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For Petitioner California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

**BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

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**In the Matter of Waste Discharge Requirements For** )  
**Burney Forest Products, A Joint Venture, North** ) **PETITION FOR REVIEW**  
**American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green,** )  
**Inc., And Fruitgrowers Supply Company, Burney** )  
**Forest Power; California Regional Water Quality** )  
**Control Board – Central Valley Region Order No.** )  
**R5-2007-0061; NPDES No. CA0082490** )

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Pursuant to Section 13320 of California Water Code and Section 2050 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (“CSPA” or “petitioner”) petitions the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review and vacate the final decision of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Central Valley Region (“Regional Board”) in adopting Waste Discharge Requirements (NPDES No. CA0082490) for Burney Forest Products, A Joint Venture, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and

Fruitgrowers Supply Company, Burney Forest Power, on 21 June 2007. *See* Order No. R5-2007-0061. The issues raised in this petition were raised in timely written comments.

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PETITIONERS:

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance  
3536 Rainier Avenue  
Stockton, California 95204  
Attention: Bill Jennings, Executive Director

2. THE SPECIFIC ACTION OR INACTION OF THE REGIONAL BOARD WHICH THE STATE BOARD IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW AND A COPY OF ANY ORDER OR RESOLUTION OF THE REGIONAL BOARD WHICH IS REFERRED TO IN THE PETITION:

Petitioner seeks review of Order No. R5-2007-0061, Waste Discharge Requirements (NPDES No. CA0082490) for Burney Forest Products, A Joint Venture, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company, Burney Forest Power. A copy of the adopted Order is attached as Attachment No. 1.

3. THE DATE ON WHICH THE REGIONAL BOARD ACTED OR REFUSED TO ACT OR ON WHICH THE REGIONAL BOARD WAS REQUESTED TO ACT:

21 June 2007

4. A FULL AND COMPLETE STATEMENT OF THE REASONS THE ACTION OR FAILURE TO ACT WAS INAPPROPRIATE OR IMPROPER:

CSPA submitted a detailed comment letter on 3 June 2007. That letter and the following comments set forth in detail the reasons and points and authorities why CSPA believes the Order fails to comport with statutory and regulatory requirements. The specific reasons the adopted Orders are improper are:

- A. The Order establishes Receiving Water Limitations for cadmium, copper, iron, lead, EC, silver and zinc which grants mixing zones for each constituent without and mixing zone study contrary to requirements of the Basin Plan and the SIP, grants 100% of the assimilative capacity of the receiving stream, and fails to establish Effluent Limitations for these constituents contrary to 40 CFR 122.44.**

The Order, Fact Sheet page F-16 Assimilative Capacity/Mixing Zone, states that the Discharger is in the process of conducting a mixing zone study, but the results are not yet available, therefore it is assumed that there is zero available dilution in the receiving stream. The Order however inappropriately establishes Receiving Water Limitations for cadmium, copper, iron, lead, EC, silver and zinc at the water quality standard for each

constituent. This grants a mixing zone for each constituent in the receiving water at the water quality standard. Perhaps the permit writer does not understand the definition of a mixing zone. This is despite that each constituent clearly exceeds water quality standards, as cited in the above comments and throughout the Order.

The Order does not include any of the required analyses in order to grant a mixing zone. The Basin Plan, page IV-16.00, requires the Regional Board use EPA's *Technical Support Document for Water Quality Based Toxics Control (TSD)*. The TSD, page 70, defines a first stage of mixing, close to the point of discharge, where complete mixing is determined by the momentum and buoyancy of the discharge. Since there is no instream diffuser, obviously the wastewater discharge here is not completely mixed in the first stage. The second stage is defined by the TSD where the initial momentum and buoyancy of the discharge are diminished and waste is mixed by ambient turbulence. The TSD goes on to state that in large rivers this second stage mixing may extend for miles. The TSD, Section 4.4, requires that if complete mix does not occur in a short distance mixing zone monitoring and modeling must be undertaken. None of these items have been completed and despite the Order's own findings that mixing zone studies have not been completed, mixing zones granting 100% of the assimilative capacity of the receiving stream have been granted.

The extensive SIP, Section 1.4.2.2, requirements for a mixing zone study apply here and must be analyzed before a mixing zone is allowed for this discharge. The proposed Effluent Limitations in the Order are not supported by the scientific investigation that is required by the SIP and the Basin Plan.

SIP Section 1.4.2.2 requires that a mixing zone shall not:

1. Compromise the integrity of the entire waterbody.
2. Cause acutely toxic conditions to aquatic life.
3. Restrict the passage of aquatic life.
4. Adversely impact biologically sensitive habitats.
5. Produce undesirable aquatic life.
6. Result in floating debris.
7. Produce objectionable color, odor, taste or turbidity.
8. Cause objectionable bottom deposits.
9. Cause Nuisance.
10. Dominate the receiving water body or overlap a different mixing zone.
11. Be allowed at or near any drinking water intake.

The Order's mixing zones have not addressed a single required item of the SIP. Another very clear unaddressed requirement (SIP Section 1.4.2.2) for mixing zones is that the point(s) in the receiving stream where the applicable criteria must be met shall be specified in the Order. The "edge of the mixing zone" has not been defined. The Order fails to defend the granted mixing zones and fails to establish Effluent Limitations for these constituents contrary to 40 CFR 122.44.

**B. The Order fails to include an Effluent for EC as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Central Valley Region, Water Quality Objectives, page III-3.00, contains a Chemical Constituents Objective that includes Title 22 Drinking Water Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) by reference. The Title 22 MCLs for EC are 900  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$  (recommended level), 1,600  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$  (upper level) and 2,200  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$  (short term maximum).

The Basin Plan states, on Page III-3.00 Chemical Constituents, that “Waters shall not contain constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.” The Basin Plan’s “Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives” provides that in implementing narrative water quality objectives, the Regional Board will consider numerical criteria and guidelines developed by other agencies and organizations. This application of the Basin Plan is consistent with Federal Regulations, 40CFR 122.44(d).

For EC, Ayers R.S. and D.W. Westcott, Water Quality for Agriculture, Food and Arriculture Organization of the United Nations – Irrigation and Drainage Paper No. 29, Rev. 1, Rome (1985), levels above 700  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$  will reduce crop yield for sensitive plants. The University of California, Davis Campus, Agricultural Extension Service, published a paper, dated 7 January 1974, stating that there will not be problems to crops associated with salt if the EC remains below 750  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ .

The wastewater discharge maximum observed EC was 6990  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the MCLs for EC presenting a reasonable potential to exceed the water quality objective. The proposed EC limitation clearly exceeds the agricultural water quality goal and the MCL for EC of 700  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ . The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for EC that are protective of the Chemical Constituents water quality objective. The wastewater discharge increases concentrations of EC to unacceptable concentrations adversely affecting the agricultural beneficial use. The wastewater discharge not only presents a reasonable potential, but actually causes, violation of the Chemical Constituent Water Quality Objective in the Basin Plan. The available literature regarding safe levels of EC for irrigated agriculture mandate that an Effluent Limitation for EC is necessary to protect the beneficial use of the receiving stream in accordance with the Basin Plan and Federal Regulations. Failure to establish effluent limitations for EC that are protective of the Chemical Constituents water quality objective blatantly violates the law.

California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or

authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**C. The Order fails to include an Effluent for cadmium as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The Basin Plan Water Quality Standard for cadmium is 0.141  $\mu\text{g/l}$  and the CTR criteria is 0.849  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The wastewater discharge maximum observed cadmium was 0.298  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the Basin Plan water quality objective. The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for Cadmium.

California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**D. The Order fails to include an Effluent for copper as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The CTR Water Quality Standard for copper is 2.926  $\mu\text{g/l}$  and the Basin Plan Standard is 2.91  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The wastewater discharge maximum observed copper concentration was 12.38  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the water quality objective. The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for copper.

California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste

discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**E. The Order fails to include an Effluent for iron as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The Water Quality Standard in the Basin Plan Chemical Constituents as a Maximum Contaminant Level for drinking water for iron is 300  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The wastewater discharge maximum observed 412 was  $\text{ug/l}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the water quality objective. The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for iron.

California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**F. The Order fails to include an Effluent for lead as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The CTR Water Quality Standard for lead is 0.590  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The wastewater discharge maximum observed 2.750 was  $\text{ug/l}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the water quality objective. The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for lead. California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent

effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**G. The Order fails to include an Effluent for silver as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The CTR Water Quality Standard for silver is 0.363  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The wastewater discharge maximum observed discharge concentration for silver was 0.425  $\text{ug/l}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the water quality objective. The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for silver. California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**H. The Order fails to include an Effluent for zinc as required by Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44 and the permit should not be adopted in accordance with California Water Code Section 13377.**

Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(i), requires that; “Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” The CTR Water Quality Standard for zinc is 6.649  $\mu\text{g/l}$ . The wastewater discharge maximum observed discharge concentration for zinc was 189.0  $\text{ug/l}$ . Clearly the discharge exceeds the water quality objective. The proposed Order fails to establish an effluent limitation for zinc. California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**I. The Order contains an Effluent Limitation for acute toxicity that allows mortality that exceeds the Basin Plan water quality objective and does not comply with Federal regulations, at 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(1)(i).**

Federal regulations, at 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(1)(i), require that limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento/ San Joaquin River Basins (Basin Plan), Water Quality Objectives (Page III-8.00) for Toxicity is a narrative criteria which states that all waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. This section of the Basin Plan further states, in part that, compliance with this objective will be determined by analysis of indicator organisms.

The Tentative Permit requires that the Discharger conduct acute toxicity tests and states that compliance with the toxicity objective will be determined by analysis of indicator organisms. However, the Tentative Permit contains a discharge limitation that allows 30% mortality (70% survival) of fish species in any given toxicity test.

