

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**TENTATIVE  
ORDER NO. R9-2011-0014**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITY  
AGAINST**

**SAN DIEGO TRUCK BODY AND EQUIPMENT, INC.  
SPRING VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

**FOR**

**VIOLATION OF STATE BOARD ORDER NO. 97-03-DWQ  
AND WATER CODE SECTION 13260**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (hereinafter San Diego Water Board), having held a public hearing on January 12, 2011, to hear evidence and comments on the allegations contained in Complaint No. R9-2010-0129, dated October 7, 2010 (Complaint), having provided public notice thereof and not less than thirty (30) days for public comment, and on the recommendation for administrative assessment of Civil Liability in the amount of \$4,916, finds as follows:

1. San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. submitted a Notice of Intent on October 18, 2007 for coverage under State Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ, *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit No. CAS000001, Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Storm Water Associated With Industrial Activities Excluding Construction Activities (General Permit)*.
2. The integrity and effectiveness of the Industrial NPDES regulatory program relies upon discharger compliance accomplished by self-evaluation and self-reporting. Self-evaluation is accomplished by implementing the programs and provisions of Order No. 97-03-DWQ. Self-reporting is accomplished by the submission of an annual report as outlined in Order No. 97-03-DWQ Section B-14. The annual report includes a summary and evaluation of visual observations and sampling results, laboratory reports and an Annual Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation Report. Therefore, timely submittal of the required annual report is critically important for the evaluation of a facility's compliance with water quality standards.

3. Order No. 97-03-DWQ requires the submittal of an annual storm water monitoring report by July 1 of each year. San Diego Truck Body and Equipment Inc. failed to submit the annual reports for Fiscal Years (FY) 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.
4. Paragraph 3 and Attachment 3 of Order No. 97-03-DWQ require the payment of a \$1,008 annual fee. California Water Code (Water Code) section 13260(d)(1)(A) requires the payment of an annual fee if required by an applicable order. San Diego Truck Body and Equipment Inc. violated Water Code section 13260(d)(1)(A) by failing to pay the annual permit fee required to maintain coverage under Order No. 97-03-DWQ for FY 2008-2009.

### **Annual Reports**

5. Pursuant to Water Code section 13399.31, the San Diego Water Board issued Notices of Violation dated September 8, 2008 and October 17, 2008 for failure to submit the FY 2007-2008 annual storm water monitoring report. Both notices indicated the penalties associated with the failure to submit the required annual report.
6. Pursuant to Water Code section 13399.31, the San Diego Water Board issued Notices of Violation dated December 1, 2009 and March 9, 2010 for failure to submit the FY 2008-2009 annual storm water monitoring report. Both notices indicated the penalties associated with the failure to submit the required annual report.
7. Water Code sections 13399.31(d) and 13399.33 direct the San Diego Water Board to impose administrative civil liability in an amount that is not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and recover the costs incurred if a discharger fails to submit the required annual report within 60 days after the San Diego Water Board issues the initial notice of noncompliance.
8. San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. submitted the FY 2007-2008 annual monitoring report on December 12, 2008. The submission was 155 days past the initial due date of July 1, 2008 and 95 days after the initial notice of non-compliance.
9. San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. submitted the FY 2008-2009 annual monitoring report on June 21, 2010. The submission was 355 days past the initial due date of July 1, 2009, and 203 days after the initial notice of non-compliance.

### **Annual Fee**

10. The FY 2008-2009 fee of \$1,008 was invoiced by the State Water Board to San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. on October 31, 2008 indicating that payment was due by November 30, 2008. The State Water Board then notified San Diego Truck Body and Equipment Inc. of the fee delinquency with a Demand for Payment letter on December 12, 2008 and a Notice of Violation on January 27, 2009.
11. Pursuant to Water Code section 13261(b)(1), the maximum administrative civil liability which could be imposed by the San Diego Water Board for the failure to pay a required fee is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs. As of the date the Complaint was issued, San Diego Truck Body and Equipment Inc. had violated Water Code section 13260 for 675 days (November 30, 2008 to October 6, 2010). The maximum administrative civil liability for failing to pay the annual fee is six hundred seventy five thousand dollars (\$675,000).

