

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Marcia Liao)
MEETING DATE: October 14, 2015

ITEM: **5A**

SUBJECT: **City and County of San Francisco, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Pulgas Dechloramination Facility, Redwood City, San Mateo County – Rescission of NPDES Permit**

CHRONOLOGY: January 2014 – NPDES permit newly issued

DISCUSSION: The Tentative Order (Appendix A) would rescind the individual NPDES permit that regulates discharges from the Commission's Pulgas facility to Crystal Springs Reservoir. The Pulgas facility is part of the Commission's regional water supply system servicing 2.6 million Bay Area residents. The Pulgas facility removes chloramine, a disinfectant, from drinking water prior to the water's storage in the Crystal Springs Reservoir. This is sometimes necessary when the quantity of disinfected drinking water in the system exceeds customer demand.

In November, 2014 the State Water Board adopted a general NPDES permit that covers various discharges from community water systems statewide, including discharges from the Pulgas facility. The Commission has applied for coverage under this general permit. Therefore, this Board's individual NPDES permit can be rescinded because it would no longer be necessary once State Water Board staff completes processing of the Commission's application.

We received no comment on the draft order circulated for review and expect this item to remain uncontested.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: Adoption of the Tentative Order

FILE: CW-797942

APPENDIX A: Tentative Order

Appendix A

Tentative Order

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION**

TENTATIVE ORDER No. R2-2015-00XX

RESCISSION OF ORDER No. R2-2014-0001 (NPDES No. CA0038865) for:

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Pulgas Dechloramination Facility

66 Cañada Road, Redwood City, San Mateo County

WHEREAS the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (Discharger) owns and operates the Pulgas dechloramination facility, which removes chloramine, a disinfectant, from drinking water. The facility is part of the Discharger's regional water supply system that serves 2.6 million Bay Area residents, including 28 wholesale customers.
2. On January 15, 2014, the Regional Water Board issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0038865 for the Discharger through Order No. R2-2014-0001. The Order permitted discharges of dechloraminated drinking water into Crystal Springs Reservoir.
3. On November 18, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Order No. 2014-0194-DWQ (General NPDES Permit No. CAG140001) for various discharges from community water systems, including discharges from many water treatment facilities. The Discharger has applied for coverage under Order No. 2014-0194-DWQ for the same discharges covered under Order No. R2-2014-0001. Therefore, Order No. R2-2014-0001 can be rescinded.
4. Pursuant to section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, this rescission is exempt from the provisions of CEQA since it does not have the potential to cause a significant effect on the environment because it will no longer authorize discharges.
5. The Regional Water Board notified the Discharger and other interested persons of its intent to rescind Order No. R2-2014-0001 and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and participate in a public hearing.
6. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the rescission of Order No. R2-2014-0001.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Division 7 of the California Water Code and the regulations, plans, and policies adopted thereunder, that Order No. R2-2014-0001 is rescinded, except for enforcement purposes, upon the effective date of an authorization to discharge granted for the same discharges pursuant to Order No. 2014-0194-DWQ.

I, Bruce H. Wolfe, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on **DATE**.

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer