

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Marcia Liao)  
MEETING DATE: August 8, 2012

**ITEM:** 5C

**SUBJECT:** Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Associated Collection System, Half Moon Bay, San Mateo County - Reissuance of NPDES Permit

**CHRONOLOGY:** March 2007 – Permit reissued

**DISCUSSION:** This Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue the NPDES permit for the Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside's 4 million-gallons per day wastewater treatment plant, which serves about 25,000 persons in the City of Half Moon Bay, the Granada Sanitary District, and the Montara Water and Sanitary District. The secondarily-treated wastewater is discharged to the Pacific Ocean through a deepwater outfall extending approximately 1,900 feet offshore. The outfall is located within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

The Sewer Authority and the Marine Sanctuary submitted comments (Appendix B) on a draft permit distributed for review. We prepared responses to their comments (Appendix C), revising the draft in some cases. All revisions are reflected in the Revised Tentative Order.

The most significant comment concerns dilution credits. The Sewer Authority requests higher dilution credit when calculating instantaneous and daily effluent limits. We used a lower dilution credit because the outfall configuration has changed since the previous dilution study was completed. Moreover, because the California Ocean Plan requires that dilution credits be based on the assumption that no effective current flows across an outfall, the new dilution credit is calculated assuming no ocean current. While it does not necessarily agree, the Sewer Authority has indicated it will not contest the Revised Tentative Order.

**RECOMMEN-  
DATION:** Adopt the Revised Tentative Order

**CIWQS Place:** 255139

**APPENDICES:** A. Revised Tentative Order  
B. Comments Received  
C. Response to Comments