

ITEM: 13

SUBJECT: Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, Sacramento County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Order Amending Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2010-0114 (NPDES Permit No. CA0077682) and Time Schedule Order R5-2010-0115*

BACKGROUND: Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Discharger) owns and operates the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Discharger provides wastewater treatment service to the Cities of Sacramento, Folsom, West Sacramento, and the Sacramento Area Sewer District. The Sacramento Area Sewer District service area includes the Cities of Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Citrus Heights, and portions of the unincorporated areas of Sacramento County. The population served is approximately 1.3 million people. The treatment plant is permitted to discharge 181 million gallons per day of treated wastewater to the Sacramento River within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

On 9 December 2010, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2010-0114 and Time Schedule Order (TSO) R5-2010-0115 prescribing waste discharge requirements for the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. An order is proposed to correct and clarify the Orders, which includes, in part, modifications to the Monitoring and Reporting Program, allows use of recycled disinfected secondary effluent at the wastewater treatment plant, increases the effluent limitation for manganese, and adds an interim limitation for diazinon in the TSO.

ISSUES: Public comments on the proposed amendment were received from the Discharger. All public comments and Central Valley Water Board staff response to comments are included in the Staff Response to Comments document included in the agenda package. The following is the major issue and Central Valley Water Board staff responses.

The Discharger requests the nitrogenous measurements (ammonia, nitrate, nitrite and total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)) be collected as a composite sample instead of a grab sample effective 1 December 2020, when the Discharger is scheduled to complete facility upgrades to comply with effluent limits for ammonia and nitrate. The Discharger believes composite samples properly represent the plant performance and will provide more accurate data for designing the treatment components for removing ammonia and nitrates.

Central Valley Water Board staff does not recommend making the change at this time. The current permit requires grab samples for the above mentioned nitrogenous measurements, except TKN. The

proposed order is changing the TKN monitoring from composite to grab, at the request of the Discharger, to be consistent with the other nitrogen measurements. If this amendment is approved, all nitrogenous measurements will be grab samples. Nitrogenous samples are typically collected as grab samples instead of 24-hour composite samples due to preservation requirements and need for pH and temperature monitoring at the time of collection. The Discharger's additional request to change all the nitrogenous measurements to composite samples in the 2020 permit is premature. It is understood that the Discharger must design its sampling stations with the upcoming upgrade. However, the NPDES permit is renewed every five years, and the collection type for nitrogenous samples for the year 2020 will be considered in the next two permit cycles.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review _____

30 November/1/2 December 2011
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