

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 14, 2004

Prepared on March 26, 2004

ITEM: 40

**SUBJECT: Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements for Strasbaugh, Inc,
San Luis Obispo County -- Order No. 99-124.**

KEY INFORMATION

Location: 825 Buckley Road, one half-mile south of the City San Luis Obispo
Type of Waste: Domestic
Design Capacity: 16,000 gallons-per-day (gpd) at full employment of 1000
Existing Discharge: 1,600 gpd (from 100 employees)
Existing Treatment: Conventional septic tank with discharge to leachfield
Proposed Treatment: ZenoGem (secondary treatment) system discharging to leachfield and seepage pits, disinfection to be provided for reclaimed portion
Proposed Reclamation: On-site landscape irrigation
Existing Order: WDR Order No. 99-124

SUMMARY

In 1999, the Regional Board adopted Order No. 99-124, Waste Discharge Requirements for Strasbaugh, Inc., San Luis Obispo County. Order No. 99-124 authorizes discharge from a facility expansion proposed at Strasbaugh, Inc. at the time. However, the expansion (and associated discharge) did not occur and the company has abandoned expansion plans (for the foreseeable future). Therefore, staff proposes rescinding these unused waste discharge requirements.

DISCUSSION

Strasbaugh, Inc. is an electronic components manufacturing facility in San Luis Obispo County. Strasbaugh, Inc. operates an on-site conventional septic tank/leachfield system to treat and dispose of wastewater generated by approximately 100 employees.

In 1999, Strasbaugh, Inc. proposed to expand its facilities to accommodate 1000 employees and to install an upgraded and expanded wastewater treatment and disposal system. Order No. 99-124 was adopted to authorize and appropriately regulate

the proposed discharge from expanded facilities (Attachment No. 1).

During the past several years, Strasbaugh, Inc. has maintained the waste discharge requirements and paid associated annual fees. However, due to the company's lack of expansion plans and increasing annual fees, Strasbaugh, Inc. has requested rescission of Order No. 99-124. Strasbaugh Chairman, Alan Strasbaugh, has been notified of the implications of rescinding Order No. 99-124 (Attachment No. 2). Those implications being that reapplication for waste discharge requirements will be necessary if expansion is pursued and that the Regional Board would re-evaluate such application on its own merits at that time.

Existing wastewater generated by 100 employees is discharged to a conventional septic system. Flow is currently estimated to be approximately 1,600 gpd, well below the 2,500 gpd threshold for regulation with waste discharge requirements (specified in the Basin Plan). Regulatory oversight of conventional septic systems with less than 2,500 gpd is typically delegated to the County. However, the existing Strasbaugh facilities (buildings and wastewater system) are large enough to serve considerably more

than the current number of employees. Therefore, annual measurement and reporting by Strasbaugh, Inc. will provide verification that delegation of wastewater system oversight to the County remains appropriate. If the volume of wastewater generated at Strasbaugh exceeds the 2,500 gpd threshold, a report of waste discharge must be submitted and the discharge will be evaluated for coverage under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (State Board Order No. 97-10-DWQ).

COMMENTS

Alan Strasbaugh – No comments received
SLO Co. – No comments received

RECOMMENDATION

Rescind Waste Discharge/Water Reclamation Requirements Order No. 99-124 for Strasbaugh, Inc., San Luis Obispo County.

ATTACHMENT

1. Order No. 99-124 to be rescinded
2. February 25, 2004 letter to Alan Strasbaugh