptable levels of sulfate and pH.
- On May 13, Anthony updates that the company has a deadline of May 15 to finalize the clean-up work plan. The RWQCB will then review them. Anthony will get us copies of the work plan.
- On June 10, Anthony updates that Greg Issinghoff had to step out for a couple of weeks and he received no update on this item.
- On July 8, no update from Anthony on this. Anthony e-mailed Cesar saying that he was hoping to attend but went home with a sore throat. He will update next month.
- On August 12, Anthony updates via e-mail that the RWQCB is just sending out a ding letter requesting overdue work plan for additional work that was due in May 2014
- On September 9, no update.
- No update in Oct. Still waiting on Greg Issinghoff for update
- On Nov 12, 2014 there was no update—still waiting on Greg to review the workplan.
- On Dec 9, Anthony updates that Greg Issinghoff is waiting to find out about the level of contamination in the soils and waiting to review the plan for the company to clean.
- If they don't receive a good plan, the RWQCB can send a letter warning the company about their process and telling them that the RWQCB can send them a clean-up and abatement order. Usually, this gets the company's attention to do something.
- On January 13, 2015 no update from Anthony.
- On February 10, 2015 Anthony updates that the company excavated concentrations of low pH soil. They have also put in a down gradient/down water monitoring well. Monitoring for sulfate. They've submitted some reports but still reviewing them.
- On March 10, Anthony of the RWQCB updates that the affected soil has been excavated and hauled away. A work plan for down-gradient groundwater monitoring well due is later this month.
- On April 14, Anthony updates that the RWQCB is still awaiting the work plan for a down gradient monitoring well that will be used to assess whether or not groundwater has been affected.
- On June 9, Anthony updates that the low Ph soil has been removed, the ponds are no longer there, now they are in the process of putting together a plan to monitor sulfate & groundwater. Initial tests have revealed water to have 480mg/l when the standard is at 250mg/l. Anthony updates that there is no economically feasible way to get it out—it is not toxic, but it is not pleasant so the process is to monitor downstream.

- A human health risk assessment on the site to verify all of the pH soil was completed.
- On July 14, Anthony mentions that the RWQCB is drafting an unfriendly reminder letter to the company threatening an abatement order. The general process of the RWQCB—they have to send an initial letter, then schedule a meeting with the operator, then write a second letter threatening an order, and finally writing an order. This is all in regards to the work plan for down-gradient water monitoring for sulfate levels.
- On August 11, Anthony of the RWQCB will update about this item. The RWQCB has just received the company's workplan to do water testing looking for elevated levels of sulfates.
- On September 8, Anthony of the RWQCB mentions that the company has submitted a workplan about 6 weeks ago to monitor for sulfates in the groundwater. The RWQCB is looking this over.
- On October 13, 2015 Anthony Medrano of the RWQCB updates that he has recently took over the lead of the project. At this point, they are setting up meetings with the discharger & the consultant. There is some sulfate contamination at the site and they are looking to see how they can close it in the future.
- On November 10, Anthony Medrano of the RWQCB updates that he recently took this project over at the agency, the low pH soils have been removed. The sulfates have migrated north, but are decreasing significantly from the site of the contamination to the fence line. The RWB is requesting testing of the monitoring wells just north and on the adjacent property and will see if there is any sulfates on that property. The RWB has approved the workplan and testing should happen in the middle of January. As mentioned, the sulfate levels dropped pretty substantially from the source area to the tested site that registered 480mg/l – so they expect another substantial decrease to the adjacent site.
- On December 8, Anthony of the RWQCB that looking over the documents received from the company he noticed that the upper level soil still has high concentrations of sulfates—he is in the process of sending a memo to the company asking them to remove more soil. The process to build the monitoring wells for the sulfates in the water is still ongoing.
- On January 12, no update.
- On February 2nd Anthony Medrano updates that there has been a problem with Sulfate contamination and Low HP in the soil on the property.
- On March 8th there was no update.
- On April 12th, Anthony Medrano (RWQCB) states that a work plan was received and shows enough evidence that the PH problem have been mitigated, however, the sulfate levels were still being discussed.
- Anthony also stated that it could take up to 6weeks to respond or approve the work plan.
- On May 10th, there was no update on this report.
- Action Item: Anthony of RWQCB-Fresno will give update at April FERN meeting
- Action Item: Anthony will send case manager contact info: Greg Issinghoff 559.488.4390
- CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin (CCEJN) emailed Anthony Medrano asking for an update on the sulfate levels and the pending approval of the work plan that Wingate submitted.
- June meeting: Anthony Medrano reported that they have requested some changes from Wingate to the work plan they submitted (e.g. identify other areas that have high sulfate levels, define how far the sulfates have migrated). The company responded that they have

a new attorney so they were granted an extension to submit the required modifications. The new deadline is beginning of August 2016.

- July meeting: -Anthony Medrano reported that the company will be submitting the requested modifications to their work plan on August, 2 2016.
- August meeting: Anthony Medrano reported via email: Wingate Chemical hired a different consultant at the end of last month and they have requested another extension to September 2, 2016. RWQCB approved this extension.
- September 2016 meeting:
- October 2016 meeting: Anthony Medrano reported that they received the revised work plan from Wingate Chemical Company. They will approve the plan and will let them put a new well within their property near the border. RWQCB will sample again this new well in 6 months and if needed they may require Wingate to dig another well.
- November 2016 meeting: Anthony Medrano (RWCB) reported via email: "This complaint has been around for a very long time. The original complaint indicated that the site had a pond where a dog swam across then later died. Since then the pond has been removed. In addition, there has been significant excavation of low pH soil in various source areas at the site to mitigate hazardous conditions formerly exhibited at the site. The extent of sulfate in soil and groundwater is the primary item RWCB is working with Wingate. Since the extreme hazardous conditions previously exhibited at the site have been successfully mitigated the site can be removed from FERN update list".

Motion was made close this item and remove it from the active list of reports.

Asbestos in Creek Surrounding Huron

- Problem: Huron residents are concerned that the asbestos in the creek surrounding Huron may have become more concentrated with asbestos since the soil was last sampled. Would like DTSC or another agency to take new soil samples. Dust is always a problem and concern is that the dust is composed of airborne "friable" asbestos, a toxic substance.
- Ignacio brought copies of the most recent report (2004).
- At March 18 FERN meeting Ignacio reported he'd sent Len Moreno of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board an email about the situation. Their industrial hygienist can do air monitoring - it's just a matter of coordinating and figuring out the best time to send him out there. They're reviewing the report the Flood Protection Board did on this a few years back to see if that report's sufficient or whether enough time has passed that they should do an additional inspection.
- On April meeting, Sarah reads an e-mail from Ignacio that explains that DTSC is looking to get to Asbestos testing equipment—It looks like they will be retesting.
- On May 20th, Ignacio reports that the Department of Water Resources contacted Cal Trans—Cal Trans will be doing bridge construction.
- DTSC is in the process of buying air sampling equipment.
- Ignacio is coordinating to potentially put monitors not just in the soil but also out in the community and is thinking of doing a meeting out at the site on May 29, after 11:30am or if not, then 10am
- Ignacio and Rey report during June meeting that they met at the community center and got an update re: timeline for construction of the bridge (\$12.5 million bridge) —the construction of the bridge will begin in 2015 but Ignacio is worried that the construction will bring up a lot of asbestos that could be inside the soil right now. They are interested

in doing sampling different areas of the creek out there; that would inform the approach on when they start construction of the bridge. Cal Trans has an environmental hazard unit that may have already taken samples.

