

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Debbie Phan)
MEETING DATE: October 14, 2020

ITEM: 6C

SUBJECT: **General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Aggregate Mining, Marine Sand Washing, and Sand Offloading Facilities** – Reissuance of General NPDES Permit

CHRONOLOGY: July 2015 – General NPDES Permit reissued

DISCUSSION: This Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue the general NPDES permit that regulates discharges from the following types of facilities:

- **Aggregate mining facilities**, which produce aggregates for construction and use groundwater or potable water as wash water and for dust control.
- **Marine sand washing facilities**, which mainly process sand mined from San Francisco Bay and may use potable water to wash or screen sand or aggregate and for dust control.
- **Sand offloading facilities**, which stockpile sand mined from various locations. Their wastewater results from draining the sand, not screening or washing it.

The pollutants in the discharges from these facilities consist mainly of solids not settled out in detention ponds. Discharges may also contain toxic pollutants entrained in groundwater, bay water, or stormwater runoff. If a facility uses potable water to wash sand or aggregate, the discharges may contain chlorine and copper, which are at levels safe for human consumption in potable water but possibly unsafe for aquatic life if discharged.

The Revised Tentative Order would continue to allow these facilities to discharge treated wastewater and establish a new option for dischargers to apply for coverage for industrial stormwater discharges that do not commingle with process wastewater. This would provide a streamlined permitting option for dischargers that would otherwise need to obtain additional coverage under the *Statewide General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities* (Industrial General Permit). The Revised Tentative Order includes essentially the same requirements as those in the Industrial General Permit.

Lehigh Hanson West Region submitted comments (Appendix B) on a tentative order circulated for public review. We prepared a Response to Comments (Appendix C) and revised the tentative order where appropriate. We expect this item to remain uncontested.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: Adoption of the Revised Tentative Order

FILE: CW-813254

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