The Regional Board has looked hard and long to find some citation as to the source of the limitation that would allow or recommend 10% and 30% mortality, such a find however does not eliminate the more restrictive applicable Basin Plan objective that simply prohibits the discharge from causing mortality in the receiving stream.

For an ephemeral or low flow stream, such as the case here, allowing 30% mortality in acute toxicity tests allows that same level of mortality in the receiving stream, in violation of federal regulations and contributes to exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative water quality objective for toxicity. Accordingly, the Order must be revised to prohibit acute toxicity in accordance with Federal regulations, at 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(1)(i).

**J. The Order does not contain Effluent Limitations for chronic toxicity and therefore does not comply with Federal regulations, at 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(1)(i) and the SIP.**

Order, State Implementation Policy, states that: "On March 2, 2000, the State Water Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP became effective on April 28, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the USEPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005 that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives



and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.” The SIP, Section 4, Toxicity Control Provisions, Water Quality-Based Toxicity Control, states that: “A chronic toxicity effluent limitation is required in permits for all dischargers that will cause, have a reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to chronic toxicity in receiving waters.”

Federal regulations, at 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(1)(i), require that limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including state narrative criteria for water quality. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento/ San Joaquin River Basins (Basin Plan), Water Quality Objectives (Page III-8.00) for Toxicity is a narrative criteria which states that all waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. The Order states that: “...to ensure compliance with the Basin Plan’s narrative toxicity objective, the discharger is required to conduct whole effluent toxicity testing...”. However, sampling does not equate with or ensure compliance. The Tentative Permit requires the Discharger to conduct an investigation of the possible sources of toxicity if a threshold is exceeded. This language is not a limitation and essentially eviscerates the Regional Board’s authority, and the authority granted to third parties under the Clean Water Act, to find the Discharger in violation for discharging chronically toxic constituents. An effluent limitation for chronic toxicity must be included in the Order. In addition, the Chronic Toxicity Testing Dilution Series should bracket the actual dilution at the time of discharge, not use default values that are not relevant to the discharge.

Order is quite simply wrong; by failing to include effluent limitations prohibiting chronic toxicity the Order does not “...implement the SIP”. The Regional Board has commented time and again that no chronic toxicity effluent limitations are being included in NPDES permit until the State Board adopts a numeric limitation. The Regional Board explanation does not excuse the Order’s failure to comply with Federal Regulations, the SIP, the Basin Plan and the CWC. The Regional Board’s Basin Plan, as cited above, already states that: “...waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses...” Accordingly, the Order must be revised to prohibit chronic toxicity (mortality and adverse sublethal impacts to aquatic life, (sublethal toxic impacts are clearly defined in EPA’s toxicity guidance manuals)) in accordance with Federal regulations, at 40 CFR 122.44 (d)(1)(i) and the Basin Plan and the SIP.

**K. The Order fails to include Effluent Limitations which were included in the previous Permit which constitutes backsliding in accordance with Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44(l) and 122.62 (a)(16).**

The Order cites that the previous NPDES permit for this facility contained Effluent Limitations which are not carried forth the Order, although the specific constituents are not listed. Anti-backsliding requirements for reissued NPDES permits are specified in Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.44(l) and 122.62 (a)(16). The Order

states that removal of the Effluent Limitations is not backsliding because it is more appropriate to regulate the discharge through stormwater best management practices (BMPs). Following the “logic” in the Order, it would appear that the argument could be made for all point source wastewater discharges; rain water is allowed to flush the pollutants and once that occurs all flows are only stormwater. The sampling verifies the Order assumptions regarding stormwater are incorrect; the discharge is a point discharge of “wastewater” and is characteristic of the regulated industry. The Order states that the discharge is purely stormwater yet shows the discharge electrical conductivity at 6,990 umhos/cm, cadmium at 0.298 ug/l, copper at 3.46 ug/l, iron at 4,540 ug/l, lead at 2.75 ug/l, silver at 0.425 ug/l and zinc was 189 ug/l, all above criteria, and all without Effluent Limitations. The stormwater regulations were in place at the time of the previous permits adoption, they are not new regulations. The Order does not include a single legitimate regulatory citation from the 40 CFR 122.44(l) and 122.62 (a)(16) backsliding exceptions. Removal of necessary Effluent Limitations constitutes backsliding in accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(l) and 122.62 (a)(16) and the Effluent Limitations must be reestablished.

**L. The Order fails to adequately regulate the discharge of ash contrary to CWC Section 13377.**

The Order, Facility Description page 5, states that bottom ash is used onsite for roads. The Order, same section, then states that “Discharges of ash and cooling tower sludge to surface waters is prohibited.” Clearly the application of substances to road surfaces is discharged to surface waters when it rains. The permit writer may wish to have a discussion with Cal Trans regarding runoff. California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

**M. The Order does not comply with the Board’s Antidegradation Policy by failing to contain limitations that are protective of groundwater quality and require groundwater monitoring in accordance with CWC Section 13377.**

The Order shows that the Discharger utilizes land disposal by discharge to unlined ponds and wastewater flows throughout a large permeable area where it is reasonable to assume that wastewater will percolate to groundwater. California’s antidegradation policy is composed the State Board’s Resolution 68-16 which is included as a part of the Basin Plan. As part of the state policy for water quality control, the antidegradation policy is binding on all of the Regional Boards. Implementation of the state’s antidegradation policy is guided by the State Antidegradation Guidance, SWRCB Administrative Procedures Update 90-004, 2 July 1990 (“APU 90-004”) and Water Quality Order 86-17. The Regional Board must apply the antidegradation policy whenever it takes an action that will lower water quality (State Antidegradation Guidance, pp. 3, 5,18). The

proposed action here is renewal of an NPDES permit although the applicable provisions being discussed for land disposal are not federally mandated, an antidegradation analysis is required. The Order must include a requirement that protects groundwater quality from percolating pollutants. Any antidegradation analysis must comport with implementation requirements in State Board Water Quality Order 86-17 and State Antidegradation Guidance. The discharge of wastewater to unlined ponds at a minimum threatens groundwater quality, mandating monitoring of groundwater quality to determine if degradation has occurred and to what degree. Groundwater monitoring must be required to determine if the wastewater discharge is degrading groundwater quality and commingling and degrading surface water. California Water Code, section 13377, requires that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board and the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.”

5. THE MANNER IN WHICH THE PETITIONERS ARE AGGRIEVED.

CSPA is a non-profit, environmental organization that has a direct interest in reducing pollution to the waters of the Central Valley. CSPA’s members benefit directly from the waters in the form of recreational hiking, photography, fishing, swimming, hunting, bird watching, boating, consumption of drinking water and scientific investigation. Additionally, these waters are an important resource for recreational and commercial fisheries.

Central Valley waterways also provide significant wildlife values important to the mission and purpose of the Petitioners. This wildlife value includes critical nesting and feeding grounds for resident water birds, essential habitat for endangered species and other plants and animals, nursery areas for fish and shellfish and their aquatic food organisms, and numerous city and county parks and open space areas.

CSPA’s members reside in communities whose economic prosperity depends, in part, upon the quality of water. CSPA has actively promoted the protection of fisheries and water quality throughout California before state and federal agencies, the State Legislature and Congress and regularly participates in administrative and judicial proceedings on behalf of its members to protect, enhance, and restore declining aquatic resources.

CSPA member’s health, interests and pocketbooks are directly harmed by the failure of the Regional Board to develop an effective and legally defensible program addressing discharges to waters of the state and nation.

6. THE SPECIFIC ACTION BY THE STATE OR REGIONAL BOARD WHICH PETITIONER REQUESTS.

Petitioners seek an Order by the State Board to:

- A. Vacate Order No. R5-2007-0061 (NPDES No. CA0082490) and remand to the Regional Board with instructions prepare and circulate a new tentative order that comports with regulatory requirements.
- B. Alternatively: prepare, circulate and issue a new order that is protective of identified beneficial uses and comports with regulatory requirements.

Petitioners, however, request that the State Board hold in abeyance further action on this Petition for up to two years or further notice by Petitioners, whichever comes first. Petitioners, along with other environmental groups, anticipate filing one or more additional petitions for review challenging decisions by the Regional Board concerning the issues raised in this Petition in the coming months. For economy of the State Board and all parties, Petitioners will request the State Board to consolidate these petitions and/or resolve the common issues presented by these petitions by action on a subset of the petitions. Accordingly, Petitioners urge that holding this Petition in abeyance for now is a sensible approach.

7. A STATEMENT OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF LEGAL ISSUES RAISED IN THE PETITION.

CSPA's arguments and points of authority are adequately detailed in the above comments and our 7 June 2007 comment letter. Should the State Board have additional questions regarding the issues raised in this petition, CSPA will provide additional briefing on any such questions.

The petitioners believe that an evidentiary hearing before the State Board will not be necessary to resolve the issues raised in this petition. However, CSPA welcomes the opportunity to present oral argument and respond to any questions the State Board may have regarding this petition.

8. A STATEMENT THAT THE PETITION HAS BEEN SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL BOARD AND TO THE DISCHARGERS, IF NOT THE PETITIONER.

A true and correct copy of this petition, without attachment, was sent electronically and by First Class Mail to Ms. Pamela Creedon, Executive Officer, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, 11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114.

As CSPA never received a copy of the Notice of Adoption and is unclear as to the proper name and address of the responsible party that should be sent notice of this petition, a true and correct copy of this petition, without attachment, was sent to the Discharger in care of: To Whom It May Concern, Burney Forest Products, A Joint Venture, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and

Fruitgrowers Supply Company, Burney Forest Power, 35586-B Hwy. 299 E., Burney, CA 96013.

9. A STATEMENT THAT THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE PETITION WERE PRESENTED TO THE REGIONAL BOARD BEFORE THE REGIONAL BOARD ACTED, OR AN EXPLANATION OF WHY THE PETITIONER COULD NOT RAISE THOSE OBJECTIONS BEFORE THE REGIONAL BOARD.

