

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

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
May 13, 2020**

ITEM NO. 4

SUBJECT

Consideration of Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008, *An Order Rescinding Order No. 98-04 Waste Discharge Requirements for United States Marine Corps, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California Sewage Treatment Plant No. 9 (Las Pulgas), San Diego County* (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008). (Brandon Bushnell).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 is recommended.

KEY ISSUES

Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 (**Supporting Document 1**), if adopted, would rescind Order No. 98-04, *Waste Discharge Requirements for United States Marine Corps, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California Sewage Treatment Plant No. 9 (Las Pulgas), San Diego County*. All sewage treatment operations at Plant 9 Sewage Treatment Plant (Facility) ceased on June 12, 2019, and all sludge drying beds and buildings were demolished by September 19, 2019.

PRACTICAL VISION

Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 is consistent with the *Strategy for Achieving a Sustainable Local Water Supply* chapter of the Practical Vision. The rescission of waste discharge requirements for facilities no longer in operation, allows the San Diego Water Board to redirect resources to manage and monitor active facilities, which supports the goals of the Practical Vision. Furthermore, diversion of sewage from the Facility to Southern and Northern Regional Tertiary Treatment Plants on United State Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton (Camp Pendleton) supports the production and use of recycled water for landscape irrigation and saltwater intrusion mitigation.

DISCUSSION

The Facility is located on Camp Pendleton (**Supporting Document 2**) and operated under waste discharge requirements issued by the San Diego Water Board in 1998. On June 12, 2010, the United State Marine Corps notified the San Diego Water Board that the Facility is offline, and all sewage is diverted to Camp Pendleton's Southern and Northern Regional Tertiary Treatment Plants. By September 19, 2019, all sludge drying beds and buildings were demolished (**Supporting Document 3**). San Diego Water Board staff inspected the Facility location on September 26, 2019, and confirmed the demolition of these structures and sewage diversion.

San Diego Water Board staff released Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 for public review and comment on February 7, 2020. At that time, the San Diego Water Board announced it would consider adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 8, 2020, and required written comments be submitted to the San Diego Water Board no later than March 9, 2020. As a result of the

COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20 to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, the San Diego Water Board cancelled its April 2020 board meeting and postponed the public hearing for Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 to the May 2020 meeting.

While preparing Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 for the board meeting, San Diego Water Board staff made non-substantive changes to Finding 4 (**Supporting Document 6**). The San Diego Water Board will consider the adoption of revised Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 at its May 13, 2020, board meeting.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 will rescind Order No. 98-04, ending the need for the United States Marine Corps to submit monitoring reports and pay annual fees associated with the Facility.

COMPLIANCE RECORD

The Facility has received a total of 94 violations from 1999 to 2012 for deficient monitoring, overflow events, and exceeding the pH limit. The United States Marine Corps received 12 staff enforcement letters and three notices of violation for violations of Order No. 98-04. However, the Facility has not been cited for violations of Order No. 98-04 in the last seven years.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notification of this action was sent to known interested parties by mail on February 7, 2020 (**Supporting Documents 4 and 5**). Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 was posted on the San Diego Water Board website on February 7, 2020, for a period of 30 days. No comments were received during the written comment period. These actions satisfy the public notification requirements of Water Code, division 7, section 13167.5 for a 30-day notice.

A notice of rescheduled public hearing was sent via e-mail to Camp Pendleton on April 16, 2020 (**Supporting Document 7**) and was also noticed in the May 2020 San Diego Water Board meeting agenda. The notice informed Camp Pendleton that the public hearing to consider written and oral public comments and the adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 was rescheduled and will occur at the May 13, 2020, San Diego Water Board meeting.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008
2. Facility Map
3. USMC Letter Confirming Facility Closure, dated September 11, 2019
4. Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008 Transmittal Letter
5. Notice of Public Hearing and Written Comment Period
6. Revised Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0008
7. Notice of Rescheduled Public Hearing