

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

SAN DIEGO REGION

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT

DECEMBER 11, 2019

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

Consideration of Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197, *An Order Rescinding Order No. 87-108 and Addenda, Waste Discharge Requirements for The County of San Diego Rancho Del Campo Water Pollution Control Facility, San Diego County* (Sherrie Komeylyan).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197 is recommended.

KEY ISSUES

Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197 (**Supporting Document No. 1**), if adopted, rescinds Order No. 87-108, *Waste Discharge Requirements for The County of San Diego Rancho Del Campo Water Pollution Control Facility* and Addendum Nos. 1 - 4 to Order No. 87-108, *Addenda Modifying the Requirements for The County of San Diego Rancho Del Campo Water Pollution Control Facility, San Diego County* (collectively Order No. 83-09). The onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) at the Rancho Del Campo Water Pollution Control Facility Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility), owned and operated by the County of San Diego (Discharger), will be regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ *General Waste Discharge Requirement for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Permit).¹

PRACTICAL VISION

Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197 is consistent with the Strategizing for Healthy Waters chapter of the Practical Vision.² Utilizing statewide general permits helps the San Diego Water Board focus staff resources on larger projects and facilities within the region that pose a greater threat to water quality.

DISCUSSION

The Facility is located in Campo, an unincorporated community located in southeastern San Diego County (**Supporting Document No. 2**). San Diego Water Board staff conducted an inspection of the Facility, reviewed the Dischargers Report of Waste Discharge for enrollment of the Facility in the General Permit, and determined the OWTS is eligible for enrollment in the General Permit.

¹ General Permit:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf

² Practical Vision:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/practical_vision/docs/PV-WQCC_Version.pdf

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

The significant differences between the General Permit and Order No. 87-108 are:

1. Order No. 87-108 includes individual Waste Discharge Requirements just for the Facility and the General Permit is an order that regulates small domestic wastewater facilities statewide.
2. The monitoring required by the General Permit is less stringent than the monitoring included in Order No. 87-108, however the new monitoring program is more appropriate and consistent with facilities of similar size and discharge across the State.

COMPLIANCE RECORD

Eleven staff enforcement letters and three Notices of Violation have been issued to the Facility for the following violations of Order No. 87-108:

- Exceedance of effluent limits for total nitrate in 2000 through 2002. In May 2000, October 2001, and December 2002, the Facility was issued staff enforcement letters for exceedance of the effluent limit for total nitrate.
- The Facility exceeded effluent limits for total dissolved solids (TDS), and total suspended solids (TSS) in 2000 through 2003. In March 2004, the Facility was issued a Notice of Violation for exceedance of effluent limits for total nitrate, TDS, and TSS.
- Violations for 2004 and 2005 included exceedance of effluent nitrate, TDS, TSS, and biological oxygen demand (BOD) limitations. In July and November 2006, the Facility was issued staff enforcement letters for exceedance of effluent limits for total nitrate, TDS, TSS, and BOD.
- Exceedance of effluent limits for BOD in April – June, July – September, October – December 2006 reporting periods. In March 2007, the Facility was issued a staff enforcement letter for exceedance of the daily maximum effluent limit for BOD.
- Effluent limit for BOD and TSS were exceeded in 2007, and 2008. In January 2008, the Facility was issued staff enforcement letters for exceedance of effluent limits for BOD and TSS.
- Effluent limits for BOD were exceeded in 2009. On June 24, 2009, the Facility was issued a Notice of Violation for exceedance of effluent limits for BOD.
- The Facility exceeded effluent limits for BOD, TSS, and total nitrate effluent limits in April-June 2009. On October 13, 2009, the Facility was issued a Notice of Violation for exceedance of effluent limits for BOD, TSS, and total nitrate.
- Exceedance of the effluent limit for TSS in July, September, October, and December 2009, and April, May, and June of 2010. The 12-month average effluent limits for total nitrate were exceeded in March, June, and September 2010. In April, October and November 2010, the Facility was issued staff enforcement letters for exceedance of effluent limits for total nitrate and TSS.
- The Facility exceeded the 12-month average effluent limits for total nitrate in October – December 2011, and in January 2012. In November 2011, and June 2012 the Facility was issued staff enforcement letters for exceedances of effluent limits for total nitrate.

Since the issuance of the 2012 staff enforcement letter, there have been no violations of Order No. 87-108.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notification of this action was sent to known interested parties by mail on October 7, 2019 (**Supporting Document Nos. 3 and 4**). Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197 was posted on the San Diego Water Board website on October 7, 2019. No comments were received during the comment period. These actions satisfy the public notification requirements of Water Code, division 7, section 13167.5 for a 30-day notice and public comment period.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197
2. Location Map
3. Tentative Order No. R9-2019-0197 Transmittal Letter
4. Notice of Public Hearing