

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (John H. Madigan)
MEETING DATE: April 8, 2009

ITEM: 5C

SUBJECT: General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Surface Water Treatment Plants for Potable Supply - Reissuance of NPDES General Permit

CHRONOLOGY: September 2003 - Permit issued

DISCUSSION: The Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue the general permit for discharges from surface water treatment facilities that provide drinking water to the public. Examples of discharges include filter backwash, storage/settling basin discharges, treatment unit overflows/dewatering/drainage, and treatment system flushing associated with start-up and shut down. The following are some of the more significant changes from the previous permit:

- New water-quality based effluent limits for copper and individual trihalomethanes (THMs) in accordance with the State Board's Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards (known as the State Implementation Policy or SIP).
- Waiver of the above copper and THM limits for short-term and seasonal dischargers that qualify for a categorical exception to the SIP. Enrollees who qualify would instead be required to perform best management practices to reduce or eliminate copper use and prevent copper discharges. This is in accordance with the Board's December 2008 Resolution R2-2008-0101 that established conditions for when a waiver would apply.

We met with drinking water utility representatives several times to solicit input and discuss their concerns. We received numerous comments (Appendix B) on the tentative order distributed for public review. Our responses (Appendix C) address the comments, often by making minor changes. All changes are reflected in the attached Revised Tentative Order. We do not believe any significant issues remain unresolved and expect this matter to be uncontested.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: Adopt the Revised Tentative Order.

CIWQS No. 735201 (JHM)

Appendices: A. Revised Tentative Order
B. Comment Letters
C. Response to Comments

APPENDIX A

Revised Tentative Order

APPENDIX B

Comments

APPENDIX C

Response to Comments