- DTSC is hoping to work with ARB on air samples.
- Maria of CARB explains that there is a process to request the air monitors and she will research the requirements on how to request one. She thinks that the Air District may have to request and oversee the maintenance of the monitors.
- On July 15, Ignacio updates us that the construction of the bridge will yield air and water samples in order to keep knowledge about asbestos levels.
- On August 19th, Cesar reports that there is no update from Rey.
- DTSC is waiting for when construction begins so that they may take samples but it is still unknown when construction will begin.
- DTSC is prepared to test soil and take air samples prior to and during the construction of this bridge; the bridge will serve to avoid overflowing from this creek.
- On September 16, Ignacio notes that there are no new developments at this time.
- Ideas are to talk with Cal-Trans about when they are going to be checking the soil. WE should set up a meeting involving Rey, Ignacio, Maria Loera, and Cesar. Ignacio will set the meetin
- On October 21, Lea Spann invited Lea to talk about how CalTrans will be involved in this project updates it's a bridge replacement and installation project in one location they're putting in a new bridge; then on 269 further down they'll be demolishing the existing bridge and will direct the water into the channel and not just into the state route.
- Lea's unit is the hazardous unit any time CalTrans has a project, they look at how hazardous materials will impact the environment tfor this project, initially wasn't going to look at asbestos, because it doesn't occur in Huron, but it does occur in Coalinga where they've had asbestos mining, which then runs off into Huron there won't be any air monitoring for asbestos unless soil sampling reveals there's naturally-occurring asbestos in the soil that will be disturbed; they'll do soil sampling along the shoulder, starting from Palmer to 198; will also check for asbestos-containing materials on the bridge and in the areas they'll be taking fill from.
- CalTrans will also build a temporary road that will be to the west of 269 while the construction's going on; will also sample in this area
- Lea's next step is to do a preliminary site investigation and a task order for the hazardous waste contractor; she'll draft the task order in the next 2-3 months or so (~ February), at which point we'll know whether or not they've found high asbestos levels in the soil
- Construction won't start on this site until ~2016/2017
- if sample results from soil come back with concerning levels of asbestos, then:- she'll write a provision into the contract that makes the contractor who bids on construction responsible for air monitoring or the contractor will have to get a sub to do that monitoring to make sure they're keeping asbestos in the air to a minimum; they might also have to remove contaminated soil if it comes back high
- she'll also contact APCD to see what type of air monitoring they're going to do - it could be as much as daily monitoring or they might need to set up asbestos compliance

plans; when APCD does air monitoring for asbestos, they go through a whole evaluation of where they need to place monitors

- On November 18, Ignacio updates that a meeting is scheduled for Nov 19th with Cal-Trans, DTSC, Department of Water Resources, CARB, Rey of SJV LEAP, and Cesar of CCEJN will attend that meeting.
- On December 16, Ignacio updates that Maria Loera, Ignacio, Rey and Cesar met with Cal-Trans to talk about the proposed project. The project involves making a temporary road north of the current road to be able to build the bridge. We left with the agreement to have another meeting in January. Rey requests, that the meeting be after the 14th of January.
- Cesar updates that Cal-trans is preparing a Draft EIR for this project, he hopes to be able to share that with the group in the future.
- No update on January 14.
- On February 11, no update on the project still continuing to monitor. Maria updates that she sent Cesar the locations of 2 fishing sites—Cesar will send those out with the notes.
- On March 11, Lea Spann of DOT updates that the testing for the proposed bridge on SR 269 is tentatively scheduled for April They still have to obtain an encroachment permit from the Dept of Water Resources.
- On April 8, the group updates that we should meet with Lea Spann or someone from CalTrans to get the latest information.
- On May 13, Lea Spann updates that Field sampling was conducted on April 9th. Asbestos was not found in the areas sampled adjacent to SR-269 in the Arroyo Pasajero Creek. A total of 42 samples were analyzed for naturally-occurring asbestos (NOA). These samples were taken in the Creek and on a privately owned property from which fill may be used for our project. Results indicate that chrysotile asbestos at concentrations less than .25% (using polarized light microscopy) were found, but none were fibrous asbestos. Personal air samples (a monitor on the person hand-augering/disturbing the soil) confirmed this also; concentrations are below Cal-OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs).
- Cal-Trans sampled also along the shoulders of SR-269 from Palmer to SR-198 within Caltrans R/W. Although sample results are not in yet, it's unlikely they will contain asbestos since none was found in the Creek where asbestos was actually suspected nor does ultramafic rock or other geologic conditions supporting NOA formation exist in the area.
- Lea also mentioned that even though asbestos was not found in hazardous/regulatory levels, worker/public safety concerns are still considered. I believe I mentioned (and you included in your meeting notes) that a site-specific Special Provision will be written to include in the construction package to ensure that the contractor develops and implements an Asbestos Dust Control Plan/Mitigation Plan and wets the excavation area.
- On June 10, Lea Spann of Cal Trans updates that Field sampling was conducted on April 9th. Asbestos was not found in the areas sampled adjacent to SR-269 in the Arroyo Pasajero Creek. A total of 42 samples were analyzed for naturally-occurring asbestos (NOA). These samples were taken in the Creek and on a privately owned property from which fill may be used for our project. Results indicate that chrysotile asbestos at concentrations less than

.25% (using polarized light microscopy) were found, but none were fibrous asbestos. Personal air samples (a monitor on the person hand-augering/disturbing the soil) confirmed this also; concentrations are below Cal-OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs). We sampled also along the shoulders of SR-269 from Palmer to SR-198 within Caltrans R/W. Although sample results are not in yet, it's unlikely they will contain asbestos since none was found in the Creek where asbestos was actually suspected nor does ultramafic rock or other geologic conditions supporting NOA formation exist in the area.

- Lea also updates that In addition to the samples taken at Arroyo Pasajero Creek and at the DWR property, seventy two soil samples were also collected for our studies along the northbound and southbound shoulders of SR-269 from Palmer Avenue to SR-198. Samples were within Caltrans right-of-way. Twenty four samples were randomly selected to also be analyzed for naturally-occurring asbestos (NOA). Analytical results within project boundaries indicate that levels were generally below California Air Resources Board's regulatory limit of 0.25% asbestos for use as a surfacing application/fill material. Three samples were above 0.25%, 2 of which were 1.00% and 1.25%. OSHA's definition for asbestos-containing materials is any soil or other substrate with a reported asbestos content of greater than 1.0%. However, based on construction, grading, and paving activities planned for the project, NOA is not a significant concern. No additional sampling or monitoring will be performed. Special provisions will be included in the construction package requiring the contractor to address health and safety measures/worker and public protection during construction.
- On June 10, Rey asks if there was any air asbestos testing. Maria Loera and him will follow up with Lea with more questions about this testing.
- On July 8, Maria updates that she received all of the documentation that Lea Spann provided. Maria forwarded the information to the technical side of CARB. However with the holiday, she didn't get a response before the meeting. She is hoping to update next month on the findings of CARB's analysis of the data.
- On August 12, Maria updates that she has not received the interpretation of the results from her colleagues at ARB. She will try to get something by next meeting.
- On September 9, Maria of CARB updates that after her colleagues looked at the Cal-trans documents they stated that the recommendations to create the Dust Mitigation Plan (DMP), are appropriate. The contractor will then use the recommendations to create a workplan and submit it to the Air District for approval.
- On October 12, Maria updates that ARB is currently reviewing the CAL-TRANS Dust-mitigation proposal. She mentions that ARB thought that the dust mitigation plan was well put.
- On Nov 12, Maria updates that the proposal needs to be approved at the local level, ARB has reviewed samples and has found everything in order.
- On Nov 12 Rey updates Daniel Martinez on the construction 269 bridge.
- On Nov 12 Daniel Martinez states that the Air District has not seen any type of dust mitigation plan. However, if any construction plan will disturb 5 or more acres of land, they will need to submit a dust mitigation plan that will have to be approved by the district. From the sounds of it, this plan will actually apply.

- On December 9, no update.
- On January 13, 2015 Lea Spann updates that the EIR document has not been completed yet. After that document is completed and approved, they will start the bidding process.
- On February 10, 2015 no update.
- On March 10, no update on this item.
- On April 14, no update Cesar will check with Lea Spann about the EIR document.
- On June 9, Michelle Ray of CalTrans updates: We anticipate approving the Final Environmental Document for the Route 269 Bridge Project in August 2015. The proposed level of the environmental document is a Mitigated Negative Declaration (CEQA)/ Finding of No Significant Impact (NEPA). Following the final design phase, the project will go out to bid. Once the project is awarded, the Contractor will be responsible for submitting a Dust Control Plan to the air district prior to start of construction. If the project disturbs more than 5 acres of land or the project requires more than 2500 cubic yards of dirt removal for at least 3 days, Caltrans will include a Non-Standard Special Provisions in the bid package which tells the Contractor they will need to submit a dust plan. If the project does not meet the criteria underlined above, basic measures and best management practices are required however a dust plan is not required to be submitted to the air district. Currently the project is anticipated to start construction in 2017.
- Lea Spann of Caltrans updates that this process is the same with the asbestos control plan.
- Lupe Juaregui, of the SJVAPCD mentions that even if they don't disturb 5 acres of land they may still be subject to notify the air district. Those cases involve sites where the project is more than 1 acre but less than 5 acres.
- On July 14, no update.
- On August 11, no update.
- On September 8, Michelle Ray of Caltrans updates that Caltrans has "approved the Final Environmental Document for the Route 269 Bridge Project and will now move into the final design phase of the project. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2017. Please let me know if you have additional questions."
- She also mentions that following the approval of the environmental document, we do not normally send out public notices or mailers. Other than affected property owners and resource/regulatory agencies, there is no additional 'standard' public outreach within the final design phase. Our Public Information Office will send out generic notices just before construction begins to notify to traveling public, but that is pretty much it. Feel free to email myself or Jeff Sorensen at any time for project updates.
- On October 13, 2015 no update.
- On November 10, no update.
- On December 8, 2015, no update.
- On January 12, 2016 the project is still in design phase and is anticipated to start construction in 2017.
- No update on February 9th.
- On March 8th, there was no update.
- No update in April for this report.
- On May 10th, there was no update to this report.

