

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER

FEB 23 1999

QUALITY CONTROL BOARD



Hanson  
Permanent Cement  
24001 Stevens Creek Boulevard  
Cupertino, CA 95014-5659

February 19, 1999

Mr. John West  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Francisco Bay Region  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Subject: Status of Corrective Measures Implemented at the Hanson Permanente Cement Facility, Settlement Pond 16 ("Dinky Shed Pond")**

Dear Mr. West:

This letter provides an update of the corrective measures implemented at the Hanson Permanente Cement Company facility (the Site) to Settlement Pond 16 ("Dinky Shed Pond") since our meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 1999. As observed, on Tuesday the side wall of the Dinky Shed Pond adjacent to Permanente Creek (Creek) had washed out allowing sediment laden water to spill over into the Creek. In addition, we observed runoff to the Creek from the catchment area beneath the pre-blend dome and through a surface drainage pipe.

The rain gauge indicated a total rainfall of 0.57ins. when read on Wednesday morning. To my knowledge, there was no significant rainfall after our observations at the Dinky Shed area. Thus, we believe these incidents occurred during a storm event.

Interim measures were implemented immediately to stop the discharge of water from the Dinky Shed Pond until this Pond can be removed as part of the long term Site objectives outlined in the February 1, 1999 report. Upon discovery of the discharge on Tuesday, a pump was installed within one hour to divert the water into Pond 9 to allow the sediment to settle out before flowing into the Creek. To prevent additional water from flowing into the Pond, a berm was installed at the Base of Quarry Road by 5:00 p.m. that evening. The water contained by the berm is still being diverted into Pond 9.

The Dinky Shed Pond was excavated on Wednesday, February 17, 1999 to increase capacity and retention time. The excavated material was transported to the active overburden disposal area. You will recall that during our meeting on Tuesday morning we advised you of our plan to excavate accumulated sediment from the Dinky Shed Pond either that afternoon or the following day.

Tuesday afternoon I ordered a Phase Separator Filtration System to be delivered to the Site to filter the sediment from the water within the Pond before it is discharged to the Creek. The earliest time that Rain For Rent could deliver the system was Wednesday, February 17, 1999. On Wednesday morning we conducted a pilot test of the system. Due to the clay content and high percentage of fine sediment, the filtration system did not achieve the total suspended solids limit of 50 milligrams per liter (mg/l). Therefore, an alternate sediment filtration unit has been ordered. A demonstration unit will be delivered to the Site either Friday, February 19, 1999 or Monday, February 22, 1999. The filtration unit consists of a media filter (sand and gravel filter) followed by a particulate filter (bag and cartridge filters) in series. Based on the results of the demonstration unit, a full-scale filtration unit will be delivered and installed at the Site next week.

In addition to treating the water from the Dinky Shed Pond, we will also treat the water from the culvert located across the Creek from the Pond whence the overflow. The current drainage pipe will be extended so the water from the culvert discharges into the Dinky Shed Pond, is pumped through the new filtration system and discharged to the Creek after treatment. Influent and effluent samples will be collected to determine the sediment removal rate and the effectiveness of the filtration system.

We are investigating the cause of the overflow of the Dinky Shed Pond. It appears that side wall of the Pond was breached due to an excess of sediment that had accumulated in the Pond. The source of the sediment has been traced to the sand pile located adjacent to Quarry Road. The sand apparently washed out during the storm event which occurred on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. To prevent such a washout from happening in the future, the sand pile will be relocated to another area of the Site, away from the Creek, as expeditiously as possible.

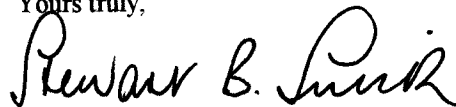
Although I acknowledge your past recommendations with respect to the Dinky Shed Pond, as you are aware we have undertaken several actions to mitigate potential problems in that area: (1) we have now excavated accumulated sediment from that pond twice since October, 1998; (2) our staff inspect this area every day, Monday through Friday; (3) the drop inlets have been installed on Quarry Road to minimize the amount of sediment transported to the pond; and the lower portion of Quarry Road has been concreted. In addition, Diane Mims personally inspected the area on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, I personally inspected the area on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, and George Leyva apparently visited the area on Saturday February 13<sup>th</sup>. Ray Moran inspected the area on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. None of these individuals observed any overflow from the pond, or any breach of the pond walls.

As requested, we collected grab samples of the Creek (upgradient and downgradient of the discharge site) and of the discharge, and analyzed those samples for turbidity. Those results are 600 NTU's, 652 NTU's, and 1000 NTU's respectively.

As described above, Hanson has acted promptly to implement interim measures to correct the discharge from the Dinky Shed Pond. An update will be submitted next week outlining the effectiveness of the new filtration system. We will continue to work with Regional Board staff to improve the storm water BMPs at the Site.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (408) 996-4271 or Beth Hamilton at (408) 487-1225.

Yours truly,



Stewart B. Smith  
Vice President, Operations

Cc: H.Kazemi - RWQCB