

ITEM: 22

SUBJECT: Rio Alto Water District, Lake California Wastewater Treatment Plant, Tehama County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Order to Amend Cease and Desist Order R5-2010-0104*

BACKGROUND:

Rio Alto Water District (Discharger) owns and operates the Lake California Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility), a publically owned treatment works in Cottonwood, Tehama County. The Discharger provides sewerage services for the community of Lake California and serves a population of approximately 1,600. The facility's average dry weather flow design capacity is 0.64 million gallons per day (mgd). The Facility currently discharges an average dry weather flow of 0.15 mgd of advanced secondary treated wastewater to the Sacramento River, a water of the United States.

The Discharger was unable to comply with new final effluent limitations at the time of their NPDES permit adoption in 2010. Therefore, Cease and Desist Order (CDO) R5-2010-0104 accompanied the NPDES permit adoption in 2010. CDO R5-2010-0104 contains interim effluent limits and a compliance time schedule to allow the Discharger time to complete a compliance project in order to achieve compliance with the final effluent limitations.

The Discharger has demonstrated compliance with the interim effluent limitations, but requires additional time to complete their compliance project as specified in CDO R5-2010-0104. The Discharger's final compliance project is to cease the discharge to surface water. Additional time is required for the Discharger to secure financing in order to complete the final compliance project design and acquire necessary land for the project. Total project cost is estimated at \$6.125 million.

The Discharger requested that the interim and final compliance dates contained in the CDO be extended to allow additional time to complete the compliance project. The Discharger submitted evidence that diligent progress has been made, that the additional time is needed, and that the extended time schedule is as short as possible. The proposed Order amends Cease and Desist Order R5-2010-0104 and provides an approximately 2-year extension to the remaining interim compliance schedule tasks dates, including the final compliance date deadline. The interim effluent limitations established in Cease and Desist Order R5-2010-0104 remain unchanged.

ISSUES: No comments were received on this item. The item is uncontested at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review\_BJS\_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review\_\_\_\_\_

December 7, 2012

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting  
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
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