CSPA presented the issues addressed in this petition to the Regional Board in a 7 June 2007 detailed comment letter that was accepted into the record.

If you have any questions regarding this petition, please contact Bill Jennings at (209) 464-5067 or Michael Jackson at (530) 283-1007.

Dated: 20 June 2007

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Jennings, Executive Director  
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

Attachment No. 1: Order No. R5-2007-0061

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114  
Phone (916) 464-3291 • FAX (916) 464-4645  
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

**ORDER NO. R5-2007-0061  
NPDES NO. CA0082490**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
BURNEY FOREST PRODUCTS, A JOINT VENTURE,  
NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY SERVICES COMPANY,  
SHASTA GREEN, INC., AND FRUITGROWERS SUPPLY COMPANY**

**BURNEY FOREST POWER  
SHASTA COUNTY**

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 1. Discharger Information**

<b>Discharger</b>	Burney Forest Products, a joint venture, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company
<b>Name of Facility</b>	Burney Forest Power
<b>Facility Address</b>	35586-B Hwy. 299 E.
	Burney, CA 96013
	Shasta County
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board have classified this discharge as a <b>minor</b> discharge.	

The discharge by Burney Forest Power from the discharge point identified below is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 2. Discharge Location**

<b>Discharge Point</b>	<b>Effluent Description</b>	<b>Discharge Point Latitude</b>	<b>Discharge Point Longitude</b>	<b>Receiving Water</b>
SW-001	Storm Water	40°, 52', 35" N	121°, 43', 00" W	Canyon Creek

**Table 3. Administrative Information**

This Order was adopted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board on:	<b>21 June 2007</b>
This Order shall become effective on:	<b>10 August 2007</b>
This Order shall expire on:	<b>1 June 2012</b>
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with title 23, California Code of Regulations, as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements no later than:	<b><u>180 days prior to the Order expiration date</u></b>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Order No. **5-00-257** is rescinded upon the effective date of this Order except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on **21 June 2007**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

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**I. FACILITY INFORMATION**

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 4. Facility Information**

<b>Discharger</b>	Burney Forest Products, a joint venture, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company
<b>Name of Facility</b>	Burney Forest Power
<b>Facility Address</b>	35586-B Hwy. 299 E.
	Burney, CA 96013
	Shasta County
<b>Facility Contact, Title, and Phone</b>	Douglas S. Tomison, Plant Manager, North American Energy Services at Burney Forest Power. (530) 335-5023 Tom Franklin, Vice President, Shasta Green, Inc. (530) 335-4924
<b>Mailing Address</b>	35586-B Hwy. 299 E., Burney, CA 96013
<b>Type of Facility</b>	4911 – Electric Services 2421 – Sawmills and Planing Mill
<b>Facility Design Flow</b>	Not Applicable

**II. FINDINGS**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds:

**A. Background.** Burney Forest Power cogeneration plant and sawmill (hereinafter Facility) is owned and operated by separate entities. The cogeneration plant is owned by Burney Forest Products, a Joint Venture, a California partnership comprised of Forest Products LP and Burney Biomass Power LLC. North American Energy Services Company currently operates the cogeneration plant under contract with the owner. Fruitgrowers Supply Company owns the property (Assessor’s Parcel Nos. 030-040-014 and 030-040-023) at 35586 Highway 299 E. in Burney, CA, on which the Facility is located. Burney Forest Products leases the property from Fruitgrowers Supply Company. Shasta Green, Inc. owns and operates a sawmill located on the property and sub leases the property from Burney Forest Products.

Burney Forest Products, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company (hereinafter Discharger) is currently discharging pursuant to Order No. 5-00-257 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0082490. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated 31 May 2005, and applied for a NPDES permit renewal to discharge an unspecified volume of storm water from the Facility. The application was deemed complete on 30 June 2005.



For the purposes of this Order, references to the “discharger” or “permittee” in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

**B. Facility Description.** The cogeneration plant consists of a wood fuel storage area, boiler, generator, transmission system, cooling tower, equipment fueling and maintenance, aboveground petroleum storage, chemical, and waste storage, paved and unpaved roadways, laboratory, and office. The primary fuel source for the cogeneration plant is wood waste from the sawmill and off-site sources; natural gas is used as a supplementary fuel for startup and flame stabilization for the cogeneration plant’s boilers. The Discharger has submitted a list of chemicals used to treat the cogeneration plant’s water and maintain the boiler and cooling tower. The cogeneration plant’s wastes include: cooling tower blow down, boiler blow down, cooling tower treatment sludge, fly ash, bottom ash, used petroleum products, sewage, and storm water runoff. The bottom ash is used onsite for roads; the fly ash is transported to private agricultural lands for use as soil amendment or to a manufacturer for reuse. The cooling tower sludge is filtered and the cake disposed of at a Class III landfill.

The Sawmill operation consists of log scaling, wet and dry log storage, mechanical log debarking, sawmill, planing mill, kilns, lumber storage, aboveground petroleum storage area, equipment fueling and maintenance, paved and unpaved roadways, and an office. Wood waste from the sawmill is delivered to the cogeneration plant by conveyor. Wastes include: process water and storm water runoff from log storage areas, wood waste, saw cooling water, kiln condensate, waste petroleum products, and general storm water runoff.

The storm water retention pond receives general storm water runoff from both the sawmill and cogeneration plant during rainfall events. After the log deck has been adequately flushed, storm water runoff from the log deck area is directed to the storm water retention pond. The storm water retention pond discharges at Discharge Point SW-001 to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States, and a tributary to the Pit River within the Pit River Hydrologic Unit (526.00). Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

**C. Legal Authorities.** This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as a NPDES permit for point source discharges from this facility to surface waters. This Order also serves as Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13260).

- D. Background and Rationale for Requirements.** The Regional Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the application, through monitoring and reporting programs, and other available information. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F), which contains background information and rationale for Order requirements, is hereby incorporated into this Order and constitutes part of the Findings for this Order. Attachments A through E are also incorporated into this Order.
- E. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).** Under Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of CEQA, Public Resources Code sections 21100-21177.
- F. Technology-based Effluent Limitations.** Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at section 122.44, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)<sup>1</sup> require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Timber Products Processing Point Source Category in Part 429. A detailed discussion of the technology-based effluent limitations development is included in the Fact Sheet (Attachment F).
- G. Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations.** Section 301(b) of the CWA and section 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards.

Section 122.44(d)(1)(i) mandates that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) must be established using: (1) EPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed State criterion or policy interpreting the State's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in 40 CFR section 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

Also as specified in Section 122.44(K), best management practices (BMPs) may be used in lieu of numeric effluent limitations when:

1. authorized under section 304(e) of the CWA for control of toxic pollutants and hazardous substances from ancillary industrial activities;
2. authorized under section 402(p) of the CWA for the control of storm water discharges;

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<sup>1</sup> All further statutory references are to title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations unless otherwise indicated.

3. numeric effluent limitations are infeasible; or
4. the practices are reasonably necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purpose and intent of the CWA.

Section 402(p) authorizes regulation of storm water discharges associated with industrial activities. A combination of BMPs, numeric effluent limitations, and receiving water limitations are utilized in this Order to regulate the discharge of pollutants from the Dischargers Facility.

**H. Water Quality Control Plans.** The Regional Water Board adopted a *Water Quality Control Plan, Fourth Edition (Revised February 2007), for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (hereinafter Basin Plan) that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. The Basin Plan at page II-2.00 states that the “...*beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams.*” The Basin Plan does not specifically identify beneficial uses for Canyon Creek, but does identify present and potential uses for the Pit River, to which Canyon Creek, via Burney Creek, is tributary. These beneficial uses are as follows: Municipal and domestic supply (MUN); Agricultural supply, including stock watering (ARG); hydropower generation (POW); water contact recreation, including canoeing and rafting (REC-1); non-contact water recreation, including aesthetic enjoyment; commercial and sport fishing (REC-2); warm freshwater habitat (WARM); cold freshwater habitat (COLD); warm spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN); cold spawning, reproduction, and /or early development (SPWN); and wildlife habitat (WILD).

In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. Thus, as discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet, beneficial uses applicable to Canyon Creek are as summarized in Table 5, below.

**Table 5. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
SW-001	Canyon Creek	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      Agricultural supply, including stock watering (ARG);                      Hydropower generation (POW); and wildlife habitat (WILD). Warm freshwater habitat (WARM);                      Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD);                      Warm spawning, reproduction, and/or early development, cold spawning, reproduction, and /or early development (SPWN); and                      Wildlife habitat (WILD).                      Contact (REC-1) and non-contact (REC-2) water recreation.</p> <p><u>Potential:</u>                      Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN).</p>

The Basin Plan includes a list of Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs), which are defined as “...those sections of lakes, streams, rivers or other fresh water bodies where water quality does not meet (or is not expected to meet) water quality standards even after the application of appropriate limitations for point sources (40 CFR 130, et seq.).” The Basin Plan also states, “Additional treatment beyond minimum federal standards will be imposed on dischargers to WQLSs. Dischargers will be assigned or allocated a maximum allowable load of critical pollutants so that water quality objectives can be met in the segment.” Canyon Creek is not listed as a WQLS in the 303(d) list of impaired water bodies.

**I. National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** USEPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, USEPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain water quality criteria for priority pollutants.

**J. State Implementation Policy.** On March 2, 2000, the State Water Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP became effective on April 28, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the USEPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005 that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.

**K. Compliance Schedules and Interim Requirements. – Not Applicable**

- L. Alaska Rule.** On March 30, 2000, USEPA revised its regulation that specifies when new and revised state and tribal water quality standards (WQS) become effective for CWA purposes. (40 C.F.R. § 131.21; 65 Fed. Reg. 24641 (April 27, 2000).) Under the revised regulation (also known as the Alaska rule), new and revised standards submitted to USEPA after May 30, 2000, must be approved by USEPA before being used for CWA purposes. The final rule also provides that standards already in effect and submitted to USEPA by May 30, 2000 may be used for CWA purposes, whether or not approved by USEPA.
- M. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants.** This Order contains both technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for individual pollutants. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements. In addition, this Order contains limitations more stringent than the minimum, federal technology-based requirements that are necessary to meet water quality standards. These limitations are more stringent than required by the CWA. The rationale for including these limitations is explained in the Fact Sheet. In addition, the Regional Water Board has considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing these requirements.