- Action Item: Rey, Maria, and Cesar will update periodically.

CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin (CCEJN) met with Rey Leon, he doesn't have any updates. Given that Caltrans included in the bid package the provision that the contractors submit a dust mitigation plan and that the construction will not start until 2017, it may be appropriate to close this item.

ACTION ITEM: MOTION TO CLOSE THIS REPORT.

- June meeting: Nayamin shared Rey's report and his recommendation to close this item, the task force members agreed. **ITEM WILL BE CLOSED AND REMOVED FROM LIST OF ONGOING REPORTS.**

Anti-Idling Signs

- Maria updates that she was able to reach out to the company OK Produce—a company identified by Anthony that could benefit from these signs—the company was very receptive and she will be dropping off anti-idling signs on Tuesday.
- Cesar updates that Maricela Mares-Alatorre of El Pueblo para el agua y aire limpio de Kettleman City is looking for places to put these signs up in Kettleman City.
- On May 13, Maria updates that they are still waiting on locations for Kettleman City to put up signs.
- On June 10, Maria updates that CARB is currently working on getting a statewide contract for putting up signs. This will make it easier to put up signs. Maria received an email from Maricela of Kettleman City that identified the number of signs that they would like in Arvin and Avenal. CARB is still waiting on the actual locations in order to move forward.
- On July 8, Maria updates that CARB is finished with the paperwork to get the statewide contract with Conservation Corps. Conservation Corps is now looking through the contract and they should get back to CARB soon.
- On August 12, Maria updates that she is still working on finalizing the contract with CitizenCorps. After that she will work to CalTrans, since every district has to provide their approval for putting up their signs in their rest stops.
- On September 9, Maria updates that CARB is coming towards the end of the process with ConservationCorps to contract with them about putting up the signs.
- ARB is still looking for more locations where signs could be helpful.
- On Nov, 12 Dolores reaches out to possible location in the valley for the signs
- On Nov 12, Jesse Marquez will keep in touch with Maria about possible locations in L.A.
- **After the meeting, Maria mentions that there is a possibility for small local businesses in these areas to do some contracting work to put up these signs. She will be looking for help identifying some small businesses as potential candidates.
- On December 9, Cesar updates that if anyone knows of a small contractor business who can do some of the work to put up these signs—they should contact him or Maria Loera of CalEPA.
- Hector updates that he knows of another location in Lemoore that also needs these signs. The address for it is: 513 N. Lemoore Ave. Lemoore, CA 93245.
- On January 13, 2015, Maria Loera updates that she is now just getting back to working on this, and will begin to contact some of the local businesses that we had provided.

- On February 10, 2015 Maria Loera of CARB mentions that they are still working through the contracts. Cesar asks if they provide signs for private companies. Maria mentions that if they are in public places, they can do that.
- On March 10, 2015 Maria of CARB updates that she is working with Fresno Unified to install anti-idling signs in the area where they keep the bus fleets. The district has been very cooperative.
- Maria of CARB also updates that ARB and CalTrans just finished a 1 year long project to install these signs in all of CalTrans District VI rest stops which spans across the whole valley in routes 5 and 99. It's worth noting that this project began at a KEEN meeting in 2014 where a CalTrans representative and Maria began discussing the potential for this project.
- On April 14, Maria Loera of ARB updates that she reached out to the FUSD and they are excited about putting up signs in their fleet storage center. These signs will be useful in helping drivers understand that they are not supposed to idle anywhere in their route. FUSD has also led Maria to connect with other districts, there are a total of 7 in Fresno County. Maria will be working with them in the near future. They are also hoping to do training to the drivers twice a year.
- Maria also updates that she is hoping to connect with somebody from CalTrans in the border office to put up signs along the Mexican border.
- Deldi Reyes updates that the next National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) will be meeting in San Diego on May 20 -21st. The topics for this in-person meeting will be goods movement, Border issues, Climate change and the drought. This may be a great time to talk about the idling signs that ARB wants to get into that region. Deldi also updates that public comment will be held on May 20th at 5pm.
- On June 9, Maria Loera of CARB updates that the following Fresno locations, have the no-idling signs posted, Cal Trans District 6 rest-stops, OK Produce, Fresno School District parking area, and Fresno Area Express parking area. I'm in the process of contacting some of the other school districts too. Please let me know if there are any large post offices or other commercial companies in a residential or school areas.
- Maria also mentions that are providing no-idling signs for the post office on Olive st.
- On July 14, Maria updates that she is still working with the school districts on putting up some of these signs.
- On August 11, Destiny of Cental California Asthma Collaborative (CCAC) asks about the process for getting anti-idling signs in an area. CCAC has been working with the Air District in doing community education to parents about no-idling as they are dropping off their students. This has worked with some success, but CCAC feels that putting up some signs may do some good to keeping the public from idling.
- Cesar mentions that this could be possible. He commits to holding a call with Destiny and Maria of CARB about this.
- On September 8, Maria Loera updates that they are still working with school districts on setting up these signs. She also mentions that she researched about individual cars and they are not in the regulation because there are a lot of systems in place to make them cleaner including smog checks and catalytic converters. She also mentions that for trucks the threshold is 10,000 lbs for them to qualify under the regulations. And that currently the Air District has a contract with CARB to investigate idling complaints.

- Destiny of CCAC talks about a project from the Air District to change idling culture around schools from drivers. Maria, Cesar, and Destiny will meet later this week to talk about possible collaborations.
- On October 13, 2015 Maria of CARB mentions that she is still working on the businesses that we had sent to them in the Jane Addams community. (Refer to items 16, 17, and 18 on these notes). She mentioned that she may have to visit the locations, as she is having some trouble communicating with the facilities.
- Kevin Hamilton and Destiny Rodriguez of Central California Asthma Collaborative (CCAC) mention that they are working with the Air District and are very much looking forward to working with ARB in some idling issues. The group will meet together in a couple of weeks to talk about the process.
- On November 10, Maria of CARB updates that she has been in conversations with Destiny of CCAC, and others about conducting a no-idling event as well as some compliance training in early Spring in Malaga. If anyone knows the community of Malaga, it is completely surrounded by high truck traffic.
- On December 8, Maria updates that she is still looking for sites to put these signs and continues to work with company, school districts, and others to put these signs in fleet locations.
- On January 12, Destiny of CCAC updates that she got in contact with Fowler Unified about doing this event in Malaga, however the school at Malaga declined hosting the event. As of now, the group will focus on finding some events that maybe could serve as a catalyst for this.
- Maria Loera of CARB updates that there may also be other schools that could benefit from this and it may be good to look at those areas.
- On February 9th, Cesar (FERN) updates that locations around Malaga School have been approved and might be installed. Cesar and other will send Maria Loera (CARB) locations and names of businesses that might benefit from the signs.
- Rosenda Mataka also states that Valley Improvement Projects in Norther Central Valley might be a good place to research where this signs to be placed in Modesto County.
- No new update from March 8th task force meeting.
- In April, Destiny (CCAC) updates that she spoke with the school district and they have set interest in holding the No-idling event at Malaga School. Also updated was the note that Mark at (CARB) has hosted similar Truck operations trainings in other locations. Maybe combining the no-idling and truck workshop on the same day could work.
- Maria (CARB) also states that ARB still has more capacity to distribute and install more No-Idling signs and to do public outreach.
- On May 10th, Destiny (CCAC) stated that on June 2nd there will be a possible event to set up some signs. Destiny also stated that they might for with them towards the beginning of the school year, schools are about to wrap up for the summer break.
- Action item: Maria Loera (ARB) is waiting for emails on possible locations for Anti-idling signs with in the next couple of weeks
- Action item: Dolores Weller (CVAQ) will email Maria for potential locations in the Central Valley.
- June meeting: Maria reported that the press event at Malaga that was mentioned by Destiny Rodriguez (CACC) last meeting was postponed until the beginning of the next school year, either in August or September. Maria also reported that the signs are still

available for free and anyone could contact her to request them but that no requests have been made in a year, thus she recommends closing this item. Task force members agree to close this item.

