



Enforcement News

California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region

Water Board to Require City of Calistoga to Correct Discharge Violations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oakland - The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board is proposing to require the City of Calistoga increase storage of its treated wastewater and control sources of a pollutant found in water from hot springs that could make Napa River unsafe to drink. The requirements are to correct recent discharge violations from the City's wastewater treatment plant that threaten to degrade water quality in the Napa River.

The City owns and operates an advanced wastewater treatment plant on Dunaweal Lane serving residents, commercial establishments, and industrial facilities in Calistoga. The treatment plant discharges treated wastewater to the Napa River under a permit adopted by the Water Board.

The City's current treated wastewater storage volume is insufficient in light of the ongoing drought and low river flows and potential effects from climate change. Low river flows during the rainy season mean the river can't absorb as much discharge wastewater without harming water quality, so more storage volume is needed.

Also, increased levels of antimony, a toxic pollutant found in water from hot springs that flow to the treatment plant, have contributed to discharge limit violations. The antimony levels are higher because the lower flows into the treatment plant don't dilute it as much.

The Water Board's proposed requirements would mandate correction of the storage deficiency by January 2018 and control of antimony by October 2019. Tasks to correct the storage deficiency include increasing storage capacity, increasing water recycling, and upgrading the City's wastewater collection system to reduce illicit inflow sources. These proposed requirements are contained in a draft cease and desist order.

The Water Board will consider adopting its draft cease and desist order at a public hearing on Nov. 12. For additional information, including details on the public hearing and opportunity for the public to submit written comments, please visit <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay>

The [San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's](#) mission is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.