Water quality-based limitations have been scientifically derived to implement water quality objectives that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. To the extent that toxic pollutant water quality-based limitations were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to 40 CFR section 131.38. All beneficial uses and water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by USEPA prior to May 30, 2000. Any water quality objectives and beneficial uses submitted to USEPA prior to May 30, 2000, but not approved by USEPA before that date, are nonetheless "*applicable water quality standards for purposes of the [Clean Water] Act*" pursuant to 40 CFR section 131.21(c)(1). Collectively, this Order's restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the technology-based requirements of the CWA and the applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA.

- N. Antidegradation Policy.** Section 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 is consistent with the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies. As discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet the permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provision of section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. This Order specifically prohibits the discharge from causing the water quality in the receiving water to be degraded so as to cause a designated beneficial use or water quality standard to be violated.

**O. Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at title 40, Code of Federal Regulations section 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions where limitations may be relaxed. All effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order. This Order has been revised from the previous Order to recognize that the regulated discharge is industrial storm water only. Previously applicable effluent limitations have been removed, and BMPs and receiving water limitations added.

This is not backsliding, as the previous regulatory approach is not considered appropriate for this discharge being regulated. All receiving water beneficial uses and water quality standards will be met in the receiving water.

**P. Monitoring and Reporting.** Section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorizes the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and State requirements. This Monitoring and Reporting Program is provided in Attachment E.

**Q. Standard and Special Provisions.** Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under section 122.42. The Regional Water Board has also included in this Order special provisions applicable to the Discharger. A rationale for the special provisions contained in this Order is provided in the attached Fact Sheet.

**R. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law.** The provisions/requirements in subsections IV.B, IV.C, V.B, and VI.C of this Order are included to implement state law only. These provisions/requirements are not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of these provisions/requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.

**S. Notification of Interested Parties.** The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of notification are provided in the Fact Sheet of this Order.

**T. Consideration of Public Comment.** The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet of this Order.

**III. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS**

- A. Discharge of industrial storm water at a location or in a manner different from that described in the Findings is prohibited.
- B. The by-pass or overflow of industrial storm water to surface waters is prohibited, except as allowed by Federal Standard Provisions I.G. and I.H. (Attachment D).
- C. Neither the discharge nor its treatment shall create a nuisance as defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
- D. Discharge from the power plant pond or the log deck pond to Canyon Creek is prohibited.
- E. The power plant pond or the log deck pond shall not be discharged off site except to a suitable treatment plant or for reclamation purposes specifically approved by the Executive Officer.
- F. Discharge of ash and cooling tower sludge to surface waters is prohibited.

**IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

**A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point SW-001**

**1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point SW-001**

- a. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point SW-001, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location M-001A and M-001B as described in the attached MRP:

**Table 6. Final Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations			
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Settleable Solids	mL/L	0.1	0.2		
pH	Units			6.0	9.0

**2. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable**

**B. Land Discharge Specifications – Discharge Point - Not Applicable**

**C. Reclamation Specifications – Discharge Point - Not Applicable**

## V. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

### A. Surface Water Limitations

Receiving water limitations are based on the Basin Plan numerical and narrative water quality objectives for and California/National Toxics Rule criteria, biostimulatory substances, cadmium, copper, chemical constituents, color, dissolved oxygen, floating material, iron, lead, oil and grease, pH, pesticides, radioactivity, salinity and electrical conductivity, suspended sediment, settleable material, silver, suspended material, tastes and odors, temperature, toxicity, turbidity, and zinc and are a required part of this Order. Receiving water limitations are also used in this permit to ensure that the regulated storm water discharge does not cause the water quality of the receiving water to exceed an applicable standard. The discharge shall not cause the following in Canyon Creek as measured at monitoring point RSW-002:

1. **Biostimulatory Substances.** Water to contain biostimulatory substances which promote aquatic growths in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
2. **Cadmium.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for cadmium as follows:
  - a. CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.7852[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 2.715\}) \times (1.101672 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.041838]\})$ ;
  - b. CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.128[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 3.6867\}) \times (1.136672 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.041838]\})$ ;  
and
  - c. Basin Plan Objective (instantaneous maximum, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.160[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 5.777\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

3. **Chemical Constituents.** Chemical constituents to be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
4. **Color.** Discoloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. **Copper.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for copper as follows:
  - a. CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.8545[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.702\}) \times (0.960)$ ;



- b. CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.9422[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.700\}) \times (0.960)$ ; and
- c. Basin Plan Objective (instantaneous maximum, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.905[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.612\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

6. **Dissolved Oxygen:**

- a. The monthly median of the mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 85 percent of saturation in the main water mass;
- b. The 95 percentile dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 75 percent of saturation; nor
- c. The dissolved oxygen concentration to be reduced below 7.0 mg/L at any time.

7. **Floating Material.** Floating material to be present in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

8. **Iron.** Iron to exceed the Secondary MCL - Consumer Acceptance Limit of 300 µg/L. An AMEL of 300 ug/L for iron is included in this Order based on protection of the Basin Plan's narrative chemical constituents objective

9. **Lead.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for lead as follows:

- a. CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.273[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 4.705\}) \times (1.46203 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.145712]\})$ ; and
- b. CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.273[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.460\}) \times (1.46203 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.145712]\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

10. **Oil and Grease.** Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

11. **pH.** The pH to be depressed below 6.5, raised above 8.5, nor changed by more than 0.5 units. An averaging period may be applied when determining compliance with the pH limitation.

## 12. Pesticides:

- a. Pesticides to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
- b. Pesticides to be present in bottom sediments or aquatic life in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
- c. Total identifiable persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides to be present in the water column at concentrations detectable within the accuracy of analytical methods prescribed in *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 18<sup>th</sup> Edition*, or other equivalent methods approved by the Executive Officer.
- d. Pesticide concentrations to exceed those allowable by applicable antidegradation policies (see State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and 40 CFR §131.12.).
- e. Pesticide concentrations to exceed the lowest levels technically and economically achievable.
- f. Pesticides to be present in concentration in excess of the maximum contaminant levels set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15.
- g. Thiobencarb to be present in excess of 1.0 µg/L.

## 13. Radioactivity:

- a. Radionuclides to be present in concentrations that are harmful/deleterious to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life nor that result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
- b. Radionuclides to be present in excess of the maximum contaminant levels specified in Table 4 (MCL Radioactivity) of Section 64443 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.

14. **Salinity and Electrical Conductivity (EC).** The electrical conductivity to exceed 900 umhos/cm. An averaging period may be applied when determining compliance with the EC limitation.

15. **Silver.** The CTR includes hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for silver as follows: No applicable Basin Plan or CTR chronic exists. Therefore, all calculations for silver are based on the CTR instantaneous maximum concentration.

- a. CTR Instantaneous Maximum Concentration (dissolved) =  
 $(\exp\{1.72[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 6.52\}) \times (0.85)$

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

16. **Suspended Sediments.** The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters to be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

17. **Settleable Substances.** Substances to be present in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
18. **Suspended Material.** Suspended material to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
19. **Taste and Odors.** Taste- or odor-producing substances to be present in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses/or to domestic or municipal water supplies.
20. **Temperature.** The natural temperature to be increased by more than 5°F.
21. **Toxicity.** Toxic substances to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
22. **Turbidity.** The turbidity to increase as follows:
  - a. More than 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) where natural turbidity is between 0 and 5 NTUs.
  - b. More than 20 percent where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs.
  - c. More than 10 NTU where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs.
  - d. More than 10 percent where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs.

Turbidity (NTU) shall be determined by (1) individual samples or (2) by samples taken over an appropriate averaging period.

23. **Zinc.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for zinc as follows:
  - a. CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.8473[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.884\}) \times (0.986)$ ;
  - b. CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.8473[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.884\}) \times (0.978)$ ; and
  - c. Basin Plan Objective (instantaneous maximum, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.830[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 0.289\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

## **B. Groundwater Limitations - Not Applicable**

## VI. PROVISIONS

### A. Standard Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D of this Order.
2. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions:
  - a. If the Discharger's wastewater treatment plant is publicly owned or subject to regulation by California Public Utilities Commission, it shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certificates of appropriate grade according to Title 23, CCR, Division 3, Chapter 26.
  - b. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Order may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to:
    - i. violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;
    - ii. obtaining this Order by misrepresentation or by failing to disclose fully all relevant facts;
    - iii. a change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge; and
    - iv. a material change in the character, location, or volume of discharge.

The causes for modification include:

- *New regulations.* New regulations have been promulgated under Section 405(d) of the Clean Water Act, or the standards or regulations on which the permit was based have been changed by promulgation of amended standards or regulations or by judicial decision after the permit was issued.
- *Land application plans.* When required by a permit condition to incorporate a land application plan for beneficial reuse of sewage sludge, to revise an existing land application plan, or to add a land application plan.
- *Change in sludge use or disposal practice.* Under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 122.62(a)(1), a change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practice is a cause for modification of the permit. It is cause for revocation and reissuance if the Discharger requests or agrees.

The Regional Water Board may review and revise this Order at any time upon application of any affected person or the Regional Water Board's own motion.

- c. If a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any scheduled compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under Section 307(a) of the CWA, or amendments thereto, for a toxic pollutant that is present in

the discharge authorized herein, and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation upon such pollutant in this Order, the Regional Water Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such toxic effluent standard or prohibition.

The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards and prohibitions within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified.

