

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Gaurav Mittal
MEETING DATE: May 12, 2021

ITEM: 5B

**City of Petaluma, Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility, Petaluma, Sonoma County –
Reissuance of NPDES Permit**

DISCUSSION:

This Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue the NPDES permit for discharges from the City of Petaluma Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility, which serves approximately 65,000 people. The plant treats about 4.4 million gallons of wastewater per day during dry weather, when the City provides treated wastewater to over 1,000 acres of pasture, vineyards, golf courses, and other landscaped areas. During wet weather, the City discharges approximately 7.0 million gallons of treated wastewater per day to the Petaluma River.

The Revised Tentative Order allows the City to construct a new outfall to a Petaluma River tidal slough adjacent to the treatment plant. The existing pipeline must be repaired or replaced, and constructing the new outfall near the treatment plant will avoid disrupting 3,000 feet of tidal wetlands along the existing pipeline.

We received comments from the City of Petaluma (Appendix B) on a draft order distributed for review. We prepared a response to comments (Appendix C) that explains related changes that are reflected in the Revised Tentative Order. The changes primarily clarify monitoring requirements.

We expect this item to be uncontested.

APPENDICES:

- A. Response to Comments
- B. Comments
- C. Revised Tentative Order

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