From: David Albright
To: Nancy Rumrill
Subject: Fw: Maui Injection well effluent found in ocean
Date: 08/07/2008 03:20 PM

Hi Nancy,

Sorry to not forward this to you sooner. Sounds like there may be an announcement soon. David

----- Forwarded by David Albright/R9/USEPA/US on 08/07/2008 03:19 PM -----

Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US

07/28/2008 02:00 PM

To: Nancy Woo/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Doug Eberhardt/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, David Albright/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Janet Hashimoto/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

cc: John Kemmerer/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, DavidW Smith/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: Maui Injection well effluent found in ocean

FYI. The note below from Chip Hunt at USGS confirms that he was able to identify wastewater tracers from Maui ww injection wells in the ocean. The plumes surface right at the shore in wading depth water!!! Stand by for a full briefing on the findings in a couple of weeks. We should be thinking out our options under NPDES.

Note that there is already widespread public and agency awareness/understanding that nutrients from the injection wells are fueling nuisance algal blooms at Kihei and Lahaina. DLNR has publicized this to gain support for their ban on taking herbivorous fish and urchins in the Lahaina area.

Wendy

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----- Forwarded by Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US on 07/28/2008 01:43 PM -----

Charles D Hunt <cdhunt@usgs.gov>

07/25/2008 10:13 PM

To: Wendy Wiltse/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

cc: watson.okubo@doh.hawaii.gov, Stephen S Anthony <santhony@usgs.gov>, Gordon W Tribble <gtribble@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Fw: Lahaina -- (hot potato)

Hi, Wendy, yes very soon - perhaps as early as second week of August. Here are developments and constraints:

1. Briefed Watson informally in June when we had instrument-trolling and fabric-brighteners results mapped up. Successful in finding localized seeps and springs as fresh as 30-50% freshwater (in marine water-column samples, a couple with inverted funnel right over bubbling seep and up into bottle). And succesful with hi brighteners readings at those seeps.

2. Have received all chemistry data except 15N in water and algal tissue. This includes nutrients, pharmaceuticals, waste-indicator compounds (personal-care products).

3. Definite wastewater signature at several samples, in the form of hi N & P, hi brighteners, and detectable carbamazepine, sulfamethoxazole, caffeine, benadryl, 2 musk fragrances, and a couple fire retardants. And these are in marine water-column samples, albeit some right over prominent seeps.

4. **In summary, succesful wastewater detection in nearshore waters**, which I've conveyed to Watson and within our field team. However, please keep confidential to the broader community until we've validated results and peer-reviewed an official briefing presentation for DOH, EPA, and stakeholders. I can arrange the web / phone hookup again for benefit of EPA San Fran.

I'm just finishing 1st of 2 field weeks at Enchanted Lakes w/ Dave Penn for his TMDL / watershed sanitary survey, so I'm fully booked week of July 28. After that I can work up a briefing, and hopefully 15N results will be in by then.

Chip Hunt --USGS-- 808-587-2414 cdhunt@usgs.gov