

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

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 13-14, 2017**

Prepared on June 15, 2017

**ITEM NUMBER:** 7

**SUBJECT:** Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements, Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0047791 for Olive Springs Quarry, Santa Cruz County, Order No. R3-2017-0018

**STAFF CONTACT:** Katie DiSimone, 805/542-4638 or [katie.disimone@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:katie.disimone@waterboards.ca.gov)

**KEY INFORMATION**

Location: 1299 Olive Springs Road, Soquel CA 95073  
Place ID: 245948  
Type of Discharge: Primary-treated industrial wastewater and limited storm water  
Permitted Flow: Design flow is not applicable, no discharge during previous permit term  
Average Flow: N/A  
Type of Treatment: Primary treatment through settling in holding ponds, recycled water back into industrial processes. Discharge only during heavy stormwater events.  
Disposal Method: Overflow from settling pond to Soquel Creek, inland freshwater  
Solid Wastes: Offsite disposal of dredged solids to recyclers  
Existing Orders: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2010-0039

**This Action:** Adopt Order No. R3-2017-0018

**SUMMARY**

This agenda item considers the reissuance of an existing NPDES permit. The Fact Sheet, Attachment F of the proposed Order, includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of the permit. Water Board staff recommends adoption of the proposed Order.

**DISCUSSION**

The CHY Company and Olive Springs Quarry, Inc. (hereinafter Discharger) is the operator of Olive Springs Quarry (hereinafter Facility), a granite quarry and processing facility. The CHY Company, the forestland division of Setzer Forest Products, Inc., owns the property at 1299 Olive Springs Road on which the Facility is located. Wash plant and asphalt plant process wastewater and storm water from the processing area flow to a settling pond, from which clarified water is recycled. The Discharger uses a polymer to enhance separation and enable recycling of process water. Solids are dredged from the settling pond approximately every other month and are used offsite by providers of "bagged" soil. During heavy storm events, the

Discharger disposes of its primary-treated industrial wastewater and limited storm water to Soquel Creek.

The draft Order (and the existing Order) applies to discharges of process wastewater and storm water from Discharge Point No. 002. All other storm water runoff from the Olive Springs Quarry can be discharged only in accordance with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board's Water Quality Order 2014-0057-DWQ, NPDES General Permit No. CAS000001, General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities. Water Board staff is working with the Discharger to properly enroll the Facility under the General Permit for discharges from Discharge Points 001, 003, 004, and 005.

### Changes from the Existing Order

The proposed Order is structured in accordance with the statewide NPDES permit template. The proposed Order is consistent with the previous Order with the exception of the following changes and modifications:

- The toxicity standards and testing have been updated. Acute toxicity limit has been replaced with a pass/fail chronic toxicity limit. Acute toxicity testing is not sufficient for determining compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, because long-term effects are not measured. Testing for chronic toxicity is more conservative, therefore this Order establishes a chronic toxicity limitation implementing the test of significant toxicity (TST) approach. This change is consistent with State Board policies. (Draft Order page 2, Table 4 and Attachment E, Table E-2)
- Effluent limitations for chromium III and phenol were revised to be protective of applicable water quality objectives. The new limits were calculated using the SIP method for the protection of human health. The revised limitation for chromium III is based on the primary maximum contaminant level of 50 µg/L. The revised limitation for phenol is based on Section II.A.2.a of the Basin Plan for waters with municipal beneficial uses (1.0 µg/L). The limitations are conservative because no mixing zone is provided and sampling must occur only when the ponds discharge, likely during periods of high rainfall when substantial dilution will occur.

	Existing Order		Proposed Order	
	Avg Monthly (µg/L)	Max Daily (µg/L)	Avg Monthly (µg/L)	Max Daily (µg/L)
Chromium III	468	940	50	100
Phenol	21,000	42,130	1.0	2.0

- Updated monitoring periods and reporting schedule to be consistent with the CIWQS reporting requirements entry system. No substantive changes result from this update; it is only to facilitate regulatory measure entry into CIWQS.
- Added clarification for compliance determination definitions (Draft Order, page 10)
- Updated flow schematic (Draft Order, Attachment C)

## COMMENTS

Water Board staff noted incorrect numbering of subsections in Attachment D in the public draft version of the proposed Order. Staff corrected those errors.

No comments were received during the public comment period.

## RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Order No. R3-2017-0018, as proposed.

## ATTACHMENT

For copies, please refer to the Central Coast Water Board's internet website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board\\_info/agendas/2017/2017\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2017/2017_agendas.shtml)

1. Proposed Order No. R3-2017-0018, including the following associated attachments:

Attachment A – Definitions

Attachment B – Map

Attachment C – Flow Schematic

Attachment D – Standard Provisions

Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP)

Attachment F – Fact Sheet

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