

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
June 10, 2009

- ITEM: 8
- SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Reissuance: Waste Discharge Requirements for U.S. Navy at Naval Base Coronado, Discharge to San Diego Bay and the Pacific Ocean (Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0081, NPDES Permit No. CA0109185)(*Vicente Rodriguez*)
- PURPOSE: To hold a public hearing and receive comments from interested parties and interested persons regarding the tentative NPDES permit for waste discharge requirements for The United States Department of the Navy at Naval Base Coronado (Discharger).
- PUBLIC NOTICE: Notices for this hearing and availability of the tentative Order were sent by mail on May 4, 2009 and email on May 5, 2009 to all known interested parties and interested persons for review and comments. A newspaper notice was published in the San Diego Union Tribune on May 5, 2009. Copies of the tentative Order have been made available for public review at the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board office and were posted on the San Diego Regional Board's web site on May 4, 2009. These procedures served as the 30-day official public notification for this action, as required by 40 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) 124.10.
- This tentative Order (R9-2009-0081) is a revised version of a previous draft that was initially noticed and made publicly available in May 2008 (R9-2008-0062). The changes from the May 2008 version are shown in underline/strikeout format.
- DISCUSSION: The Discharger is currently discharging pursuant to Order No. R9-2003-0008 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0109185. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated November 2007, and applied for a NPDES permit renewal to discharge steam condensate; diesel engine cooling water; pier boom cleaning wastewater; utility vault and manhole

dewatering wastewater; pier washing wastewater; Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU) product water; boat rinsing wastewater; swimmer rinsing wastewater; marine mammal enclosure cleaning wastewater; miscellaneous wastewater; and industrial storm water at numerous discharge locations from Naval Base Coronado, hereinafter Facility. The application was deemed complete on March 27, 2008.

The Discharger manages several naval installations in the San Diego area. These installations are aligned into three major naval bases, including the Facility, Naval Base Point Loma (NBPL), and Naval Base San Diego (NBSD). The Facility is comprised of the following installations: Naval Air Station, North Island (NASNI); Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado (NAB); Naval Outlying Landing Field, Imperial Beach (NOLF); Naval Radio Receiving Facility (NRRF); Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, San Clemente Island (NALF); Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape Training School (SERE); La Posta Mountain Warfare Training Center (La Posta MWTC); and Camp Morena.

Of the eight installations aligned under the Facility, only NASNI, NAB, NOLF, NRRF, and NALF have discharges subject to NPDES permitting. NALF is located in the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board jurisdictional area and, therefore, is not regulated the San Diego Regional Board. Discharges of waste from NASNI, NAB, NOLF, AND NRRF are within the San Diego Regional Board's jurisdiction and are included in tentative Order R9-2009-081

Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point Nos. SC-001 through SC-066, CW-001 through CW-004, BW-001, UV-001 through UV-036, PW-001, RO-001, BR-001 and BR-002, SR-001 and SR-002, ME-001, NAS-001 through NAS-58, NAB-001 through NAB-052, and NOLF-001 through NOLF-003 (see table on cover page) to the Pacific Ocean, the San Diego Bay, and the Tijuana River, waters of the United States.

A description of each discharge is provided in section II.A of Attachment F (Fact Sheet) to the tentative Order. Figure B-1 of Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides flow schematics for the Facility.

To date, the Regional Board has received comments from The Navy (see Supporting Document 5). Copies of all comments received, responses to comments, and any errata to the tentative Order will be provided to the Regional Board in the second agenda mailing.

COMPLIANCE
RECORD:

The Facility exceeded effluent limitations specified in Order No. R9-2003-0008, Section B.2 at Outfall No. 14 for both samples taken during the 2006/2007 sampling period. The Order specifies effluent limits of 63.6 µg/L of total copper and 117 µg/L of zinc at Outfall No. 14. The Facility reported the following exceedances of these effluent limitations on their SMRs submitted to the Regional Water Board.

- December 27, 2007 – 76 µg/L, total copper;
- December 27, 2007 – 210 µg/L, total zinc;
- April 20, 2007 – 610 µg/L, total copper; and
- April 20, 2007 – 3,800 µg/L, total zinc.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None

SUPPORTING DOCS:

1. Location Map
2. Underline/Strikeout Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0081
3. Copy of tentative Order transmittal letter to discharger and interested parties, dated May 4, 2009
4. Copy of tentative Order transmittal letter to discharger and interested parties, dated May 20, 2008.
5. US Navy Comment Letter dated May 27, 2009. Enclosures 1 to 10 on CD

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES
FROM CURRENT ORDER:

The Industrial Storm Water Acute toxicity effluent limit was changed as follows:

- a. Order No. R9-2002-0161:
In a 96-hour static or continuous flow bioassay test, the discharge shall not produce less than 90% survival, 50% of the time, and not less than 70% survival, 10% of the time, using a standard test species and protocol approved by the Regional Water Board. Numerical effluent limits are sampled twice a year and toxicity is sampled at least once a year. This requirement was based on language from the 1974 Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Policy.

- b. Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0080:
Discharges of storm water shall achieve a rating of "Pass" for acute toxicity with the determination of Pass or Fail from a single-effluent-concentration (paired) acute toxicity test is determined using a one-tailed hypothesis test called a t-test. The objective of a Pass or Fail test is to determine if survival in the single treatment (100% effluent) is significantly different from survival in the control (0% effluent). The survival rate in the effluent toxicity must not be less than 5% of survival rate in the control sample, using standard statistical methods. Numerical effluent limits and toxicity are sampled at least twice a year.

This requirement was based on language from the 1974 Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Policy, the Basin Plan, EPA guidance document "Understanding and Accounting for Method Variability in Whole Effluent Toxicity Applications Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (EPA/833/R-00/003, 2000), EPA document Methods for Measuring Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms (5 th Edition); (EPA-821-R-02-012, 2002), and the results and comments from the Navy study "Storm Water Toxicity Evaluation Conducted at: Naval Station San Diego, Naval Submarine Base San Diego, Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, and Naval Air Station North Island, dated May 2006."

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the adoption of tentative Order No. R9-2009-0081.