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**COUNTY OF VENTURA  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Tar ball cleanup on Ventura County beaches ends**

VENTURA, Calif. – The Ventura County Sheriff Office of Emergency Services announced today the end of tar ball cleanup efforts on Ventura County beaches. Nearly 125 response personnel completed their final cleanup work at McGrath State Beach and Ormond Beach yesterday.

“Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique teams will conduct final field inspections of the beaches in Ventura County starting today,” said OES manager, Kevin McGowan. “They will be looking to make sure that all vital remediation work has been completed to their satisfaction before officially ending cleanup efforts in the area.”

The assessment teams are made up of experts from the federal government, state government and one member representing the responsible party.

“The public may continue to see some tar on the beaches,” said McGowan. “There is natural oil seepage in the ocean off our shoreline, so some amount of tar on the beaches is considered normal and will remain as part of the natural environment.”

The OES will remain in close contact with the Refugio Incident Unified Command Group to address any possible future impacts to the Ventura County coastline. The public is asked to remain vigilant and report unusual amounts of oil or tar balls to the Coast Guard National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802.

The Ventura County Department of Environmental Health has a quick and easy way to view the latest ocean water quality testing results for your favorite beaches in Ventura County. The VC SafeBeaches app allows you to search Ventura County beaches by name or map location, and customize your app to list just your favorite beaches. You can also view any current beach advisories, and learn about the State ocean-water quality standards for which Ventura County beaches are monitored. It is available from the App Store or Google Play.

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