



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

Linda S. Adams
Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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July 11, 2007

Dr. Arlene Battishill, Regional Development Manager
Ermine Street LLC
c/o Brookfield Homes Southland, Inc.
3090 Bristol Street, Suite 200
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIED DISCHARGES TO GROUNDWATER – KEYSTONE PROJECT AQUIFER TEST, SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA (Order No. 93-010, Series No. 029, File No. 07-103)

Dear Dr. Battishill:

On June 22, 2007, we received a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) from Geosyntec Consultants, submitted on behalf of Ermine Street LLC (Discharger), for the discharge of wastewater that will be produced during a proposed aquifer test at the Keystone Project site (a future home development) in Santa Clarita, California. The aquifer test will be conducted at two wells. Each well will be tested separately and a maximum of 150 gallons per minute (gpm) of groundwater will be pumped from the wells to a nearby bermed infiltration basin, which has been constructed by grading a small area of approximately 120 feet by 120 feet (34° 25' 43"N, 118° 29' 54"W). The proposed aquifer test is expected to be conducted in July 2007 and last for approximately 72 hours.

The ROWD includes laboratory analytical data of two groundwater samples that were taken at the two wells on May 7, 2007, and analyzed for metals, chlorinated pesticides, PCBs, acid-extractable compounds, base/neutral-extractable compounds, poly-nuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PHAs), general chemistry parameters, asbestos, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), perchlorate, 1,4-dioxane, dioxins, and petroleum hydrocarbons. The data indicate that most constituents meet the water quality objectives in the *Water Quality Control Plan for Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties* (Basin Plan) adopted on June 13, 1994 established for this area. However, the concentrations of chloride (160 and 166 mg/L) and sulfate (160 and 158 mg/L) exceeded the Basin Plan water quality objectives (150 mg/L for both chloride and sulfate). In addition, the arsenic concentration of one of the two samples (0.028 mg/L) exceeded its USEPA primary maximum contamination level (MCL) (0.10 mg/L), and the aluminum concentrations of both samples (0.588 and 0.366 mg/L) exceeded its California secondary MCL (0.2 mg/L). Because the proposed discharge will infiltrate unaltered groundwater back to the aquifer where it was extracted, it will not be a threat to water quality, nor will it threaten beneficial uses of the local groundwater.

Regional Board staff has reviewed the information provided and determined that the proposed discharge meets the conditions specified in Order No. 93-010, "*General Waste Discharge Requirements for Specified Discharges to Groundwater in Santa Clara River and Los Angeles River Basins*" adopted by this Board on January 25, 1993. Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR), consisting of Regional Board Order No. 93-010 and Standard Provisions Applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements.

California Environmental Protection Agency



Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

Because of the short period of the proposed discharge, you are not required to implement a Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project. However, you must submit a final report to the Regional Board within 30 days of the completion the aquifer test. The final report shall include, at a minimum, a summary of the aquifer test that has been completed, the total volume of wastewater discharged, and any water quality data that you may obtain during the test. To avoid future annual fees, please also include a termination certification in the final report.

Please note that the WDR is for the discharge of groundwater extracted during the proposed aquifer test only. Appropriate permits must be obtained if any other wastewater is discharged or any streambed is altered in the project.

If you have any questions please contact Wen Yang at (213) 620-2253.

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Smith
Interim Executive Officer

Enclosures:

Regional Board Order No. 93-010
Standard Provisions applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements

CC: Brandon Steets, Geosyntec Consultants, Santa Barbara