- d. This Order shall be modified, or alternately revoked and reissued, to comply with any applicable effluent standard or limitation issued or approved under Sections 301(b)(2)(C) and (D), 304(b)(2), and 307(a)(2) of the CWA, if the effluent standard or limitation so issued or approved:
  - i. contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the Order; or
  - ii. controls any pollutant limited in the Order.

The Order, as modified or reissued under this paragraph, shall also contain any other requirements of the CWA then applicable.

- e. The provisions of this Order are severable. If any provision of this Order is found invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected.
- f. The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse effects to waters of the State or users of those waters resulting from any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order. Reasonable steps shall include such accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the non-complying discharge or sludge use or disposal.
- g. The Discharger shall ensure compliance with any existing or future pretreatment standard promulgated by USEPA under Section 307 of the CWA, or amendment thereto, for any discharge to the municipal system.
- h. The discharge of any radiological, chemical or biological warfare agent or high-level, radiological waste is prohibited.
- i. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the discharge facility and be available at all times to operating personnel. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its content.
- j. Safeguard to electric power failure:
  - i. The Discharger shall provide safeguards to assure that, should there be reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the discharge shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order.

- ii. Upon written request by the Regional Water Board the Discharger shall submit a written description of safeguards. Such safeguards may include alternate power sources, standby generators, retention capacity, operating procedures, or other means. A description of the safeguards provided shall include an analysis of the frequency, duration, and impact of power failures experienced over the past five years on effluent quality and on the capability of the Discharger to comply with the terms and conditions of the Order. The adequacy of the safeguards is subject to the approval of the Regional Water Board.
  - iii. Should the treatment works not include safeguards against reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, or should the Regional Water Board not approve the existing safeguards, the Discharger shall, within ninety days of having been advised in writing by the Regional Water Board that the existing safeguards are inadequate, provide to the Regional Water Board and USEPA a schedule of compliance for providing safeguards such that in the event of reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the Discharger shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order. The schedule of compliance shall, upon approval of the Regional Water Board, become a condition of this Order.
- k. The Discharger, upon written request of the Regional Water Board, shall file with the Board a technical report on its preventive (failsafe) and contingency (cleanup) plans for controlling accidental discharges, and for minimizing the effect of such events. This report may be combined with that required under Regional Water Board Standard Provision VI.A.2.m.

The technical report shall:

- i. Identify the possible sources of spills, leaks, untreated waste by-pass, and contaminated drainage. Loading and storage areas, power outage, waste treatment unit outage, and failure of process equipment, tanks and pipes should be considered.
- ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of present facilities and procedures and state when they became operational.
- iii. Predict the effectiveness of the proposed facilities and procedures and provide an implementation schedule containing interim and final dates when they will be constructed, implemented, or operational.

The Regional Water Board, after review of the technical report, may establish conditions which it deems necessary to control accidental discharges and to minimize the effects of such events. Such conditions shall be incorporated as part of this Order, upon notice to the Discharger.

- I. A publicly owned treatment works (POTW) whose waste flow has been increasing, or is projected to increase, shall estimate when flows will reach hydraulic and treatment capacities of its treatment and disposal facilities. The projections shall be made in January, based on the last three years' average dry

- weather flows, peak wet weather flows and total annual flows, as appropriate. When any projection shows that capacity of any part of the facilities may be exceeded in four years, the Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board by 31 January. A copy of the notification shall be sent to appropriate local elected officials, local permitting agencies and the press. Within 120 days of the notification, the Discharger shall submit a technical report showing how it will prevent flow volumes from exceeding capacity or how it will increase capacity to handle the larger flows. The Regional Water Board may extend the time for submitting the report.
- m. The Discharger shall submit technical reports as directed by the Executive Officer. All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. To demonstrate compliance with Title 16, CCR, sections 415 and 3065, all technical reports must contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
  - n. Laboratories that perform sample analyses must be identified in all monitoring reports submitted to the Regional Water Board and USEPA.
  - o. The Discharger shall conduct analysis on any sample provided by USEPA as part of the Discharge Monitoring Quality Assurance (DMQA) program. The results of any such analysis shall be submitted to USEPA's DMQA manager.
  - p. Effluent samples shall be taken downstream of the last addition of wastes to the treatment or discharge works where a representative sample may be obtained prior to mixing with the receiving waters. Samples shall be collected at such a point and in such a manner to ensure a representative sample of the discharge.
  - q. All monitoring and analysis instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary, at least yearly, to ensure their continued accuracy.
  - r. The Discharger shall file with the Regional Water Board technical reports on self-monitoring performed according to the detailed specifications contained in the Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to this Order.
  - s. The results of all monitoring required by this Order shall be reported to the Regional Water Board, and shall be submitted in such a format as to allow direct comparison with the limitations and requirements of this Order. Unless otherwise specified, discharge flows shall be reported in terms of the monthly average and the daily maximum discharge flows.

- t. The Regional Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the CWC, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.
- u. Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. (CWC section 1211)
- v. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, maximum daily effluent limitation, 1-hour average effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation contained in this Order, the Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board by telephone (916) 464-3291 within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing within five days, unless the Regional Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall include the information required by Attachment D, Section V.E.1 [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(6)(i)].

## **B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements**

- 1. The Discharger shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E of this Order.

## **C. Special Provisions**

### **1. Reopener Provisions**

- a. This Order may be reopened for modification, or revocation and reissuance, as a result of the detection of a reportable priority pollutant generated by special conditions included in this Order. These special conditions may be, but are not limited to, fish tissue sampling, whole effluent toxicity, monitoring requirements on internal waste stream(s), and monitoring for surrogate parameters. Additional requirements may be included in this Order as a result of the special condition monitoring data.
- b. Conditions that necessitate a major modification of a permit are described in 40 CFR section 122.62, including:
  - i. If new or amended applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to Section 303 of the CWA, or amendments thereto, this permit may be reopened and modified in accordance with the new or amended standards.
  - ii. When new information, that was not available at the time of permit issuance, would have justified different permit conditions at the time of issuance.



- c. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** As a result of a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE), this Order may be reopened to include a chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE. Additionally, if the State Water Board revises the SIP's toxicity control provisions that would require the establishment of numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations, this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitation based on the new provisions.
- d. **Log Deck Flushing.** Results from the log deck flushing study may be used to establish a discharge specification requiring a certain volume of flush or amount of rainfall before log deck runoff can be directed to the storm water retention pond and off site. This Order may be reopened to implement the discharge specification.
- e. **Water Effects Ratios (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating CTR criteria for applicable priority pollutant inorganic constituents. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable when developing effluent limitations for cadmium, copper, lead, silver, and zinc. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WERs and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.
- f. **Mixing Zone and Dilution Studies.** Section 1.4 of the SIP established procedures for calculating effluent limitations. Included in the procedures is determination of a dilution credit, which the Regional Water Board may approve or disapprove at its discretion. However, the Discharger has not developed the information needed to determine a dilution credit. Consequently, this Order establishes final effluent limitations based on zero dilution. This Order also has a reopener that allows new effluent limitations to be adopted if a mixing zone and dilution study demonstrates that dilution credits are appropriate.
- g. **Constituent Study.** If after review of the study results it is determined that the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality objective this Order may be reopened and effluent limitations added for the subject constituents.
- h. **Electrical Conductivity.** If the Regional Board determines that a receiving water quality objective for electrical conductivity of 700 umhos/cm is required to protect agricultural activities, then this Order may be reopened and limitations added or modified to provide such protection.

## 2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements

- a. **Log Deck Flushing Study.** The Discharger shall develop a plan for conducting a Log Deck Flushing study, to be approved by the Regional Water Board. The Plan shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board prior to the 2007/2008 wet season. The intent of the study is to determine the minimum volume of flush or amount of rainfall that is required to ensure residual pollutants (e.g., tannins & lignins, EC, COD, and turbidity) on the log deck have been reduced prior to initiating discharge to the storm water retention pond and off site. All runoff from the log deck must be contained until constituents of concern reach acceptable concentrations. Results of the study must be submitted to the Regional Water Board prior to the 2008/2009 wet season.
- b. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** The Discharger shall prepare a salinity evaluation and minimization plan to address sources of salinity from the Facility. The plan shall be completed and submitted to the Regional Water Board within 1 year of the effective date of this Order for the approval by the Executive Officer.
- c. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity.** For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct chronic whole effluent toxicity testing, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E, Section V.). Furthermore, this Provision requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge exceeds the toxicity numeric monitoring trigger established in this Provision, the Discharger is required to initiate a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE), in accordance with an approved TRE Work Plan, and take actions to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent reoccurrence of toxicity. A TRE is a site-specific study conducted in a stepwise process to identify the source(s) of toxicity and the effective control measures for effluent toxicity. TREs are designed to identify the causative agents and sources of whole effluent toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of the toxicity control options, and confirm the reduction in effluent toxicity. This Provision includes requirements for the Discharger to develop and submit a TRE Work Plan and includes procedures for accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring and TRE initiation.
  - i. **Initial Investigative Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Work Plan.** **Within 90 days of the effective date of this Order,** the Discharger shall submit to the Regional Water Board an Initial Investigative TRE Work Plan for approval by the Executive Officer. This should be a one to two page document including, at minimum:
    - a) A description of the investigation and evaluation techniques that will be used to identify potential causes and sources of effluent toxicity, effluent variability, and treatment system efficiency;

