

CENTRAL COAST LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NETWORK (CCLEAN)

Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2025, 2:00 pm

Via Teleconference Zoom Webinar

The meeting was called to order on December 3rd, 2025, at 2 pm by Patrick Treanor. Roll call was taken of the voting committee members signed on to Zoom.

Participants – Voting Members: Present:

Anne Hogan, Wastewater System Manager: City of Santa Cruz

Jennie Munster, Laboratory Manager: City of Santa Cruz

Patrick Treanor, District Engineer: CAWD

Mohammed Serageldin, Laboratory Manager: CAWD

Olivia Woolery, Laboratory Supervisor: Monterey One Water (M1W)

Mike Crane, Water Quality Chemist: City of Watsonville

Connie Machuca, Laboratory Manager: City of Watsonville

Jeremy Long, Wastewater Division Manager: City of Scotts Valley

Voting Members: Absent:

Dave Martin, Environmental Compliance Inspector: City of Santa Cruz

Sarah Stevens, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Supervisor: Monterey One Water

Jose Guzman, Operations Manager: Monterey One Water

Laura Dale, EH&S Manager: Vistra Corp (Moss Landing Power Plant)

A quorum was present.

Participants – Non-Voting Members: Present

Aroon Melwani, Senior Scientist, Central Coast Managing Principal Partner: Applied Marine Sciences (AMS)

Sarah Bragg-Flavan, Water Resource Control Engineer: Central Coast Water Board

Cameron Kostigen Mumper, Associate Manager | Pure Water Soquel

Non-Voting Members: Absent

Dane Hardin, Senior Marine Scientist, Principal: Applied Marine Sciences

Sarah Crable, Water Resource Control Engineer: Central Coast Water Board

Virtual Public Attendees: None

1. **Appearances/Public Comments:** *No Public Appearances / Public Comment*

2. **Agenda Changes:**

None.

3. **Agenda Items:**

A. Introductions:

Attendees were noted and there was a quorum. The committee welcomed Connie Machuca, new Laboratory Manager for Watsonville and also congratulated Jennie Munster for her new role as Laboratory Manger for Santa Cruz.

B. Chair's Report by Santa Cruz Representative

<p><u>Discussion:</u></p> <p>Pure Water Soquel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pure Water Soquel started discharging RO concentrate and backwash water this past Monday. Jennie has been meeting with AMS and Anne Hogan to formalize sampling locations for CCLEAN monitoring (either 001A or 001B). Cameron Kostigen Mumper mentioned that at 001B there was a tap that a composite sampler could be hooked up to.
<p><u>Decision:</u></p> <p>None.</p>
<p><u>Action Item:</u></p> <p>None.</p>

C. Review of Prior Meeting Minutes

<p><u>Discussion:</u></p> <p>Patrick brought up the October 22nd meeting minutes on the screen and gave a quick synopsis.</p>
<p><u>Decision:</u></p> <p><i>Minutes were approved by consensus, with no objections raised.</i></p>
<p><u>Action Item:</u></p> <p>None.</p>

D. Lead Agency Remarks

Patrick Treanor reported that CAWD successfully hired a new lab analyst over the past month.

E. Program Director's Report

Discussion:

Phase 4 Technical Memorandum – Status and Deliverables

- Aroon reported AMS has been working with Dane and Jackie to complete the Phase 4 Technical Memo first draft.
- AMS did not meet the end-of-November target; Aroon stated a first draft is expected by the end of next week.
- Aroon noted Dane's annual trip created a timing constraint; the draft may be circulated before Dane's review/input, though Dane will receive it simultaneously and provide feedback.
- Memo Contents – Aroon described what the first draft will contain:
 1. Removal efficiency analysis for Santa Cruz and Watsonville (Task 1).
 2. Nutrients and TSS analysis, particularly in ocean and river monitoring (Task 2; continuation of prior meeting discussion).
 3. FIBs analysis, focusing on existing time series and comparison of recent ocean monitoring relative to the facilities' effluent monitoring (Task 3 emphasis).
- Aroon stated two tasks will be developed for the second version of memo:
 4. A literature review on other endpoints/effects for chemicals monitored in CCLEAN.
 5. A technical evaluation of alternating monitoring frequency (i.e., "dropping years") and how that would affect the ability to detect trends across effluent and river datasets.

Annual Report / Data Management (EDD status)

- AMS is also working on annual report data processing, targeting delivery to the Committee by end of January. Aroon reported AMS expects to be ahead of schedule and is waiting on only a few remaining EDDs.
- All received EDDs have been QA'd and queued for submittal to CEDEN.
- AMS anticipates sending the Committee the 2024–2025 dataset once final EDDs are received.

Neonicotinoids – Side-by-Side Study Proposal (GC-MS vs LC-MS)

- Aroon revisited the recommendation to shift neonicotinoid analyses to LC-MS and proposed side by side analysis with GC-MS.
- AMS contacted an accredited Southern California lab (Weck Laboratories) capable of LC-MS.
- AMS discussed coordination between Physis (current neonicotinoid lab) and Weck to perform split analyses on the same sample.
- Aroon suggested using contingency funds to cover a subset of samples and proposed focusing on:

- Rivers
- Possibly one or two effluent sites
- Ocean matrix
- Estimated total cost: roughly \$2,000–\$3,000 for the subset.
- AMS also spoke with another monitoring program facing the same recommendation. That program has already begun side-by-side work and found some differences.
- AMS suggested coordinating and producing a short outcome memo combining results if CCLEAN proceeds.

