
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

1 July 2022

Joseph D. Angulo
City of Merced
678 West 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

***ANNUAL ESTIMATE FOR COST RECOVERY PROGRAM – CITY OF MERCED,
MERCED MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, MERCED, MERCED COUNTY – COST
RECOVERY CODE – 1852300***

As you may know, Section 13304 of the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act allows the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) to recover reasonable expenses from responsible parties to oversee cleanup and abatement of discharges, which have adversely affected waters of the State. A cost recovery account has been established for your facility, and the Central Valley Water Board time charges are billed to you.

Section 13365 of Porter Cologne requires that annually we provide each responsible party with the following information:

1. A detailed estimate of the work to be performed or services to be provided, including a statement of the expected outcome of that work, based upon data available to the agency at the time.
2. The billing rates for all the individuals and classes of employees expected to engage in the work or service.
3. An estimate of all the expected charges to be billed to the responsible party by the agency.

Actions Expected of City of Merced

Central Valley Water Board staff anticipates City of Merced(The City) will conduct the following work at the subject site during the fiscal year of 2022-2023.

1. Conduct at least one round of groundwater monitoring for PFAS chemicals and submit sampling results.
2. Conduct routine groundwater monitoring activities and submit monitoring reports under Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R5-2011-0808.
3. Perform additional site investigations on an as needed basis, e.g., install and sample new monitoring wells to completely delineate PFAS groundwater plume.

Actions Expected of Central Valley Water Board Staff

Central Valley Water Board staff anticipates performing the following work for The City during the fiscal year of 2022-2023.

1. Review PFAS sampling results, groundwater monitoring reports, and provide responses.
2. Conduct site inspection.
3. Revise MRP No. R5-2011-0808 to include PFAS monitoring at the Merced Airport.

Estimate of Expected Charges

Central Valley Water Board staff expect to charge approximately 96 hours in the conduct of cleanup oversight for The City at the subject site during the fiscal year of 2022-2023, which runs from 1 July 2022 through 30 June 2023. The number of hours given is merely an estimate, and you will be billed for the actual hours spent. The State billing rate of about \$205 per hour is a statewide average, however, because overhead costs vary among the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards, the actual billing rate may be higher or lower than that amount, and the rate will vary depending on the salary of individual(s) responsible for the oversight. Based on the average rate, the estimated billing charge for this site is approximately \$19,680 for the fiscal year 2022-2023. Attachment 1 lists the billing rate for the classes of employees that may be working on this site, including an example of how the hourly billing rate is calculated.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Project Manager, Xueyuan (Helen) Yu, either by telephone at +1 (916) 464-4729 or by email to helen.yu@waterboards.ca.gov.

Steven W. Meeks
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer (Supervisory)

Attachment (1)

ATTACHMENT 1: BILLING RATE AND EXAMPLE CALCULATION

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM (SCP) BILLING COST EXPLANATION Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Employee Salary and Benefit by Classification [1]	Salary/Benefits Range	
AEO - Assistant Executive Officer CEA	\$ 11,143	\$ 26,995
ADMOFFII - Admin Officer II	\$ 8,341	\$ 10,364
AGPA - Associate Governmental Program Analyst	\$ 7,709	\$ 9,942
AFCNSL - Staff Counsel (Attorney)	\$ 9,995	\$ 15,140
SFCNSLIII - Staff Counsel III (Attorney)	\$ 14,287	\$ 18,328
SFCNSLIV - Staff Counsel IV (Attorney)	\$ 15,782	\$ 20,263
BSA - Business Serv Asst	\$ 4,374	\$ 6,891
EG - Engineering Geologist	\$ 8,376	\$ 15,770
EPMI - Environmental Program Manager I	\$ 16,204	\$ 20,144
EPMII - Environmental Program Manager II	\$ 18,806	\$ 21,364
ES - Environmental Scientist	\$ 5,936	\$ 11,351
EOI - Exec Officer I	\$ 21,626	\$ 24,568
EOII - Exec Officer II	\$ 22,155	\$ 25,165
OA - Office Assistant	\$ 4,024	\$ 5,627
OT - Office Technician	\$ 4,707	\$ 6,068
PWRCE - Principal Water Resources Control Engineer	\$ 19,706	\$ 22,382
PPS - Public Participation Specialist	\$ 7,709	\$ 9,651
SEA - Sanitary Engineering Associate	\$ 8,690	\$ 10,880
SET - Sanitary Engineering Technician	\$ 5,986	\$ 8,600
SEG - Senior Engineering Geologist	\$ 14,766	\$ 18,481
SRES - Senior Environmental Scientist	\$ 14,013	\$ 17,421
SRES - Senior Environmental Scientist (Spec)	\$ 10,506	\$ 13,069
SWRCE - Senior Water Resources Control Engineer	\$ 14,766	\$ 18,481
SSA - Staff Services Analyst	\$ 4,938	\$ 8,266
SUEG - Supervising Engineering Geologist	\$ 16,220	\$ 20,303
SUWRCE - Supervising Water Resources Control Engineer	\$ 16,220	\$ 20,303
WRCE - Water Resources Control Engineer	\$ 8,376	\$ 15,690

Intermittent Employees:

SA - Scientific Aid \$15.68/hour \$18.60/hour

Note: The State is currently in negotiations with the unions so the upper limits of these ranges may be subject to change.

Operating Expenses and Equipment [2] (both State and Regional Board offices)

Indirect Costs (Overhead + Admin = cost of doing business)\$\$

131%

Billing Example for One Month Salary

WRCE - Water Resources Control Engineer

Total Direct Labor Charges [3] (per month): \$ 15,690

Contract Charges (if applicable): \$ -

Direct Labor Overhead: \$ 11,772

State Board Program Admin and Overhead: \$ 2,358

Regional Board Program Admin and Overhead: \$ 6,433

Total Cost (per month): \$ 36,253

Divided by 176 hours per month equals per hour: \$206

(Due to the various classifications that expend SCP resources an average of **\$205.00** per hour can be used for projection purposes.)

[1] The name and classification of employees performing oversight work will be listed on invoices you receive.

[2] The examples are estimates based on recent billings. Actual charges may be higher or lower.

[3] Total Direct Labor Charges = Salary and Benefits