- b) A description of the facility's methods of maximizing in-house treatment efficiency and good housekeeping practices, and a list of all chemicals used in operation of the facility; and
  - c) A discussion of who will conduct the Toxicity Identification Evaluation, if necessary (i.e. an in-house expert or outside contractor).
- ii. **Accelerated Monitoring and TRE Initiation.** When the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity monitoring, and the testing meets all test acceptability criteria, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring as required in the Accelerated Monitoring Specifications. WET testing results exceeding the monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring demonstrates a pattern of toxicity and requires the Discharger to initiate a TRE to address the effluent toxicity.
- iii. **Numeric Monitoring Trigger.** The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is  $> 1 \text{ TUc}$  (where  $\text{TUc} = 100/\text{NOEC}$ ). The monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to begin accelerated monitoring and initiate a TRE.
- iv. **Accelerated Monitoring Specifications.** If the monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity testing, within 14-days of notification by the laboratory of the test results, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring. Accelerated monitoring shall consist of four (4) chronic toxicity tests every two weeks using the species that exhibited toxicity. The following protocol shall be used for accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation:
- a) If the results of four (4) consecutive accelerated monitoring tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring. However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of a pattern of effluent toxicity, the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.
  - b) If the source(s) of the toxicity is easily identified (i.e. temporary plant upset), the Discharger shall make necessary corrections to the facility and shall continue accelerated monitoring until four (4) consecutive accelerated tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger. Upon confirmation that the effluent toxicity has been removed, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring.
  - c) If the result of any accelerated toxicity test exceeds the monitoring trigger, the Discharger shall cease accelerated monitoring and initiate a TRE to investigate the cause(s) of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. Within thirty (30) days of notification by the laboratory of the test results exceeding the monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring, the Discharger shall submit a TRE Action Plan to the Regional Water Board including, at minimum:

- 1) Specific actions the Discharger will take to investigate and identify the cause(s) of toxicity, including TRE WET monitoring schedule;
- 2) Specific actions the Discharger will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and
- 3) A schedule for these actions.

d. **Groundwater Monitoring.** - Not Applicable

### **3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention**

This permit is for the discharge of storm water only. The SIP states in foot note number 1 of the introduction, "This Policy does not apply to regulation of storm water discharges. The SWRCB has adopted precedential decisions addressing regulation of municipal storm water discharges in Orders WQ 91-03, 91-04, 96-13, 98-01, and 99-05. The SWRCB has also adopted two statewide general permits regulating the discharge of pollutants contained in storm water from industrial and construction activities." Therefore the SIP provisions for establishment of effluent limitations are not applicable. Effluent limitations for priority pollutants have not been established, however receiving water limitations and BMPs ensure that beneficial uses of the receiving water are protected and water quality standards are not exceeded. Storm water discharges could be regulated under the existing State Water Board general industrial storm water permit (Order No. 97-03-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001). However, due to the complexity of the Facility, the Regional Water Board has elected to regulate this Facility with an individual NPDES permit.

Applicable water quality objectives and criteria have been used as receiving water limitations, and are also utilized as benchmark values to evaluate BMPs. Direct comparison of pollutant concentrations in Canyon Creek at RSW-001, RSW-002, and the discharge at SW-001 will be used to ensure that water quality standards are not exceeded.

If any receiving water limitations are exceeded, the Discharger must conduct a BMPs Improvement Evaluation and implement BMP improvements to eliminate the receiving water violations.

The BMPs improvement evaluation and proposed BMPs improvements must be submitted to the Regional Water Board for comment within 60 days of the violation date. The BMPs improvements must be implemented as soon as practicable thereafter.

### **4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications**

#### **a. Treatment Pond Operating Requirements.**

- i. The treatment facilities shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

- ii. Public contact with storm water shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, and other acceptable alternatives.
- iii. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular,
  - a) An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
  - b) Weeds shall be minimized.
  - c) Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.
- iv. Freeboard shall never be less than two feet (measured vertically to the lowest point of overflow).

**5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only) - Not Applicable**

**6. Other Special Provisions**

- a. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Regional Water Board.

To assume operation under this Order, the succeeding owner or operator must apply in writing to the Executive Officer requesting transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the State of incorporation if a corporation, address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Regional Water Board and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory and certification requirements in the Federal Standard Provisions (Attachment D, Section V.B.) and state that the new owner or operator assumes full responsibility for compliance with this Order. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without requirements, a violation of the California Water Code. Transfer shall be approved or disapproved in writing by the Executive Officer.

**7. Compliance Schedules. - Not Applicable**

**VII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

No specific compliance determination language is necessary.

## ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

**Arithmetic Mean ( $\mu$ )**, also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Arithmetic mean} = \mu = \Sigma x / n \quad \text{where: } \Sigma x \text{ is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and } n \text{ is the number of samples.}$$

**Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL):** the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

**Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL):** the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

**Averaging Periods:** a minimum of four samples per day from each upstream and downstream station for a period of up to 4 days during discharge. Samples collected for averaging must be spaced at least 3 hours apart.

**Best Practicable Treatment or Control (BPTC):** BPTC is a requirement of State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-16 – “Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California” (referred to as the “Antidegradation Policy”). BPTC is the treatment or control of a discharge necessary to assure that, “(a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained.” Pollution is defined in CWC Section 13050(I). In general, an exceedance of a water quality objective in the Basin Plan constitutes “pollution”.

**Bioaccumulative** pollutants are those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

**Carcinogenic** pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

**Coefficient of Variation (CV)** is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

**Daily Discharge:** Daily Discharge is defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

**Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)** are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL.

**Dilution Credit** is the amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

**Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)** is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as waste load allocation (WLA) as used in U.S. EPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

**Enclosed Bays** means indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays include, but are not limited to, Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drake's Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

**Estimated Chemical Concentration** is the estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

**Estuaries** means waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouths of streams that serve as areas of mixing for fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and seawater. Estuarine waters included, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in Water Code section 12220, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to the Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Mad, Eel, Noyo, Russian, Klamath, San Diego, and Otay rivers. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

**Inland Surface Waters** are all surface waters of the State that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

**Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation:** the highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

**Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation:** the lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

**Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)** means the highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

**Median** is the middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of measurements ( $n$ ) is odd, then the median =  $X_{(n+1)/2}$ . If  $n$  is even, then the median =  $(X_{n/2} + X_{(n/2)+1})/2$  (i.e., the midpoint between the  $n/2$  and  $n/2+1$ ).

**Method Detection Limit (MDL)** is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 136, Attachment B, revised as of July 3, 1999.

**Minimum Level (ML)** is the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

**Mixing Zone** is a limited volume of receiving water that is allocated for mixing with a wastewater discharge where water quality criteria can be exceeded without causing adverse effects to the overall water body.

**Not Detected (ND)** are those sample results less than the laboratory's MDL.

**Ocean Waters** are the territorial marine waters of the State as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Water Board's California Ocean Plan.

**Persistent** pollutants are substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

**Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)** means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The



goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Regional Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

**Pollution Prevention** means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in Water Code section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State or Regional Water Board.

**Reporting Level (RL)** is the ML (and its associated analytical method) chosen by the Discharger for reporting and compliance determination from the MLs included in this Order. The MLs included in this Order correspond to approved analytical methods for reporting a sample result that are selected by the Regional Water Board either from Appendix 4 of the SIP in accordance with section 2.4.2 of the SIP or established in accordance with section 2.4.3 of the SIP. The ML is based on the proper application of method-based analytical procedures for sample preparation and the absence of any matrix interferences. Other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the specific sample preparation steps employed. For example, the treatment typically applied in cases where there are matrix-effects is to dilute the sample or sample aliquot by a factor of ten. In such cases, this additional factor must be applied to the ML in the computation of the RL.

**Satellite Collection System** is the portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

**Source of Drinking Water** is any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in a Regional Water Board Basin Plan.

**Standard Deviation ( $\sigma$ )** is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = \left( \frac{\sum[(x - \mu)^2]}{(n - 1)} \right)^{0.5}$$

where:

x is the observed value;

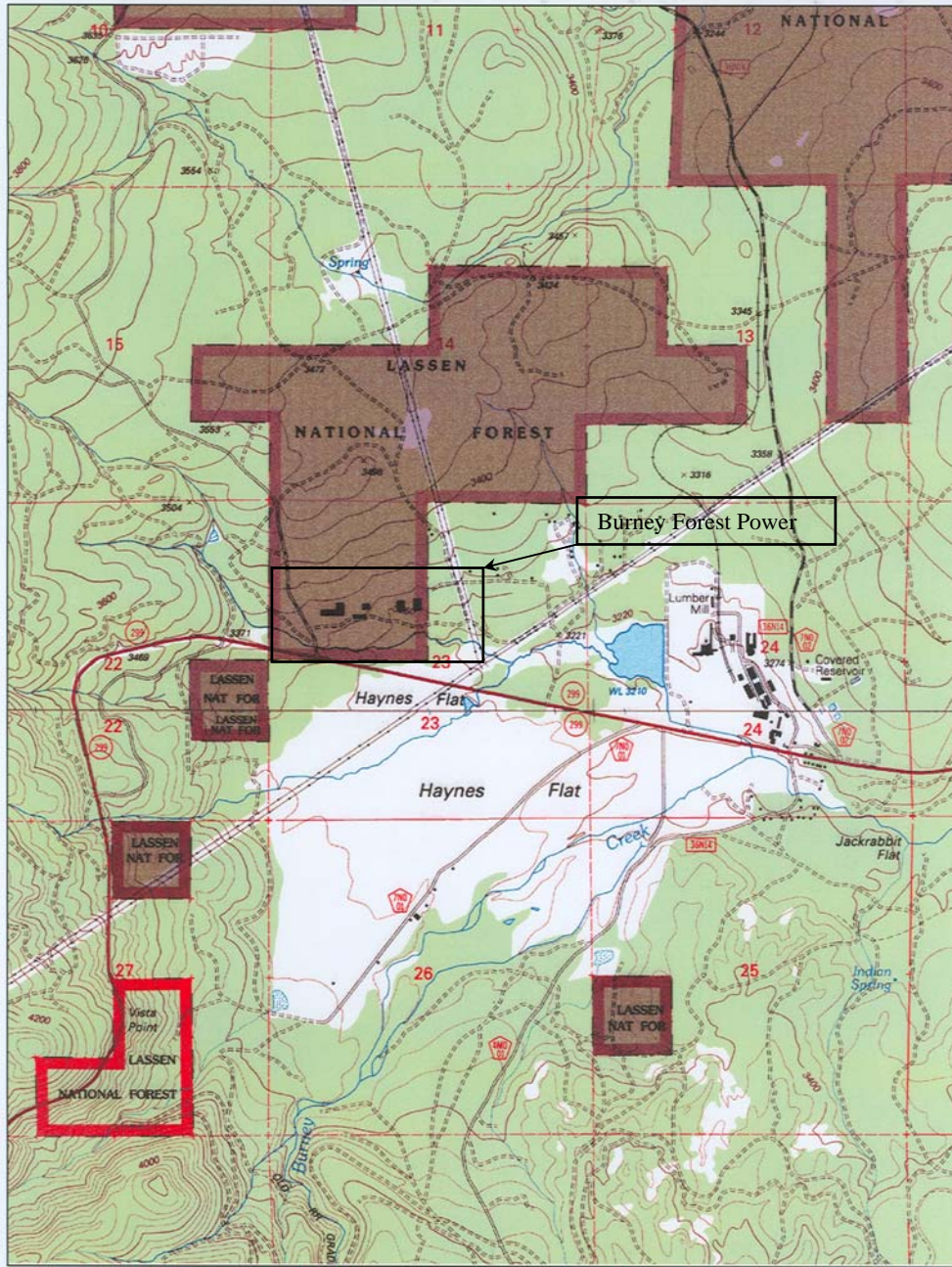
$\mu$  is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and

