Excerpt on contaminants found at the former Burke sewage treatment plant (wastewater treatment plant, WWTP)

from 1989 Envirodyne report:

A sediment sample (TS-12) collected at a former decantation pond at the former WWTP was found to contain petroleum hydrocarbon (4200 ug/g), and organic solvents (including methylene chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, trichlorofluormethane, and toluene). Matrix effects interferred with analysis of sample TS-12, making identification of the organics detected tentative and quantification uncertain.

A sediment sample (TS-11) collected from beneath the surface water discharge point to the ditch which connects with Starkweather Creek was also found to contain petroleum hydrocarbons (5500 ug/g), methylene chloride, toluene, and 1,1,1-trichloroethane, as well as ethylbenzene, unidentified organics, and elevated levels of mercury and lead. Matrix effects also interfered with organic analysis of Sample TS-11.

The surface water discharge (TW-4) from the former Burke lagoons to the ditch connected to Starkweather Creek contained a trace of tetrachloroethylene (3.2 ug/1) and relatively high levels of petroleum hydrocarbons (65 mg/1).

Three soil samples (TS-7, TS-8, and TS-9) collected at sludge drying bed cells showed the presence of methylene chloride at all sites, numerous additional organic chemicals (including toluene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, hexane, and benzene) at TS-8 and TS-9, and numerous fluorinated organics (trichloro-fluoromethane, a trichlorofluoroethane isomer and a tridecafluorohexane isomer) in TS-9. Matrix effects interfered with organic analysis of samples TS-8 and TS-9, making identification of these compounds tentative.

Contaminants detected in a groundwater well (TG-2) positioned downgradient of the former Burke WWTP included lead, chromium, and cadmium. The level of lead exceeded the MCLG and MCL. The level of cadmium exceeded the MCLG but not MCL. The levels of chromium exceeded the MCL but not MCLG. No petroleum hydrocarbons or organics were found in this well.