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 Regional Water Quality  
 Control Board,  
 Central Valley Region  
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 Chair**

**Public Notice –No  
 Further Action**

**Castle Air Force  
 Base B909 and  
 B1550**

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Castle Air Force Base – Building 909 and Building 1550

### Santa Fe Drive, Atwater, CA

**Public Notice:** The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) invites public comment on a request for regulatory closure, made on behalf of the United States Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) for Building 909 (B909) and Building 1550 (B1550) at the former Castle Air Force Base, located in Merced County, CA (Site).

This Public Notice fact sheet provides general information on the Site. A map showing the location of the Site is attached (Figure 1).

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: 26 January – 26 February 2018**

**CASE SUMMARY:**

B909 was formerly the base entomology (study of insects) laboratory and was responsible for testing small amounts of pesticides and herbicides. In addition, a 500-gallon above-ground storage tank (AST) set in subgrade concrete stored pesticides to the northwest of B909. The Air Force investigated the B909 facility to determine whether subsurface soil and groundwater was contaminated with pesticides as a result of laboratory activities or spills from the AST. Analytical results from soil samples in the vicinity of B909 indicate pesticides did not significantly impact soil and there is no evidence of historical spills or releases. The Air Force also removed the AST in 2004. As a result, the Central Valley Water Board approves the Air Force’s request for a ‘no further action (NFA) at B909.

B1550 was originally designated as NFA in 2002. However, the Air Force completed an additional investigation in 2004 to examine the presence of a geophysical anomaly on the south side of B1550. This anomaly was thought to be a previously unknown underground storage tank (ST). The 2004 investigation included an exploratory excavation but no UST was found. Instead, the excavation unearthed a 3.5-foot section of 4-inch diameter cast iron sewer pipe at 1 ft. below ground surface. The presence of the cast iron pipe likely caused the geophysical anomaly. Consequently, the Central Valley Water Board approves the Air Force’s request for NFA at B1550.

The Air Force’s request for NFA at B909 and B1550 is now open to the public for comments and concerns for a period of 30 days.

## WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Reports, internal justification memorandums, and closure presentations regarding the NFA requests can be viewed by accessing the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker respective websites at:

B909: [http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=DOD100050700](http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=DOD100050700)

B1550: [http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=T0604700319](http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0604700319)

The reference Case Number for B909 is 166-49 – 172 for B1550 is 5T24000477. The case file for each site is also available for review at the Central Valley Water Board office located at 11020 Sun Center Drive, 200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. To make an appointment for a file review, please call (916) 464-4636.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Any interested individual has the opportunity to learn more about the case by contacting either Mr. Roy Willis with AFCEC or Mr. John T. Murphy with the Central Valley Water Board. Written comments regarding concerns or issues on the planned regulatory closure for B909 and B1550 should be submitted to John Murphy at the Central Valley Water Board by **26 February 2018**.

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