ITEM WILL BE CLOSED AND REMOVED FROM LIST OF ONGONG REPORTS.

Running Out of Water in Tombstone Territory

2015:

- This report came in in early March from a resident in an area outside of the city of Sanger. The resident mentioned that she ran out of water from her well. This community has about 30 homes and as far as we know they are all on private wells.
- Cesar of CCEJN went to the location and found talked to a few people about their wells. He reported that a neighbor across the street also had the same problem and the person next door mentioned that their well was not dry, but was pulling up a lot of sand.
- Janaki Jagannath of CRLA mentions that she also went to the location and found that the residents she talked to did not have that problem, but she dropped off some water conservation materials as well as some drought information. CRLA has been working in areas across the whole county with similar problems and have been working closely with the Governor's office to do drought response.
- Janaki of CRLA also mentions that they contacted USDA about this problem. USDA has some available low interest loans that can help households with this problem, the loans allow for deepening the well. She mentions that Self-Help enterprises also has access to 15 large water storage tanks. These tanks are used as an interim supply of water since the request for deepening wells usually takes some time due to high demand.
- Cesar mentions that the County has been informed about this problem. The county likes to be informed about the places that have ran out of water. Janaki mentions that CRLA is also keeping track of all of the wells that have gone dry—they created an intake form alongside the Governor's Drought Response team. This is particularly beneficial in Fresno County, because Fresno county is the only county out of the San Joaquin Valley that has not declared a 'state of disaster.' She mentions that the information is currently not public, but in the future this could be a thing that is open for public view. Cesar mentions that if possible these data sources could be housed in the FERN platform.
- Cesar also mentions that Betsy Lichti of the Drinking Water program has advised him about possible ways to get interim drinking water for the affected households, including some funds out of the Clean-up and Abatement fund or others.
- Cesar and Janaki talk about going out to the location and actually conducting a comprehensive community survey to learn how widespread this problem is in the community. They are thinking of doing this next week.
- Destiny of Central California Asthma Collaborative and Magdalena Gomez of Tenants Together mention that in Sanger there is a Sanger partnership. A group that involves the mayor and many other people. Cesar mentions that he would like to attend the next meeting to talk about this problem with the city of Sanger.
- On April 14, Cesar updates that during the last month, another report came in from a second resident in tombstone territory who's well also went dry. This is the second well in this area.
- On April 14, an update from Janaki of CRLA mentions that the first report (resident DC)—Self-Help and CRLA are looking to get her drilling that is under \$15,000 as that is the limit of the

(HPG) Housing Preservation Grant that she qualifies for—anything beyond that there will have to be matching funds.

- The second report (resident EE), Janaki of CRLA did an initial intake of the case. This resident is a tenant, so therefore the landlord will have to request the assistance and/or pay for drilling of the well. This case may be a little more complicated as there is also problems with housing and landlord.
- Larry Ramirez of DTSC, asks if there are any incentives for drillers to speed up processes for low-income residents, or to even take those jobs knowing that the funds will come from grants and/or other more complicated processes.
- The taskforce discusses this and mentions that some ideas for this could be tax write-offs for companies that make drilling jobs for community members less expensive. Another option would be to regulate that businesses do a certain amount of drilling jobs for low-income people after they complete a certain amount of for-profit jobs. The wait time for these type of jobs is about 8-9 months as of now, and without some measures to alleviate low-income residents it is likely that those requests will fall off the “priority” list.
- Cesar mentions that this is a great conversation to have during the Bus Tour next month as we will be visiting this location.
- On June 9, Janaki of CRLA updates that Erica, one of the residents is currently getting enrolled in CalWorks and from there she will be enrolling in the Subsidized Housing Program, which gives her a voucher in the amount of her monthly rent, twice the amount of her deposit in cash and allows her to select low-income housing of her choice. Janaki has written her a letter outlining the damages in order to expedite her enrollment process given her water situation.
- Janaki mentions that she is still very much without water, and there currently is no in-home bottled water assistance program for individuals such as her but she is checking to see EOC can set up a distribution point at the church right there.
- Hector of FCEH updates that FCEH can deem houses as “uninhabitable” if they make a determination looking at certain criteria like substandard conditions, no plumbing, no water. He mentions that we can look at state housing law to see what substandard means.
- Cesar mentions that this is something that we have to look at in order to get the county to use this determination more often.
- Hector updates that speaking with Janaki during the bus tour and during the conference call—there is awareness of the health department’s authority to deem a structure uninhabitable and what it means for the occupants. An inspector did do an inspection and is issuing a repair letter to the homeowner.
- For the house that we visited during the bus tour, there are other options being explored currently that are subject to attorney/client privileges and cannot be discussed in this type of public forum.
- On July 14, Janaki of CRLA updates that the county finally has a sequence of action in place for reporting dry wells. These reports can be called in to Lorin at Self Help Enterprises at 559-802-1646. SHE will do an initial intake (name, address, etc) then they will refer the case to Office of Emergency Services. OES will do two things 1). Do a well inspection 2)begin to think about a permanent solution plan and then the case will be given to EOC. EOC will do a site survey and take out a tank if necessary and possible. These tanks were funded through a private funder to SHE. Specifically to Tombstone, there is only 1 well failure, which serves an owner occupied residence on Fairbanks Ave. It turns out that one of the people on Cottle Ave who

made a report actually did have water there was just a problem with the pump. The resident is looking for other living options and may be moving out of the place soon.

- On August 11, Janaki of CRLA updates that the resident-owned home that was identified in tombstone is still undergoing the process to get some water out to her location. She is still in phase 2 of the process.
- Hector of FCEH mentions about the other property on Cottle Ave that environmental health had previously sent a letter to the owner to make some improvements to the condition of the home.
- On September 8, 2015 Janaki of CRLA updates that she has not been able to visit Delfina-the resident who has a dry well in this area of Tombstone territory. She also mentions that the other resident on Cottle Ave has relocated from the substandard housing at the end of Cottle and this homeowner is continuing to complete the repairs needed on the pump. She has not heard of any other emerging issues in the area yet.
- On October 13th, Janaki of CRLA updates via e-mail that “the USDA pool of funding for home well replacement and repair was replenished this month and the process will be moving forward to secure a Doña Delfina with the loan for her well rehabilitation up to \$15000. There has been a hold up due to funds drying up in the last fiscal year and her home being located in a place that didn't qualify for the alternative 504 Grant funding. As far as the water tank, as you may have heard the process has been very slow. Self-help has been working with her for some time now but I will go by her home next week and help her prepare her documents so she can qualify as soon as possible.”
- On November 10, Janaki Jagannath of CRLA updates that a site assessment at Delfina’s house was done by a licensed individual and they are moving forward with approving the tank installation. She mentions that the tanks have not been installed in a timely fashion. The well-inspection has sometimes been a barrier as they can cost up to \$300 depending on the case. Self-help has started to do some inspections on their own, which should help.
- Janaki mentions that she is thinking of having a conversation with the city of Sanger about this issue to see if it is possible to extend water services out to this community. Cesar of CCEJN mentions that he has talked to the city Manager at a Sanger taskforce meeting before and they mentioned that the residents in Tombstone wanted to live out there. We will first have to check with the community about whether they would like those services.
- George Uc of Lafco mentions that they are looking at doing an MSR with the community of Sanger, and as part of 288 they have to identify rural disadvantaged communities close to a jurisdiction like this. More to come from this.
- On December 8, 2015 George Uc mentions that it would be very good to find out about median household income of this area. He mentions that in many tools this community has not appeared as a Disadvantaged Unincorporated Community (DUC), and that could be because there isn’t enough information on the community.
- Cesar mentions that Janaki and him were thinking about surveying the community and sitting down with the mayor of Sanger to talk about this community. Information like this, is something that they could potentially get during this surveying.

2016:

- On January 12, 2016, George Uc of LafCo updates via e-mail although in the initial assessments of the area Tombstone does not show up as a Disadvantaged Unincorporated Community (DUC), when using data gathered through other nonprofits like PolicyLink, the

community shows up as the MHI can be updated. George mentions that collecting more current and correct Median Household Income information can help.

- Leticia Corona of LCJA updates that they met with George to talk about this process. They have templates for collecting the data that could be helpful in this case and would like to go to the community to do canvassing of the area.
- Cesar mentions that he has been talking to others about this and that he will go with LCJA to collect this information.
- On February 9th FERN updates that the loan for the new drilling has been approved and is set to start soon.
- No new update from task force on March 8th.
- On April 12th there was no update.
- On May 10th there was no update.

CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin (CCEJN) emailed Leticia Corona & George Uc to find out if they want to continue or have continued with the idea of canvassing the Tombstone area to collect data. In regards to the original complaint, the owner affected was approved for the funding for the new drilling.

- June meeting: George Uc explained that the resident who originally reported the problem was relocated. LAFCO is working with the City of Sanger to determine if Tombstone could be identified as a Disadvantage Unincorporated Community (DUC). Nayamin explained that Cesar Campos met with the City Manager at Sanger and that he mentioned that the residents wanted to live out there so they would need to consult community members if they would like to receive water services from the City of Sanger.
In previous meetings, Leadership Counsel and CRLA (Janaky Jagannath) had expressed interest in conducting canvassing in the area, but it is unclear if that happened or not and if there are still other community members suffering water problems.
- July meeting: George Uc (LAFCO) explained that this area meets the criteria to be considered a disadvantage community. LAFCO could arrange a meeting with the City of Sanger to discuss options of integration but this may increase the cost of water for the residents. He is not aware if there are more residents experiencing water problems. Lety Corona (Leadership Counsel) reported that they are currently hiring more staff and that they could resume the work in this area if there are still residents experiencing water problems.
- August 2016 meeting: No updates.
- September 2016 meeting: CCEJN scheduled a meeting with Janaki who was working with CRLA and she offered to help conduct surveys with Tombstone neighbors to determine if there are ongoing water problems
- October 2016 meeting: CCEJN and Leadership Counsel visited Tombstone two times. They collected 8 surveys. Several residents are still experiencing water problems. Two households reported their wells are totally dry and they are getting water from a neighbor; one resident has low pressure in her well. Two of the residents experiencing problems are tenants. Janaki recommended contacting the USDA Rural Development program that manages the USDA infrastructure grants. Mariah Thompson (CRLA) suggested that tenants may have a claim and that the advocates should look into habitability law, which states that landlords have a positive obligation to provide working hot and cold water.
- November 2016 meeting: CCEJN and Leadership Counsel completed canvassing; at least three other homes had experienced water problems (dried wells; low water pressure) and most of

the residents have expressed interest in having a meeting to learn more about resources that could help them conduct water testing and accessing programs to repair their wells.

- December 2016 meeting: A community meeting was scheduled on Dec. 19, 2016 to offer general information on water testing and programs that could help with repairs of their wells and septic systems. Based on the need and the interest, a follow-up meeting will be scheduled and representatives of Self-Help and the Fresno County Affordable Housing Program will be invited to provide further information.

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: A community meeting was scheduled on Jan. 19. A representative from the Fresno County Affordable Housing Program was invited to provide information of programs that could assist with wells and septic tanks repairs. Residents will be asked if they will consider connecting to City of Sanger as a long-term solution.
- February 2017 meeting: Amanda Monaco (LCJA) and Nayamin Martinez (CCEJN) reported that there was another community meeting in Tombstone on January 19. Residents were received information about the low-interest loans available through the Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Program (HARP) that could assist them to repair their wells and septic tanks. Several residents expressed that the best solution is to consolidate with the City of Sanger. CCEJN & LCJA offered to begin the conversations with the City of Sanger and LAFCO. A couple of private wells will be tested to assess the water quality. Adam Cook recommended checking if properties have been sold recently as the escrow requires testing private wells.
- March 2017 meeting: Community members received in February a presentation about maintenance of septic tanks; they reiterated their interest of consolidating with City of Sanger. Leadership Counsel and CCEJN had individual meetings with various City Council Members and the Community Development Director. All expressed support for the project if they are funds to pay for the expenses. Leadership Counsel is exploring funding mechanisms.
- April 2017 meeting: Nayamin Martinez (CCEJN) reported that the results of the water tests conducted in one of the homes in Cottle Ave. were positive for bacteria (but not E Coli) and were high in nitrates (40 vs the recommended 10 MCL). The owners of the home where water sample was taken were informed and were given explanation of short-term solutions. A community meeting will be convene to share the water tests' results with all residents and to continue the discussion of possibilities to connect with Sanger's Water System.

3829 Cottle Ave, Sanger – Abandoned House

2015:

- This report about an abandoned house came in saying that the house is a dangerous structure and is a breeding ground for rats and snakes. The neighbors of this house want someone to take care of it.
- This was submitted to county code compliance.
- On June 9, no update.
- On July 14, Cesar updates that he will submit this item to Environmental Health.
- On August 11, Cesar updates that he submitted this to Fresno County Environmental Health.
- ON September 8, 2015 no update.
- On October 13, no update from Gustavo of FCEH—We will check with him next month.
- On November 10, Gustavo of FCEH mentions that the complaint is being processed and will get assigned—they may forward this to code compliance since the report also involves an unsafe structure.
- On December 8, Gustavo of FCEH mentions that they did look at this facility. There are a lot of problems with the house as it is abandoned. They are looking at different records to find if

there is any responsible party for the property. The owner passed away and they are having a hard time finding any responsible party.

2016:

- On January 12, 2016 Gustavo Gomez of FCEH mentioned that the inspectors are having a hard time finding an owner that could be responsible for this property. He mentions that usually the county ends up finding somebody and if they don't the property can go into censorship, which would trigger different measures.
- On February 9th there was no new update to present
- On March 8th, Gus (Fresno County) update that the Canal Company did not actually the property but rather paid for some sort of levy or taxes on the property. –Gus will update at later meeting.
- No update in April for this report.
- On May 10th, Gus (Fresno County- Public Health) stated that there is has been no ownership found for this property yet, till the property owner is found and response, not much can be done.
- June meeting: Gustavo (EHD) mentioned that they haven't identify the owner of the property thus there is not much they can do, currently the property is under the County's conservatorship; they are waiting until the property is sold. The problem of orphan properties is becoming more and more common in Fresno County. Several task force members expressed confusion how the county could be responsible for cleaning up the property despite it is under conservatorship. It would be good to understand what this entails.
- July 2016 meeting: They haven't been able to identify the owner of this property
- August 2016 meeting: They haven't been able to identify the owner of this property and the county can't do anything about it.
- September 2016 meeting: Gustavo Gomez (Environmental Health) contacted the Administrator's Office, they confirmed they haven't identified any relatives of the owner of this property. When the owner was alive she didn't have electricity, nor water.
- October 2016 meeting: Gustavo Gomez (Environmental Health) confirmed that they haven't identified any relatives of the owner of this property. Nayamin asked if there is anything the county could do to stop the illegal dumping that is occurring at this property. Gustavo suggested contacting Janet Gardner (Environmental Health) if any of the tires were dumped outside the property.
- November 2016 meeting: -Nayamin (CCEJN) mentioned that there are lots of tires on the easement in front this property. Sabrina (DA's Office) will ask the Code Enforcement unit to visit the property. Nayamin reported that a neighbor complained that some people had been burning trash in the property and that pests are moving from the vacant property to their home.
- December 2016 meeting: Janet Gardner (Environmental Health) is responsible for the Fresno County program that collects the tires but it depends on the number of tires in the property. If the county program is unable to collect the tires, Maria Salinas (CalRecycle) offered to help identify other resources.

2017:

- ***January, 2017 meeting:*** Gustavo Gomez (Environmental Health) reported that Janet Gardner's team collected 110 tires from this property. Sabrina Ashijan (DA's office) said she will meet with other investigators to learn how other counties manage orphan properties. It was

mentioned that the company that operates the nearby canal has been paying the property taxes of this house.

- **February, 2017 meeting:** Adam Kook (DA's Office) reported that the Public Administrator's Office was appointed as the property administrator and will try to sale the property. They will be receiving in the next 3 weeks an assessment of the property value; once this is established they will try to sale the property for no less than 90% of that value; but in the meantime, there are no funds to clean up this property.
- **March, 2017:** The Public Administrator received the property appraisal, it was valued at \$45,000. The county plans on having it for sale by the end of the week of March 12. Interested buyers should contact: Nina Acosta at 600-5181.
- **April, 2017 meeting:** Sabrina Ashjian (DA's Office) reported that there was a buyer for the house, the property was on escrow and sale should be finalized by April 21, 2017. Once this property is sold it will be the new owner's responsibility to clean it up.

