

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Robert Schlipf)
MEETING DATE: November 18, 2009

- ITEMS: 11 and 13
- SUBJECT: City of Oakland, Sanitary Sewer Collection System, Alameda County
- Reissuance of NPDES Permit (11) and Amendment of Cease and
Desist Order (13)
- CHRONOLOGY: October 1993 – Board amends Cease and Desist Order (CDO)
March 2004 – Board reissues NPDES permit
- DISCUSSION: Items 11 and 13 would reissue Oakland’s collection system permit and
amend its CDO. The Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) for Item
11 contains requirements identical to those in the Revised Tentative
Order for Item 7, but has facility descriptions that are specific to
Oakland. Thus, the Staff Summary Report for Item 7 describes the
background for Item 11.

Concurrent with the Revised Tentative Order for Oakland is the Revised Tentative Cease & Desist Order Amendment for Oakland (Appendix B), which would amend an existing CDO to require that Oakland shift its resources from constructing relief sewers to rehabilitation projects. Oakland, along with the six other East Bay Communities, was named in the CDO that the Board originally adopted in 1986 and amended in 1993. This CDO requires collection system upgrades to reduce untreated sanitary sewer overflows onto streets and from the East Bay Municipal Utility District’s (EBMUD) five overflow structures.

Oakland has tasks remaining under the CDO that include building relief sewers. Relief sewers are in essence larger pipes that discharge higher quantities of sewage with wet weather inflow and infiltration to EBMUD’s Wet Weather Facilities. Now that discharges from the Wet Weather Facilities are no longer permitted, it is appropriate to require Oakland to shift its current committed resources from projects that simply transfer higher wet weather sewage flows to EBMUD’s facilities towards rehabilitation projects that will reduce wet weather inflow and infiltration.

This shift would be just a start to the work that will ultimately be necessary from all the communities and EBMUD to fully eliminate

discharges from the Wet Weather Facilities. The complete set of tasks will in large part be an outcome of the studies currently underway through a Stipulated Order for injunctive relief imposed on EBMUD by USEPA, the Board, and the State Board in July 2009.

Comments received on items 11 and 13 were part of the comments received for items 6 through 13 and are included with Item 7, as well as our responses to those comments.

Note that, while we have addressed both tentative orders for items 11 and 13 in this single Staff Summary Report, the Board must consider them separately.

RECOMMEN-
DATION:

Adoption of the Revised Tentative Order and Revised Cease & Desist Order Amendment

CIWQS Place ID: 245613 (RS)

Appendices:

- A. Revised Tentative Order – Item 11
- B. Revised Tentative Cease & Desist Order Amendment – Item 13