

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING JULY 9, 2004

Prepared on June 7, 2004

ITEM NUMBER: 14

SUBJECT: Enforcement Report

The System for Water Information Management (SWIM) Compliance Module (database created by the State and Regional Boards) tracks violations and enforcement actions. The Compliance Module has been revised to include enhancements for tracking associated Administrative Civil Liabilities.

Any violation that is listed as "Y" for "Yes" in "Significant Violation" column, as well as being listed as an "NPDES" in the "Program Type" column, is in the process of being issued a complaint for Mandatory Minimum Penalties. So-called "nonsignificant" violations may also be triggering a complaint, but it is not possible to determine all of those cases from just reviewing this report. We track those violations on a six-month period and follow up with complaints as appropriate.

The attached report covers the period March 1, 2004 through April 30, 2004. During this time period, 38 dischargers had 75 violations resulting in 5 enforcement actions that were entered into SWIM. In some cases a facility will have multiple violations that led to a single enforcement action. Violations normally include effluent limit violations resulting from monitoring report reviews, violations resulting from compliance inspections, missing and late reports and sewer overflows. Enforcement actions range from verbal communications by staff to formal actions adopted by the Regional Board.

County of Santa Barbara, March 30, 2004 SSO

[SWIM Violation # 169023] On March 30, 2004, the County of Santa Barbara General Services Department, Facilities Maintenance Division (County) suffered a 4,000-gallon sewage spill at 4500 Hollister Avenue, behind the County Juvenile

Hall. The County is among the four local sewerage entities served by the Goleta Sanitary District. Linen in the sewer lateral (serving only the Juvenile Hall) tripped the electrical breaker for the grinder within the lateral, causing a blockage and the overflow. Few solids were observed, and the overflow discharged to a storm drain which leads to a flood control basin. The County reported that the entire discharge was contained in the flood control basin.

Regional Board staff discussed the overflow with the County on April 7, 2004. The County cleared the blockage, then disinfected and flushed the area. The County will install an audible/visual alarm for the grinder to improve response to any future incidents. Staff recommended the County contact the appropriate representative of the Juvenile Hall to assure their awareness of the overflow and its cause. No further action is recommended at this time.

Santa Cruz County CSA 7 Boulder Creek

On April 5, 2004, a grease blockage at Pump Station 5 caused about 27,500 gallons of sewage to spill to Boulder Creek. Once the spill entered the creek, no cleanup was possible. The City of Santa Cruz monitored conditions in the San Lorenzo River downstream from the spill at the city's drinking water intake structure. No effects of the spill were noticed.

Regional Board staff has been working with the county for some time to address maintenance issues with CSA 7 facilities. Regional Board staff testified at a Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors meeting in May 2004 in support of a

rate increase to fund increased maintenance. The rate increase will take effect this year.

RECOMMENDATION

Attached is a table of violations and enforcement actions for information only. The Board may direct staff to initiate additional action as appropriate.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Enforcement Report
2. Glossary of Abbreviations

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