

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Robert Schlipf)
MEETING DATE: January 18, 2012

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: **East Bay Dischargers Authority (EBDA), EBDA Common Outfall, San Leandro; City of Hayward, Hayward Water Pollution Control Facility and Associated Collection System, Hayward; City of San Leandro, San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant and Associated Collection System, San Leandro; Oro Loma Sanitary District and Castro Valley Sanitary District, Water Pollution Control Plant and Associated Collection System, San Lorenzo; Union Sanitary District, Raymond A. Boege Alvarado Wastewater Treatment Plant and Associated Collection System, Union City; Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency; Alameda County - Reissuance of NPDES Permit**

CHRONOLOGY: August 2006 – Permit Reissued

DISCUSSION: This item would reissue EBDA's permit for the discharge of up to 107 million gallons per day of treated wastewater through a deepwater outfall 7 miles offshore to Central San Francisco Bay. This is one of the largest discharges in this region because it includes the combined flows from six treatment plants that serve most of Alameda County from San Leandro south to Fremont and east to Livermore.

Each treatment plant treats and disinfects wastewater from its service area. Each then pumps the treated and disinfected wastewater to a dechlorination facility in San Leandro owned and operated by EBDA, where EBDA discharges the combined wastewater through its outfall. EBDA is a joint powers agency whose members include the agencies that own and operate the four treatment plants named in this item. Hence, this item would reissue the permit for discharges from just these four treatment plants and EBDA. Items 8 and 9 following this item would reissue the permits for the other two treatment plant owners and operators, the Dublin San Ramon Services District and the City of Livermore.

We received comments from EBDA, U.S. EPA, and San Francisco Baykeeper on a tentative order distributed for public review (Appendix B). We have revised the original tentative order as appropriate. Our responses (Appendix C) appear to have resolved all comments except for one from EBDA.

EBDA is concerned that the tentative order would require that each of the four treatment plants be held individually to federally-mandated minimum

secondary treatment standards. Previously, compliance with these standards was incorrectly allowed at the combined outfall after the treated wastewater from all plants was mixed together. EBDA asserts that the four treatment plants discharging through the EBDA common outfall constitute one single treatment facility and, therefore, compliance with treatment standards should continue to be determined on the combined wastewater from all of these facilities. We disagree. Compliance with federal treatment standards are most appropriately met at the end of each treatment plant, because each treatment plant is owned and operated separately by each of the municipalities. The definition of a treatment facility under the federal Clean Water Act supports our position as does the U.S. EPA in its comment letter.

We expect EBDA to reiterate its concerns at the Board meeting.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: Adopt the Revised Tentative Order

CIWQS Place IDs: 222123, 229882, 246217, 255368, 269042 (RS)

APPENDICES:
A – Revised Tentative Order
B – Comments
C – Response to Comments

