

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (William Burrell)
MEETING DATE: February 12, 2020

ITEM: **6B**

SUBJECT: **City of Sunnyvale, City of Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant and Wastewater Collection System, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara County – Reissuance of NPDES Permit**

CHRONOLOGY: September 2014 – Permit reissued

DISCUSSION: This Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue the NPDES permit for the City of Sunnyvale’s Water Pollution Control Plant and wastewater collection system. The plant serves about 150,000 people in Sunnyvale, the Rancho Rinconada neighborhood in Cupertino, and Moffett Federal Airfield, providing advanced secondary treatment for an average of 12.5 million gallons per day (MGD). Plant effluent is discharged to Moffett Channel, which flows to South San Francisco Bay via Guadalupe Slough. On average, the City processes 5 to 10 percent of its effluent to produce disinfected tertiary recycled water.

The Revised Tentative Order would update the permit based on current data and updated State and regional policies and regulations. The City submitted comments (Appendix B) on a draft order circulated for review. We responded to the comments and revised the draft order as described in the Response to Comments (Appendix C). The most significant change is that it would include a seasonal modification to the turbidity effluent limit. During the winter months, the turbidity effluent limit would only apply if the City does not maintain its current total suspended solids (TSS) removal performance. This modification will allow the City to reduce its use of polymer, which it uses to treat both turbidity and TSS, in the winter months. The polymer is more effective at settling out colony-forming algae than the single-cell algae now prevalent during winter. Turbidity caused by single-cell algae does not correlate well with TSS, so maintaining total suspended solids removal performance will preserve receiving water quality.

We expect this item to remain uncontested.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: Adoption of the Revised Tentative Order

FILE: CW-259507

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

Appendix A
Revised Tentative Order

Appendix B

Comments

In accordance with Section 11546.7 of the California Government Code, an electronic version of the comments received have not been posted online as they do not meet specified accessibility standards. For an electronic copy of the comments, please see the contact information provided in Fact Sheet section VIII.G of the revised tentative order

Appendix C
Response to Comments