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**San Joaquin County
Mosquito & Vector
Control District**

Memo

To: Kay DeGeest, SJPEA Representative
From: John R. Stroh, Manager
CC: Duane Bridgewater, Larry Nolin, and Jim Sheffield
Date: 6/3/98
Re: Employee wastewater handling information update

Following is the latest information I have regarding wastewater handling information and employee safety issues:

- The District has developed a wastewater information binder for each employee. The binder, titled "Agricultural & Municipal Wastewater Information", includes all of the documentation and reference materials collected since the District received the March 12, 1998 letter from SJPEA. The binders will be presented to the employees at a general staff meeting on June 9, 1998. Management personnel will review the contents of the binder, which includes general safety and personal hygiene information about working safely with wastewater. After review, the employees will be provided an opportunity to evaluate the information provided and help determine what, if any, additional training or information is needed. If necessary, the District will contract with appropriate industrial hygiene firms that specialize in training employees on wastewater handling.
- The District will be contracting with a private firm to test water from representative types of local mosquito breeding sources (i.e., agricultural, industrial, and municipal wastewater facilities, county drains and ditches, etc.). The tests will include general microbiological testing, including evaluation of bacterial pathogens, parasites, and human viruses. Copies of lab reports will be provided to employees as they become available.
- The District will implement a Hepatitis A and Tetanus immunization program for all employees subject to contact with wastewater, per the recommendations of the California Department of Health Services/Department of Industrial Relations, Hazard Evaluation System and Information Service (HESIS). The immunization program will take place at the same time as the annual toxicosis test is performed, pursuant to Section 3.8 of the current MOU. The immunization program will include an initial hepatitis A and tetanus shot, followed by a hepatitis A antibody check approximately 8-10 days following the initial shot, and then followed by a hepatitis A booster shot in 6-12 months. Dameron Hospital in Stockton will administer the program. Dameron will make the results of the hepatitis A and tetanus inoculation program available to the District, and the District will provide the information to the employees as it becomes available.

- The District will implement a uniform program for the positions of MCT III, MCT IV, Biologist, and Entomologist as of July 1, 1998. The uniform program will be the same program provided to all other employees. The uniform program will satisfy the recommendations and requirements that employees who contact or handle wastewater change clothing before leaving work, preventing contamination of personal laundry. This will modify Section 2.5 and Attachment A of the current MOU for the Supervisory Unit, but it is assumed that due to the nature of this item that it is in the best interest of all parties to have a safe and effective workplace and work conditions.
- The District will provide anti-bacterial soap at all work locations, including vehicles, for personal hygiene use.

Do not hesitate to contact me at 982-4675 if you have any questions or need additional information.