

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. R5-2008-0035

RESCISSION OF CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R5-2001-104
CITY OF PORTERVILLE
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
TULARE COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Regional Water Board) finds that:

1. The City of Porterville (hereafter Discharger) operates a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) that serves the people of Porterville and the nearby community of Porter Vista. The WWTF is in Porterville on Grand Avenue west of Highway 65, in Section 27, T21S, R27E, MDB&M. Discharge is to unlined percolation ponds, or to irrigate about 620 acres of feed and fodder crops.
2. On 27 April 2001, the Regional Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R5-2001-103, to regulate the discharge of up to 5.3 mgd of secondary treated wastewater from the WWTF to land. The Regional Water Board also adopted on the same day Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2001-104 to impose a time schedule for the Discharger to provide sufficient disposal capacity and evaluate groundwater degradation beneath its Reclamation Area.
3. The Discharger completed all tasks identified in the CDO, except for parts of one task (Task 5). Task 5 was to evaluate, select, and propose cost-effective cleanup actions for sustained compliance with groundwater limitations. The Discharger failed to submit a cleanup proposal, but rather has implemented several management practices intended to prevent further degradation of groundwater, including increasing the land available for irrigation, and decreasing the amount of effluent allowed to percolate. In addition, updated WDRs include provisions to improve wastewater management practices and evaluate the extraction and reuse of groundwater from areas beneath the Reclamation Area that have elevated concentrations of waste constituents as supplemental irrigation water.
4. The Discharger and interested agencies and persons were notified of the intent to consider rescission of the CDO and provided an opportunity for public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
5. The issuance of this Order is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15321.
6. Any person adversely affected by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review the action. The

ORDER NO. R5-2008-0035
RESCISSION OF CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R5-2001-104
CITY OF PORTERVILLE WWTF
TULARE COUNTY

-2-

petition must be received by the State Board Office of the Chief Counsel, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA, 95812-0100, within 30 days of the date on which the action was taken. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided on request.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2001-104 is rescinded.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region on 14 March 2008.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

DKP/kc: 3/14/08