Electricity Meters Not Working

- A report from the San Joaquin Estates (a mobile home park) came to the network talking about electricity meters that are not working. More specifically, the report talks about a specific report where a resident has been out of their home for like two months and the electricity bills are still over 100 dollars.
- Cesar followed up with the FC Ag Commissioner office who can check weights and measures. FCAC is unable to test the meter on site, but they did check with the facility and it looks like they have at least been bringing in their meters to get regularly tested. Under law they have to be tested every 10 years.
- As soon as the resident returns, it is possible to do testing on the meter.
- On September 8, no update.
- On October 13, 2015 Cesar mentions that he needs to reconnect with the resident that first submitted this report. The Ag Commissioner's office needs to disconnect the meters and take them to their office to test them.
- On November 10, Cesar updates that he needs to make contact with this resident again—he hasn't been able to reach them in about a month. Alia Wakeman-Hill of the Fresno County ag Commissioner mentions that she can follow up with the inspector if given the information. Cesar will get some information to her about this case.
- On December 8, Cesar mentions that he has been unable to communicate with the person who first reported this item.
- Leticia of LCJA mentions that more people have talked about this in the community. She will reach out to them and then connect Cesar and the Ag Commissioner.
- On January 12, 2016 Leticia of LCJA mentions that she will talk to the resident who reported this on Friday (1/15). She can ask her about these electricity meters then.
- On February 9th the only update that was available was that FERN lost communications with Maria Pedron who had information on this item. No new update.
- No new update on report for March 8th
- No April update, FERN needs to follow up with Leticia (LCJA)
- On May 10th there was no update.

CCEJN UPDATE POST-MAY MEETING: Nayamin (CCEJN) met with Leticia Corona (Leadership Counsel), she facilitated a conversation with Maria Pedron who mentioned that there was a

change of ownership in the mobile home park and since then they haven't experienced any more problems with the electricity meters.

- **June meeting:** Nayamin reported talking to Maria Pedron who informed her that the meters were fixed that there is a new company administrating the mobile homes and since then they haven't experienced any problems. The task force members agreed to close this item.
MOTION TO CLOSE AND REMOVE THIS ITEM FROM THE LIST OF ONGOING REPORTS.

WORLD OIL – San Joaquin

- On December 8, 2015 Cesar mentions that a group of residents in Parlier reported the proposed expansion of a facility that handles CA hazardous waste (anti-freeze, waste oil, oily water) in their community. The residents are opposed to this expansion and are unhappy that no environmental document has ever been prepared for this facility
- The residents are organizing to oppose this permit modification from DTSC.
- Cesar mentions that he would like to get information from DTSC, the RWQCB, and CUPA about the compliance history of this facility. Gustavo of FCEH mentions that they should have some information since they inspect aboveground storage tanks.
- The facility in Parlier operates three above ground tanks and has current capacity of storing 47,000 gallons of hazardous waste.
- On January 12, 2016 Cesar mentions that the Parlier Fact Finding Committee and CCEJN will oppose this expansion. They are in the process of writing a letter of opposition which will be mailed to DTSC prior to the deadline for written comments.
- On February 9th FERN will attach a letter to the notes for updates.
- No new update on March 8th.
- No update for World Oil in April.
- No update on May 10th.
- **June meeting:** Anthony Medrano left the meeting early so we don't know if the RWQCB has approved or not the expansion.
- **July meeting:** Sergio Chavez (DTSC) reported via email: "The application for the modification is still under review by DTSC. When DTSC makes an approval or denial draft decision, that draft decision will be public noticed and available for comment. DTSC will also conduct an environmental review before that time".
- **August meeting:** No updates.
- **September 2016 meeting:**
- **October 2016 meeting:** Sergio Chavez (DTSC) reported that this application will go to public review in January or February 2017.
- **November 2016 meeting:** -Sergio Chavez (DTSC) reported via email: "The 3 existing tanks at World Oil will still be the only tanks. One of them is currently not in use, the proposed modification will add that third tank to the permitted storage capacity; the tank farm capacity will increase from 47,000 gallons to 71,000 gallons. There will be some construction activities involved as a result of the modification. This will involve removing some concrete and pouring new concrete. This will increase the secondary containment capacity of the loading zone, which is there to contain waste in the event of a spill. It is unknown how long this work is expected to take. The public comment period is estimated for early next year".
- **December 2016 meeting:** Sergio Chavez (DTSC) reported via email: "The next step in the permit modification for World Oil-San Joaquin will be an environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). We are going to assess validity of the Initial

Study previously done for the site, looking at any environmental changes that have occurred and possible environmental impacts of the proposed storage volume increase. This type of assessment will tell us whether for not a more robust environmental review is necessary. Often, this type of project (the “project” being the change in activities allowed by the modification to the permit) is considered exempt or determined to not have significant effects under CEQA. For further information, we should contact the Project Manager, Karen Steen (510) 540-3812.”

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: Permit request is still pending review and an actual date has not been determined yet. Karen Steen is the Project Manager (510) 540-3812.
- February 2017 meeting: Sergio Chavez (DTSC) reported that there are no new updates, this project is still being reviewed.
- March 2017 meeting: Sergio Chavez (DTSC) reported: that the environmental review hasn’t started, but that is the last step in the review of the modification request. Karen Steen is the Project Manager (510) 540-3812.
- April, 2017 meeting: The environmental review process is still in progress

Five Points Pesticide Drift

- Problem: Solar farm workers were drifted on a pistachio orchard near Five Points.
- June meeting: Ag Commissioner reported that through their investigation they found out that in a pistachio orchard near Five Points, a drift was reported. Workers at a solar farm were decontaminated at the site and all of them recovered (not sure of the number of affected workers but apparently 8-9). This is still an open investigation that is being handled by the Ag Commissioners office at Huron, they know who the grower is and the company responsible for the application. More information will be provided as the investigation continues.
- July meeting: Fresno Ag Commissioner reported that the investigation is still open and ongoing, therefore, no information can be public yet. They will submit an update as soon as investigation is completed.
- August 2016b meeting:
- September 2016 meeting:
- October 2016 meeting: -Fresno Ag Commissioner representative Bill Griffin, reported that the investigation is still open and ongoing, therefore, no information can be public yet.
- November 2016 meeting: No updates
- December 2016 meeting: A new supervisor for the area responsible for this investigation will start on January 2017, but as of now the investigation is still pending. The workers who were affected in this incident were installing solar panels, all of them were medically cleared and were interviewed by Ag Commissioner’s staff. Gustavo Gomez (Env. Health) participated in the initial investigation taking samples of the clothing that the workers were wearing, but results aren’t released until investigation is completed. Sabrina (DA’s Office) mentioned that for the DA to respond they need to receive the case within one year.

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: This was Bill Griffin's last meeting, he is transitioning to Madera County. His replacement in the taskforce will be Gilbert Urquizu. No updates on the report.
- February 2017 meeting: The investigation portion is completed, but the written report is not yet finalized (Stace Leoni) Gilbert Urquizu is the person that was assigned as a liaison to our task force but he wasn't able to join the February meeting.
- March 2017 meeting: Stace Leoni (Fresno Ag Commissioner's office) reported via email: The Fresno Ag Commissioner (CAC) took samples and interviewed the 12 affected workers and applicators, they also conducted a headquarter safety inspection of Walker Farms and determined violations of California Food & Agricultural Code (FAC) 12973 and Title 3 California Code of Regulations. CAC enforcement action is pending and a final report will be send to DPR by March 31, 2017.
- April 2017 meeting: Tom Ulman (Fresno Ag Commissioner's office) participated in the meeting by phone and reported that Fresno Ag Commissioner finalized their report and submitted to DPR; DPR requested them to do some edits. However, no fines or notice of proposed action were determined. Mr. Ulman asked to close this case but the task force members preferred to keep the report open until the final report is approved by DPR.

Illegal Dumping

**Edited in September 2015 – For more notes on individual illegal dumping items, please see previous notes.*

- On September 8, 2015 Cesar updates about the process to begin engaging residents and other local organizations in working on a city-wide illegal dumping ordinance that will serve to strategically enhance the current processes for preventing and mitigating illegal dumping across the city.
- Maria Salinas of CalRecycle updates on some of her research about this process and gives information about CalRecycle grants and programs that could be used for cities to develop better programs. She also mentions that CalRecycle is currently funding some communities to do this.
- She sent Cesar information about these programs. Cesar mentions that he will do more research on this and talk about it with the taskforce in coming months.
- Matt Robbie and Marcus Griswold of SKEO take some time to go over the 3rd document that will be completed as part of the US EPA TASC directive. This roadmap explains "how to report trash, abandoned buildings or suspected pollution in your neighborhood, and how Fresno County responds to these complaints." The taskforce goes over this resource and provides some feedback.
- There is a general consensus to make the areas where community can get involved more visible in the document, by including different colors of icons that can aid visually. Another feedback is that there is a lot of words on the pages, and also to make language simpler as it will be used for general public outreach events.
- Cesar will send out the document to the taskforce and people will be able to provide feedback during the month in our October meeting.
- On October 13, 2015 Marcus Griswold of SKEO presents the second version of the illegal dumping roadmap document. That document is attached to the October notes.
- The taskforce provides a lot of feedback for this, including a lot of comments on format and how the documents visuals will aid residents and others as they view it.
- The taskforce asks SKEO to keep residents in mind while doing the language and that the concepts and language should be simple and easily understood.