### **Complaint**

12. On October 7, 2010, the Assistant Executive Officer issued Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R9-2010-0129 to San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. recommending the imposition of \$4,916 in liability for the violations described as follows:
  - a. FY 2007-2008 Annual Report Violation: One thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$1,150) for failure to submit the FY 2007-2008 annual report required by Order No. 97-03-DWQ. This includes the minimum penalty of \$1,000 plus staff costs of \$150.
  - b. FY 2008-2009 Annual Report Violation: One thousand three hundred dollars (\$1,300) for failure to submit the FY 2008-2009 annual report required by Order No. 97-03-DWQ. This includes the minimum penalty of \$1,000 plus staff costs of \$300.
  - c. FY 2008-2009 Annual Fee Violation: Two thousand four hundred sixty six dollars (\$2,466) for failure to pay the FY 2007-2008 annual fee. This includes staff costs to date of \$450.

13. The amount of discretionary assessment proposed for the annual fee violation is based upon consideration of factors contained in Water Code section 13327. Section 13327 specifies the factors that the San Diego Water Board shall consider in establishing the amount of discretionary liability for the alleged violations, which include: the nature, circumstance, extent, and gravity of the violations, the ability to pay, the effect on ability to continue in business, prior history of violation, the degree of culpability, economic benefit or savings, if any, resulting from the violation, and other matters as justice may require.
14. The penalty calculation methodology within section VI of the Water Quality Enforcement Policy incorporates the factors of Water Code section 13327 and supports the administrative civil liability against the San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$2,466 for the failure to pay the FY 2008-2009 annual fee (see Exhibit 1).
15. Issuance of this Order is an enforcement action taken by a regulatory agency and is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) pursuant to section 45321(a)(2), Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. This action is also exempt from the provisions of CEQA in accordance with section 15061(b)(3) of Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that pursuant to sections 13399.33 and 13261(b)(1) of the California Water Code, that:

1. Civil liability is imposed on San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. in the amount of four thousand nine hundred sixteen dollars (\$4,916).
2. San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. shall submit a check to the San Diego Water Board for \$4,916 payable to the "State Water Board Waste Discharge Permit Fund" within 30 days of the adoption of this Order.
3. Fulfillment of San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc.'s obligations under this Order constitutes full and final satisfaction of any and all liability for each allegation in Complaint No. R9-2010-0129.

4. If San Diego Truck Body and Equipment, Inc. fails to make the specified payment within the time limits specified in this Order, the San Diego Water Board may enforce this Order, including referring the matter to the Attorney General for collection.

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order imposing civil liability assessed by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on January 12, 2011.

TENTATIVE

DAVID W. GIBSON

Executive Officer

Exhibit 1: Penalty Calculation Methodology Decisions Summary Sheet

SMARTS: Violation ID 840411  
Enforcement ID 402597  
WDID No. 9 371021218

Discharger: San Deigo Truck Body and Equipment, Inc.

ACL Complaint No. R9-2011-0014

**Step 1: Potential Harm Factor = n/a for non-discharge violations**

**Step 2: Assessments for Discharge Violations = n/a for non-discharge violations**

<b>Step 3: Per Day Assesments for Non-Discharge Violations</b>					
Violations	Per Day Factor				Statutory Maximum Per Day [sec. 13350]
	Potential for Harm [ minor, moderate, major ]	Deviation from Requirement [ minor, moderate, major ]	Total Per Day Factor	Days of Violation	
Failure to pay FY 2008-2009 Annual Fee	minor	major	0.3	675	\$1,000

**(Per Day Factor) x (Total Days of Violation) x (Statutory Maximum)= Initial Liability From Steps 1 - 3**  
 (.3) x (675) x (\$1,000) = \$202,500

<b>Step 4: Adjustments</b>					
Violations	Culpability [ 0.5 - 1.5 ]	Cleanup and Cooperation [ 0.75 - 1.5 ]	History of Violations	Multiple Violations (Same Incident)	Adjusted Days of Violation
Failure to pay FY 2008-2009 Annual Fee	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	28

**Step 5: Total Base Liability Amount**  
 (Per day Factor x statutory maximum) x (Step 4 Adjustments)  
 (.3) x (\$1,000) x (1.5) x (28) = \$12,600

**Step 8: Economic Benefit**  
 \$1,076

**Step 6: Ability to Pay/Continue in Business**  
 [ Yes, No, Partly, Unknown ]  
 yes

<b>Step 9</b>	
Minimum Liability Amount	Maximum Liability Amount
\$1,184	\$675,000

<b>Step 7: Other Factors as Justice May Require</b>	
Costs of Investigation and Enforcement	Other Factors
\$450	(-\$10,584)

**Step 10: Final Liability Amount for Annual Fee Violation**  
 (total base liability) + (other factors)  
 (\$12,600) + (\$450) - (\$10,584)= \$2,466