Committee Feedback

- Jennie asked what matrices the other program is sampling (water-based matrices; primarily surface water / ag runoff).
- Jennie requested a written summary and cost proposal from AMS for consideration at the next meeting, to allow adequate planning ahead of wet-season sampling.

Decision:

None

Action Item:

- AMS to circulate first draft Phase 4 Technical Memo by end of next week (noting review status).
- AMS to prepare a brief written proposal summarizing neonicotinoid side-by-side scope, matrices, and costs for review at the next meeting.
- AMS to continue EDD completion/QA and prepare to distribute the 2024–2025 dataset once remaining EDDs are received.

F. CCLEAN Topics or Questions for Water Board Staff

Discussion:

Jennie indicated she had two questions for Water Board staff. No other members raised questions.

Bypass Reporting / Definition

- Jennie asked for clarification on what constitutes a “bypass” under the updated reporting approach.
- Sarah stated the major change is that bypass reporting will be done through CIWQS (standardized language and reporting expectations).
- Sarah clarified that if an action is covered in the facility’s permit, it is not considered a bypass.
- Sarah noted bypass reporting becomes important when changing/moving

treatment technologies.

Quality Assurance Program / Manual Status and Monitoring Plan

- Jennie asked whether the Quality Manual had been approved.
- Sarah stated approval is still pending; the Water Board is compiling comments and will summarize feedback after reviews.
- Sarah explained the monitoring plan currently exists as Attachment A to the QAP and is written on an annual basis, but it may be possible to define a longer period (e.g., two years), given review effort.
- Aron noted the current year is effectively “status quo,” but changes anticipated in 2026 (including Phase 4 shifts) will require discussion of timing and plan coverage.
- Sarah noted a major shift to Phase 4 may also prompt broader Water Board engagement, potentially including a Board informational item, because CCLEAN has not been substantively presented in that venue since approximately 2008.

Jennie suggested that when budget is reviewed next, the Committee should consider whether this type of Board presentation work should be supported via contingency or as a line item.

Decision:

None.

Action Item:

- Continue coordination with Water Board on Quality Manual/QAP review timeline.
- Consider budget planning for potential Water Board informational item (as Phase 4 shifts advance).

G. Water Board’s Report

Discussion:

Sarah Bragg-Flavan shared a few updates:

- She noted the State Water Board has developed a plan to proceed with inland permits affected by Test of Significant Toxicity (TST) issues; inland permits were previously on hold.
- For CCLEAN facilities, Sarah stated there is no change to current permit priorities; Santa Cruz, CAWD (Carmel), and Scotts Valley permits remain focus areas for early to mid-next year.

Decision:

None.

Action Item:

None.

H. Financial Report

Discussion:

Patrick Treanor shared updates:

- Patrick reported financials are shown through Quarter 2.
- Billing has been issued for Q2; Patrick was unsure whether all Q2 invoices have been paid, but confirmed they have been sent.
- AMS invoices have been received.
- Expenditures were described as approximately one-fifth of the annual budget to date.
- Jennie asked about timing/handling of contingency fund collection and documentation. Patrick clarified contingency is included in the total annual budget and effectively collected through overall billings, but may not appear as a distinct quarterly allocation line item.

Decision:

None

Action Item:

None

I. General Announcements

Conferences / Training

- Olivia asked whether agencies plan to attend CWEA conferences (P3S and annual conference). Olivia reported she will be presenting in the lab track at P3S and Monterey One Water anticipates sending at least one analyst to the annual conference.
- Location notes:
 - Annual CWEA conference: Sacramento
 - P3S: Riverside

- Jeremy noted he expects to attend CWEA (likely with one other person).

AMS OPC Proposal (additional announcement)

- Aroon noted AMS submitted an OPC proposal (Ocean Protection Council) focused on sampling the Pajaro River and Old Salinas River for legacy contaminants and source tracking.
- AMS received letters of support from:
 - the Sanctuary,
 - a local group,
 - and the Water Board.
- AMS expects to hear in the spring whether the proposal is funded; if funded, coordination with CCLEAN monitoring would be expected.

Laboratory Accreditation / ELAP-TNI Discussion

- Mohammed reported CAWD's lab applied for a combined accreditation (TNI and ELAP) with auditors scheduled to visit January 5–6.
- Jennie and Mohammed briefly discussed ELAP vs third-party assessor processes (IAS), with Jennie noting different experiences depending on instrumentation/scope.
- Jennie suggested creating a future agenda item or separate meeting to support cross-agency "lab chat" and shared learning; Jeremy noted he would benefit from such discussions.
- Group discussed possibly holding a separate meeting in the new year, potentially quarterly, for lab-related Q&A outside of CCLEAN's core scope.

Action Items:

- Jennie to consider organizing a separate lab-focused meeting/powwow in early 2026 (potentially quarterly) and follow up with participants.

J. Next Meeting Date:

January 28th at 2:00 PM was the next scheduled meeting for the steering committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT: *Patrick Treanor adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.*