- The use of icons in the first page should be structured in a way that allows the viewer the opportunity to understand what he/she will see in the document at first glance just through the information in the first page.
- The use of FERN as a way for community members to be engaged should be encouraged, even if there isn't a lot of places that are readily available for public participation, using FERN is always a good option to get community involvement.
- Marcus of SKEO mentions that they will take all of this feedback and return with a 3rd version of the document. Cesar of CCEJN mentions that if anyone has any other suggestion, they should contact Cesar and he can send all edits to Andrea, Matt, and Marcus. of EPA Region IX and SKEO.
- Further on October 13, 2015 – Leticia Corona of LCJA mentions that with a group of residents of SouthEast Fresno, they have started to talk to the residents about running a city ordinance that will help with solid waste problems in the city. Cesar of CCEJN mentions that he is helping with the ordinance and that a lot of the literature for the language comes out from conversations that he has workshopped with DTSC, Cal Recycle, and others
- The community group has scheduled a community clean up that will be filmed as a way of getting press attention. The community clean-up is scheduled for November 7th in SouthEast.
- On November 10, Cesar of CCEJN updates that last Friday, the group in SouthEast did a community clean-up in District 5 in Fresno. The group filmed a video during this clean up that can be watched at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uEogHu00u9k> . The group will be meeting later this week to talk about aspects of an illegal dumping ordinance. They are still looking for an author within council that can champion this cause.
- Cesar also updates that they are about to finalize the resources with Skeo that they have been working on. Andrea Manion of US EPA, Skeo, and Cesar have a call scheduled for later this week to finalize parts of the resources.
- On December 8, 2015, Leticia of LCJA updates that the community continues to be organized throughout the city and continues to do clean-ups as a way of mobilizing against this problem. The community group held a meeting this month to talk about the measures that they would like to see in an illegal dumping ordinance—a lot of ideas were collected during that meeting.
- Cesar of CCEJN updates that the group is looking to do a press conference in early January to call attention to this problem and as a kickoff to the process of getting an ordinance passed in the city.
- On January 12, Leticia Corona of LCJA updates that the community clean-ups took a hiatus during December as people were busy doing a lot of other things, but the group is looking to resume the clean-ups later this month.
- Cesar of CCEJN updates that the resources that US EPA and Skeo have been directing are about done in their final format. The Spanish translation of the last document was just sent for revision. As soon as the revisions are made all of the resources will be printed.
- Cesar that he has begun drafting the official language for an illegal dumping ordinance and the group will begin workshopping the language and looking for council support later this month. They are also thinking of holding a press conference to gain some community support on this.

- On February 2nd Leticia (LCJA) updates that over the weekend there was a community clean up that took place near Lane Elementary School. Leticia also commented on the draft ordinance has been shared with local government personal.
- No update on this report on March 8th from task force.
- On April 12th there was no update.
- On May 10th, Gus and Nayamin (CCEJN) will attach the document to the notes for the month.

UPDATE POST MAY MEETING: Nayamin and Leadership Council staff met with some of the community leaders who are organizing the clean-ups; we did a walk-through of several alleys south of the Fairgrounds. Leadership Counsel has a new staff member taking the lead on this issue, Grecia Elenes. She submitted via email the following update: “Staff of two council members, Oliver Baines and Sal Quintero, reviewed the draft ordinance and consider that most of what it asks for the City already has in place. They tried to follow up with Cesar Campos but that was when he transitioned to another job. They are open to meet to discuss existing programs and ideas to address issues”.

- June meeting: The task force members discussed that this is a recurrent problem in Fresno County; the owners are held responsible to clean up trash that oftentimes other people dump in their properties. Gustavo Gomez (EHD) mentioned that if an owner believes they have hazardous wastes they could report it to the Environmental Health Department and they will conduct an inspection and inform them which company/agency could cleanup. They can also provide information to home owners on where to dispose items such as tires; however, for large quantities owners would have to hire a company to do the clean-up. Kevin Hamilton considers that the group may need to think of recommending to the Board of Supervisors a program that would provide low-cost disposal to property owners. Andrea Manion mentioned that US-EPA provided funding to investigate and produce some educational materials regarding how to report trash and abandon structure in Fresno County.
- July meeting: Leadership Counsel and CCEJN reported that while they have been trying to advocate for an ordinance for the whole city, right now it seems that each City Council member is tackling this problem on different ways, and it is different district by district. In a meeting with Chief of staff of council member Oliver Baines, CCENJ and Leadership Counsel were informed that a pilot program that was tested last year (Community-Clean Ups where they have dumpsters located in different parts of the city) would be expanded to the entire city but they are still working on the details of how it will be implemented.
- August 2016 meeting: Leticia Corona (LCJA) updated that her organization along with CCEJN and other CBOs (Centro la Familia, PIQE) have been meeting with Council Members to request increase funding for enforcement programs and to pass an ordinance to regulate illegal dumping.
- September Leticia Corona (LCJA) updated that her organization along with CCEJN and other CBOs (Centro la Familia, PIQE) have been meeting with Council Members to request increase funding for enforcement programs and to pass an ordinance to regulate illegal dumping. 2016 meeting:
- October 2016 meeting: On Sept. 26, 2016, close to 30 residents met with the Department of Public Utilities Director, Tom Esqueda, and representatives of different Council Members (Esmeralda Soria, Oliver Baines). Resident presented their concerns about illegal dumping and

ideas of solutions. DPU director mentioned that in 2017 they will conduct a feasibility study to open two disposal facilities where residents of the City of Fresno could dispose large items year-round. They welcome the community's participation in the planning process because they want to make sure these facilities are opened in appropriate locations.

- November 2016 meeting: Leadership Counsel and CCEJN continued organizing community members around this problem. A meeting is scheduled in the third week of November to plan strategies for 2017, including having more community clean-ups.
- December 2016 meeting: The residents that have participated in the meetings led by Leadership Counsel and CCEJN coordinated with the Assistant Director of DPU two community clean-ups, one on Dec. 13 in the alleyway next to the recycling facility in Orange/Butler and a second one Dec. 15 in the alleyway across the street from Burroughs Elementary. The City lent the residents the tools and scheduled the collection of the refuse.

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: A meeting is scheduled with residents at the end of January to plan future clean-ups in coordination with the Department of Public Utilities. They will also be developing short-term and long term strategies to continue their work to make the streets and alleyways of Fresno cleaner.
- February 2017 meeting: Residents met at the beginning of February, they identified short-term and long term strategies including: a) resume meetings with Council Members of Districts 3, 5, and 7 to advocate for a systemic approach to address the illegal dumping problem; b) resume organizing clean-ups of alleyways in these same districts; c) work with the Department of Public Utilities to educate community members on ways to report and prevent illegal dumping.
- March 2017 meeting: Nayamin reported that over 60 volunteers (including adults, youth and children) gathered on March 11 and cleaned up 3 alleyways in District 5. Council Member Luis Chavez was present to help. More clean-ups will be scheduled in the next months as well as meetings with City Council Members of Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7.
- April 2017 meeting: Nayamin reported that at the end of April, residents will meet to plan more community clean-ups and to determine the ideas/strategies they will discuss with the Council Members of Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7. There was a specific request from parents of Jane Adams Elementary to clean an area on Hughes Ave. that is covered with grass, weeds and trash, children who walk to school from a mobile home park have to walk in the street. This clean-up is planned for April 29, 2017 at 8:30 am.

Multiple problems in apartment complex

- One of the tenants in the property located on 521 N 3rd Street reported that there are 2 inOp cars on the parking area (one of them is suspended on jacks), there is trash and motor oil. They have submitted oral and written complaints to the manager for over 4 years but nothing has been done.
- July meeting: CCEJN reported the problem to the City's Code Enforcement. The resident who made the report notified CCEJN that the cars, motor oil and trash were removed. This item was removed from the list of open reports.

Horrible Smell (Belmont & N Safford)

- The street has a horrible smell on the corner of Belmont N Safford it smells like a dead person in the sewer drains and that's not normal. It has been smelling horrible forever and I can't even walk by no more; the smell is so strong you can taste it!

