

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

October 2024

EMPLOYEE: Holly Young
UNIT: Federal Facilities Unit
TITLE: Engineering Geologist
SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Mark Clardy, Senior Engineering Geologist

Holly Young, an Engineering Geologist in the Site Cleanup Program's Federal Facilities Unit, has been nominated for an Employee Recognition Award. Holly has been with the Regional Board for more than two years and became a California Professional Geologist in May 2023. Holly primarily manages site cleanup at Beale Air Force Base, a Department of Defense project. She also serves as the Office of Emergency Services report coordinator for all three Region 5 offices and compiles reports received and follow-up actions to periodically update management.

At Beale Air Force Base, Holly has recently collaborated with the Air Force, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and Regional Board staff during review of the Record of Decision (ROD) for Site CG044. This site consists of five groundwater plumes along the western base boundary with trichloroethene (TCE) as the main contaminant of concern. Due to the Air Force's inability to fully characterize the downgradient extent of one plume which has migrated off base toward homes with domestic supply wells, both the Regional Board and DTSC declined to approve the ROD. Although this was a potentially contentious matter with the Air Force, Holly successfully navigated the issue with the project stakeholders while maintaining a positive working relationship with the parties involved.

Holly comes to project team and internal staff meetings well prepared and often independently researches technical issues beforehand. Her presentations provide sufficient information to help others understand the project background and current issues. She typically proposes potential paths forward including next steps to address specific issues. Holly is attentive to document review deadlines and keeps her supervisor informed of upcoming review requests.

Holly frequently assists unit staff with technical and administrative issues, especially for staff newer to the Regional Board. This helps foster comradery within the unit and gives staff another resource when their supervisor may not be available. On several occasions, coworkers have expressed their gratitude for Holly's willingness to take the time to assist them.

Considering these efforts, Holly is hereby nominated for this ERA.