- July meeting: Report was submitted twice to the Flood Management Control District (because the sewer has their name) and once to Fresno Co. Environmental Health.
- August 2016 meeting:
- September 2016 meeting:
- October 2016 meeting: Anthony Medrano was asked to investigate the water discharge plan of Produce Dairy at Belmont Ave. to see if this maybe be the cause of the odor. Anthony reported that this facility discharges directly to the city sewage. Gustavo Gomez (Environmental Health) will contact the Fresno-Clovis Wastewater Reclamation Facility to follow up on this report.
- November 2016 meeting: Gustavo (Env. Health) contacted Mari Barrett (Wastewater Management) who reported that they conducted a short inspection at Producers Dairy, didn't notice nay odors. But this facility has a history of previous complaints; last year there was a complaint of foul odor coming from the storm dairy system that runs from Belmont to H street. Gustavo also contacted Patrick Bryan (Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District) who explained that the recent rain storms may have flushed the drain system and mitigated the odors; this problem is more common in the summer. He committed to visiting Producers Dairy sometime early in the spring to review their management practices and suggest improved pressure washing procedures. Based on the aforementioned findings, the task force agreed to close this item and reopen it if the reporting party submits another complaint next year. This item was removed from the list of open reports.

Illegal Breeding of Roosters

2016:

- Problem: Property owner in S Lind Ave. reported that his neighbor has over 20 roosters, some are loose others are kept inside a chicken coup. He has had rats coming into his property.
- A written report was made to the Development Service Division at the Department of Public Works and Planning Development. When Nayamin reported by phone they explained that in that area no chickens or similar animals are allowed.
- October, November, December, 2016 meetings: No update.
- January 2017 meeting: No updates.
- February meeting: Nayamin reported that the neighbor who had the roosters moved out of the property. A motion was made to close this report

Body shop in backyard near Reedley

2016:

- Problem: Resident living outside of Reedley reported that his neighbor operates a body shop in his backyard, uses all types of paints and sprays that causes problems for his asthma.
- November, 2016 meeting: During the November meeting, Sabrina Ashjian (Fresno County DA's Office) explained that her office could follow up on this case. Nayamin sent her the address of where the body shop is located.
- December, 2016 meeting: No updates

2017:

- January 2017 meeting: Sabrina informed that she has been working with BAR (Bureau of Automotive Repair) to investigate if there is a registered/licensed business in the reported site. She will also meet with some people from Department of Environmental Health to ask them to take water samples nearby the reported location.
- February 2017 meeting: Sabrina reported via email that she continues working with the Bureau of Automotive Repair to investigate this report; she is waiting to hear back from them. In the meantime, she will meet with people from the Department of Environmental Health and ask them to take some water samples near the location. Daniel Martinez requested to get the address of this report as the SJVAPCD would like to send an inspector to the site.
- March, 2017 meeting: Daniel Martinez (SJVAPCD) reported that an inspector went out on 2/22/17, observed numerous cars being prepped for painting. They didn't have a permit filed with the SJVAPCD. They were issued a notice of violation (tracking #48376). Sabrina reported that body-shops are also licensed by the Bureau of Automotive Reports; they didn't have a record of issuing a license for that address. Gustavo Gomez (Env. Health) explained that depending on location, this type of businesses also need a license from Environmental Health.
- April 2017 meeting: No update

Smoke drowning City of Huron

- Problem: On November 17, 2016, before 2pm, while wind was blowing in from the north east, a blanket of smoke covered the community. Smells like ag burning but could be trash being burned in the creek also. two hours later, opaqueness surrounds the city and smell of smoke is still imbuing the air. Contacted air district at 230-6000. They have sent someone out but no reports yet. They also shared that they received a complaint from the neighboring community of Avenal on smoke.
- December, 2016 meeting: Nayamin provided Daniel Martinez (SJVAPCD) the exact date in which this report was submitted and he will follow up with their investigators to see what caused the smoke.

2017:

- January, 2017 meeting: Daniel Martinez (SJVAPCD) explained that the reporter accused a composting facility of the smoke in Huron; however, the inspectors that were sent didn't find any evidence that it was this facility; smoke was alluded to be related to ag burn as Nov. 17 was a burn day.
- February, 2017 meeting: Daniel Martinez (SJVAPCD) reported that they found traces of smoke but the inspectors couldn't trace them back to a specific source. The day the report was made as an ag-burn day. SJVAPCD has closed this report, thus Daniel made the motion to close this item.

Flies and trash burning in Lanare

2017:

Problem: Two properties are burning trash and have livestock that has increased significantly the number of flies in the community.

- January 2016 meeting: Nayamin called Fresno County Code Enforcement who responded that the two properties mentioned in the report are located in an agricultural district that allows owners to maintain, breed and raise all kinds of livestock. They sent CCEJN staff the section of the code (816) that regulates these locations so we can assess if there are any potential

violations. While trying to submit this report, Nayamin noticed that Fresno County doesn't have the Building Codes/Zoning Ordinance Violation Complaint form in Spanish.

- February 2017 meeting: Nayamin is reviewing the zoning ordinance to determine if the two properties are breaking any regulations, they maybe as some animals are exempted (swine, sheep, goats). Nayamin will check back with the reporters to determine if they have any of these animals in the properties. Adam Kook (DA's Office) reported that the Building Codes/Zoning Ordinance Violation Complaint form is now available in Spanish in the county's website.
- March 2017 meeting: Nayamin visited Lanare but from the road it is not possible to see what kind of animals they have in the properties that were reported, but according to the neighbors they do have sheep; the form will be filed with this information. Nayamin also noticed that the Building Codes/Zoning Ordinance Violation Complaint Form hasn't been translated.
- April 2017 meeting: No update on the status of this report. However, Nayamin mentioned that when she approached the staff at the Department of Public Works and Planning to request that the complaint form is translated, she couldn't find someone to help with this and was transferred to the department in charge of the County's website.

Neighbors with chickens in residential area in City of Fresno

- Problem: Neighbors living in residential area of City of Fresno (1914 E Tyler) have chickens and hens in their backyard.
- Nayamin submitted the report to Code Enforcement who confirmed that in this address neighbors are not allowed to have chickens; they were going to follow up with the resident.

Oil pump leaking in Riverdale

- Problem: A resident reported a puddle under an oil pump that seems to be leaking at 21123 S Cornelia Ave. Riverdale
- -CCEJN submitted the report to DOGGR. The office in Bakersfield has inspectors that cover the Fresno County area. DOGGR reported that they sent an inspector and they were not sure if the puddle was rain-water or oil because. They will send an inspector again in a couple of weeks once it stops raining.

Water reports in Riverdale

- Problem: Riverdale resident reported run-off water on public property near various dairies in Riverdale (1713 W Mt. Whitney Ave; 5238 W. Harlan Ave.; 5547 W. Harlan Ave.)
- CCEJN submitted report to the Regional Water Quality Control Board and to Environmental Health. Gustavo Gomez (Env. Health) reported via email that: "Tony Shamshoian who works in the dairy program went out to the sites. He indicated that there weren't any unusual standing water issues at the facilities, but because of the heavy rains, it's taken the dairy operators a bit more time to mitigate excessive water pooling, but are eventually able to take care of the problem.
- April 2017 meeting: Anthony Toto (RWQCB) reported that inspectors visited the facilities and determined that in the dairy located at 1713 W Mt. Whitney Ave., Riverdale CA, standing water pool in the corrals was observed. However, the Dairy owner was working on removing the water from corrals. In the other two locations (5283 W. Harlan Ave. and 5547 W. Harlan Ave. there was no standing water in areas that were visible from the public roads.

Pond with algae in Riverdale

- Problem: A resident reported something that looks like pond with algae located at 5403 W. Mt. Whitney Ave., Riverdale CA.
- -CCEJN submitted the report to the RQWCB. Anthony Toto reported that their inspectors that visited the site found that near Polk Ave and W. Mt Whitney appears to be low-lying area along that road and there is every possibility of water pooling at that intersection. This can be an area of interest to Mosquito Abatement District.

Neighbor with multiple code violations in Biola

- Problem: Neighbor at 12677 C Street in Biola has cars and a boat parked on lawn, in-op cars in the drive-way and along the streets.
- CCEN submitted a written report using the English version of the “Building Codes/Zoning Ordinance Violation Complaint Form.

***REGULAR TASK FORCE MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month, 1:30-3pm
Location: Chicano Youth Center, 1515 Divisadero St. Fresno, CA 93721***