n is the number of samples.

**Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)** is a study conducted in a step-wise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity.

The first steps of the TRE consist of the collection of data relevant to the toxicity, including additional toxicity testing, and an evaluation of facility operations and maintenance practices, and best management practices. A Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate. (A TIE is a set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.)

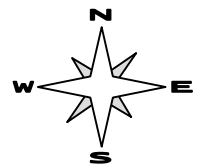
**ATTACHMENT B – MAP**



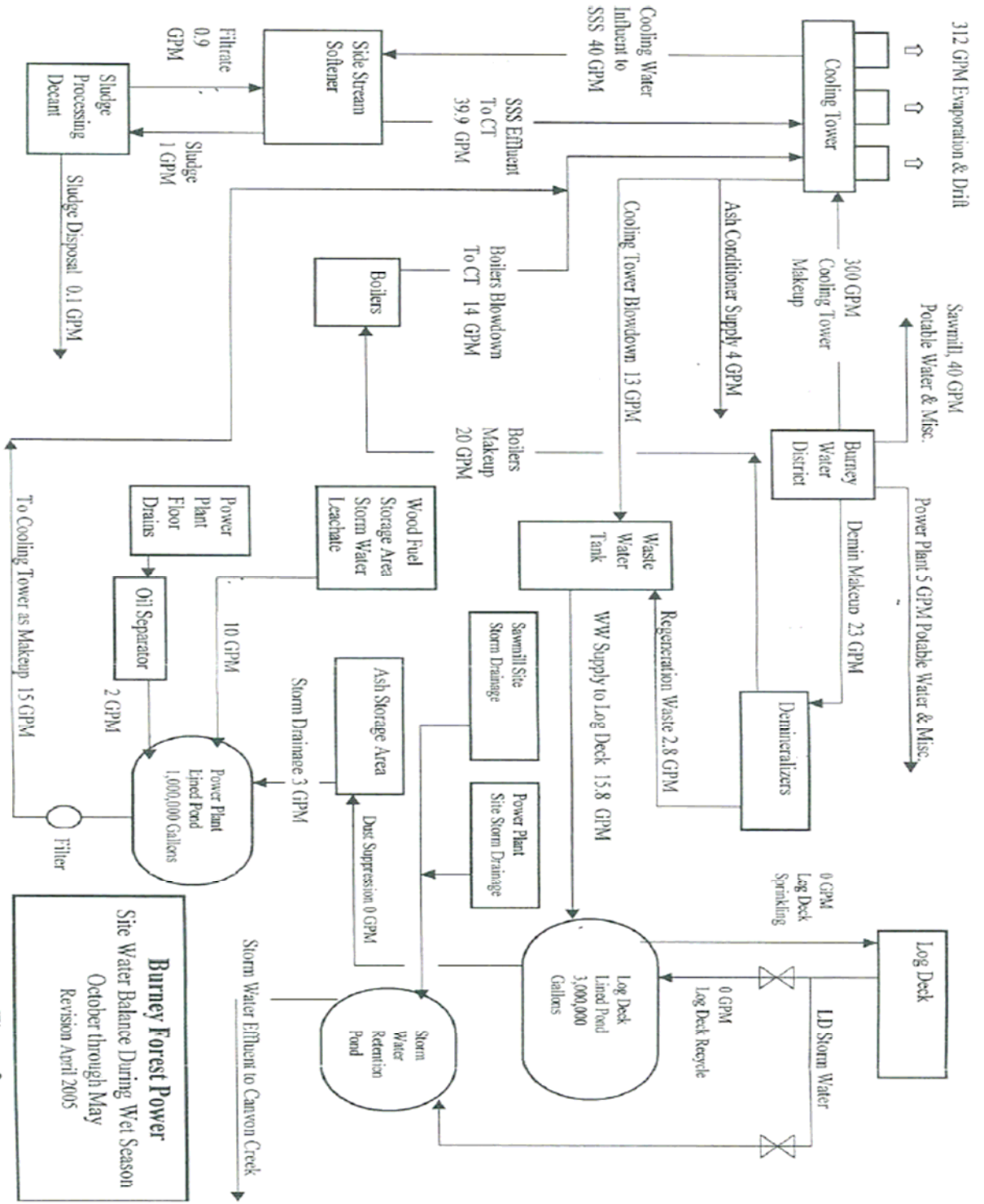
Drawing Reference:  
**QUAD SHEET NAME**  
 U.S.G.S TOPOGRAPHIC MAP  
 7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE  
*Photorevised 1973*  
*Not to scale*

**SITE LOCATION MAP**

DISCHARGER: BURNEY FOREST PRODUCTS,  
 NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY SERVICES  
 COMPANY, SHASTA GREEN, INC., AND  
 FRUITGROWERS SUPPLY COMPANY  
 FACILITY: BURNEY FOREST POWER  
 SHASTA COUNTY



**ATTACHMENT C – FLOW SCHEMATIC**



**Burney Forest Power**  
 Site Water Balance During Wet Season  
 October through May  
 Revision April 2005

Figure 2

## **ATTACHMENT D –STANDARD PROVISIONS**

### **I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE**

#### **A. Duty to Comply**

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a).)
2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

#### **B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense**

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

#### **C. Duty to Mitigate**

The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

#### **D. Proper Operation and Maintenance**

The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

#### **E. Property Rights**

1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)

2. The issuance of this Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. (40 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

## **F. Inspection and Entry**

The Discharger shall allow the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, § 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1));
2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2));
3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3)); and
4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4).)

## **G. Bypass**

1. Definitions
  - a. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).)
  - b. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)
2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)



3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Regional Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):
  - a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A));
  - b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and
  - c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Regional Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)
4. The Regional Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Regional Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)
5. Notice
  - a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)
  - b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

## H. Upset

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Discharger. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.H.2 below are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was

caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).).

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):
  - a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));
  - b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));
  - c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and
  - d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)
3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

## **II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION**

### **A. General**

This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Order condition. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(f).)

### **B. Duty to Reapply**

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

### **C. Transfers**

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Regional Water Board. The Regional Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(3); § 122.61.)



### III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING

- A. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)
- B. Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures under Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under Part 136 unless otherwise specified in Part 503 unless other test procedures have been specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(4); § 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

### IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS

- A. Except for records of monitoring information required by this Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by Part 503), the Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)

#### B. Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
3. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
5. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
6. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)

#### C. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):

1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

## **V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING**

### **A. Duty to Provide Information**

The Discharger shall furnish to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order or to determine compliance with this Order. Upon request, the Discharger shall also furnish to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA copies of records required to be kept by this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Wat. Code, § 13267.)

### **B. Signatory and Certification Requirements**

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, and/or USEPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, and V.B.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)
2. All permit applications shall be signed by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means: (i) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision-making functions for the corporation, or (ii) the manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(1).)
3. All reports required by this Order and other information requested by the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(1));
  - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative

may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and

- c. The written authorization is submitted to the Regional Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)
5. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Regional Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c).)
6. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.3 above shall make the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.” (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

### **C. Monitoring Reports**

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(l)(4).)
2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Regional Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)
3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order using test procedures approved under Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under Part 136 unless otherwise specified in Part 503, or as specified in this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Regional Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)
4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

## **D. Compliance Schedules**

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this Order, shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

## **E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting**

1. The Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
  - a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
  - b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)
3. The Regional Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

## **F. Planned Changes**

The Discharger shall give notice to the Regional Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in section 122.29(b) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or
2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are subject neither to effluent limitations in this Order nor to notification requirements under section 122.42(a)(1) (see Additional Provisions—Notification Levels VII.A.1). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(ii).)

3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

#### **G. Anticipated Noncompliance**

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Regional Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with General Order requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

#### **H. Other Noncompliance**

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

#### **I. Other Information**

When the Discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

### **VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT**

- A. The Regional Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

### **VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS**

#### **A. Non-Municipal Facilities**

Existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural Dischargers shall notify the Regional Water Board as soon as they know or have reason to believe (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)):

1. That any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in this Order, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels" (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)):

- a. 100 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(i));
  - b. 200  $\mu\text{g/L}$  for acrolein and acrylonitrile; 500  $\mu\text{g/L}$  for 2,4-dinitrophenol and 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and 1 milligram per liter ( $\text{mg/L}$ ) for antimony (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(ii));
  - c. Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the Report of Waste Discharge (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(iii)); or
  - d. The level established by the Regional Water Board in accordance with section 122.44(f). (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(iv).)
2. That any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in the discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in this Order, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels" (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)):
- a. 500 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(i));
  - b. 1 milligram per liter ( $\text{mg/L}$ ) for antimony (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(ii));
  - c. Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the Report of Waste Discharge (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(iii)); or
  - d. The level established by the Regional Water Board in accordance with section 122.44(f). (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(iv).)

## ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

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## **ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)**

The Code of Federal Regulations section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code Sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) to require technical and monitoring reports. This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements, which implement the federal and state regulations.

### **I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS**

- A. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring locations specified below and, unless otherwise specified, before the monitored flow joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. Monitoring locations shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of this Regional Water Board.
- B. Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services. In the event a certified laboratory is not available to the Discharger, analyses performed by a noncertified laboratory will be accepted provided a Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program is instituted by the laboratory. A manual containing the steps followed in this program must be kept in the laboratory and shall be available for inspection by Regional Water Board staff. The Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program must conform to USEPA guidelines or to procedures approved by the Regional Water Board.
- C. All analyses shall be performed in a laboratory certified to perform such analyses by the California Department of Health Services. Laboratories that perform sample analyses shall be identified in all monitoring reports.
- D. Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.
- E. Monitoring results, including noncompliance, shall be reported at intervals and in a manner specified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.



**II. MONITORING LOCATIONS**

The Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

**Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations**

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description (include Latitude and Longitude when available)
SW-001	M-001A	Outfall from storm water retention pond. Latitude 40° 52' 35", Longitude 121° 43' 00"
SW-001	M-001B	25 feet upstream of the confluence of SW-001 and Canyon Creek within the Drainage Ditch.
Log Deck Recycle Pond	PND-001	3,000,000 gallon Log Deck Recycle Pond north side of cogeneration plant and east side of log deck
Power Plant Pond	PND-002	1,000,000 gallon Power Plant Pond. South side of cogeneration plant
Storm Water Retention Pond	PND-003	Storm Water Retention Pond. Southeast of Power Plant and east of Power Plant Pond.
Receiving Surface Water Upstream	RSW-001	Canyon Creek, 50 feet upstream of confluence of SW-001 and Canyon Creek
Receiving Surface Water Downstream	RSW-002	Canyon Creek, 50 feet downstream of confluence of SW-001 and Canyon Creek

**III. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS - NOT APPLICABLE**

**A. Monitoring Location - Not Applicable**

**IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Monitoring Location M-001A and M-001B**

1. The Discharger shall monitor the outfall (SW-001) from the storm water retention pond (PND-003), Latitude 40° 52' 35", Longitude 121° 43' 00", at Monitoring Location M-001A and/or M-001B as follows. If more than one analytical test method is listed for a given parameter, the Discharger must select from the listed methods and corresponding Minimum Level:

**Table E-2. Effluent Monitoring**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method and (Minimum Level, units), respectively
Flow	g/min	Visual	Weekly during discharge	
pH	units	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
Settleable Solids	mL/L	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
COD	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Electrical Conductivity	umhos/cm	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Tannins & Lignins	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Cadmium dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Copper, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Iron	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Lead, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Silver, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Zinc, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Hardness	mg/L	Grab	Semi-Annually	
Oil & Grease	mg/L	Grab	Semi-Annually	
Acute Toxicity	% Survival	Grab	Semi-Annually	
Chronic Toxicity	% Survival	Grab	Bi-annually	
Priority Pollutant Metals <sup>1</sup>	ug/L	Grab	Annually	
Priority Pollutant <sup>2,3</sup>	ug/L	Grab	Bi-annually	

1. Detection limits shall be at or below the lowest minimum level (ML) published in Appendix 4 of the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Plan or SIP).
2. Priority Pollutants – one set during 1<sup>st</sup> 2-years of the permit, and one set during the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-years of the permit.
3. 126 Priority Pollutants except asbestos, and dioxins/furans.

## V. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. **Acute Toxicity Testing.** The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing acute toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following acute toxicity testing requirements:
1. Monitoring Frequency – the Discharger shall perform semi-annually acute toxicity testing. If the discharge continues to not exhibit acute toxicity, the frequency of acute toxicity monitoring may be reduced upon approval by the Executive Officer, or her designee.
  2. Sample Types – For static non-renewal and static renewal testing, the samples shall be grab samples and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at the effluent monitoring location SW-001.
  3. Test Species – Test species shall be fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).
  4. Methods – The acute toxicity testing samples shall be analyzed using EPA-821-R-02-012, Fifth Edition. Temperature, total residual chlorine, and pH shall be recorded at the time of sample collection. No pH adjustment may be made unless approved by the Executive Officer.
  5. Test Failure – If an acute toxicity test does not meet all test acceptability criteria, as specified in the test method, the Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, not to exceed 7 days following notification of test failure.
- B. **Chronic Toxicity Testing.** The Discharger shall conduct three species chronic toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing chronic toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following chronic toxicity testing requirements:
1. Monitoring Frequency – the Discharger shall perform Bi-annual three species chronic toxicity testing.
  2. Sample Types – Effluent samples shall be grab samples and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at the effluent monitoring location specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program. The receiving water control shall be a grab sample obtained from the RSW-001 sampling location, as identified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.
  3. Sample Volumes – Adequate sample volumes shall be collected to provide renewal water to complete the test in the event that the discharge is intermittent.
  4. Test Species – Chronic toxicity testing measures sublethal (e.g. reduced growth, reproduction) and/or lethal effects to test organisms exposed to an effluent compared to that of the control organisms. The Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity tests with:
    - The cladoceran, water flea, *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (survival and reproduction test);
    - The fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* (larval survival and growth test); and

- The green alga, *Selenastrum capricornutum* (growth test).
5. **Methods** – The presence of chronic toxicity shall be estimated as specified in *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002.*
  6. **Reference Toxicant** – As required by the SIP, all chronic toxicity tests shall be conducted with concurrent testing with a reference toxicant and shall be reported with the chronic toxicity test results.
  7. **Dilutions** – The chronic toxicity testing shall be performed using 100% effluent and two controls. If toxicity is found in any effluent test, the Discharger must immediately retest using the dilution series identified in Table E-3, below. The receiving water control shall be used as the diluent (unless the receiving water is toxic).
  8. **Test Failure** – The Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, but no later than fourteen (14) days after receiving notification of a test failure. A test failure is defined as follows:
    - a. The reference toxicant test or the effluent test does not meet all test acceptability criteria as specified in the *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002 (Method Manual),* and its subsequent amendments or revisions; or
    - b. The percent minimum significant difference (PMSD) measured for the test exceeds the upper PMSD bound variability criterion in Table 6 on page 52 of the Method Manual. (A retest is only required in this case if the test results do not exceed the monitoring trigger specified in Provisions VI.C. 2.c.iii)

**Table E-3. Chronic Toxicity Testing Dilution Series**

Sample	Dilutions (%)					Controls	
	100	75	50	25	12.5	Receiving Water	Laboratory Water
% Effluent	100	75	50	25	12.5	0	0
% Receiving Water	0	25	50	75	87.5	100	0
% Laboratory Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	100

- C. **WET Testing Notification Requirements.** The Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board within 24-hrs after the receipt of test results exceeding the monitoring trigger during regular or accelerated monitoring, or an exceedance of the acute toxicity effluent limitation.
- D. **WET Testing Reporting Requirements.** All toxicity test reports shall include the contracting laboratory’s complete report provided to the Discharger and shall be in accordance with the appropriate “Report Preparation and Test Review” sections of the

method manuals. At a minimum, whole effluent toxicity monitoring shall be reported as follows:

1. **Chronic WET Reporting.** Regular chronic toxicity monitoring results shall be reported to the Regional Water Board within 30 days following completion of the test, and shall contain, at minimum:
  - a. The results expressed in TUC, measured as 100/NOEC, and also measured as 100/LC<sub>50</sub>, 100/EC<sub>25</sub>, 100/IC<sub>25</sub>, and 100/IC<sub>50</sub>, as appropriate.
  - b. The statistical methods used to calculate endpoints;
  - c. The statistical output page, which includes the calculation of the percent minimum significant difference (PMSD);
  - d. The dates of sample collection and initiation of each toxicity test; and
  - e. The results compared to the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger.

Additionally, the monthly discharger self-monitoring reports shall contain an updated chronology of chronic toxicity test results expressed in TUC, and organized by test species, type of test (survival, growth or reproduction), and monitoring frequency, i.e., either quarterly, monthly, accelerated, or TRE. (Note: items a through c, above, are only required when testing is performed using the full dilution series.)

2. **Acute WET Reporting.** Acute toxicity test results shall be submitted with the monthly discharger self-monitoring reports and reported as percent survival.
3. **TRE Reporting.** Reports for Toxicity Reduction Evaluations shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule contained in the Discharger's approved TRE Work Plan.
4. **Quality Assurance (QA).** The Discharger must provide the following information for QA purposes (if applicable):
  - a. Results of the applicable reference toxicant data with the statistical output page giving the species, NOEC, LOEC, type of toxicant, dilution water used, concentrations used, PMSD, and dates tested.
  - b. The reference toxicant control charts for each endpoint, which include summaries of reference toxicant tests performed by the contracting laboratory.
  - c. Any information on deviations or problems encountered and how they were dealt with.

## VI. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS - NOT APPLICABLE

## VII. RECLAMATION MONITORING REQUIREMENTS - NOT APPLICABLE

## VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER

### A. Monitoring Location RSW-001 and RSW-002

1. The Discharger shall monitor Canyon Creek at RSW-001 and RSW-002 as follows:

**Table E-4. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	cfs	Visual	Weekly during discharge	
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
Temperature	°F (°C)	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Weekly during discharge	
Tannins & Lignins	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Cadmium, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Copper, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Iron	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Lead, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Silver, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Zinc, dissolved	ug/L	Grab	Monthly during discharge	
Hardness	mg/L	Grab	Semi-annually	
Priority Pollutant Metals <sup>1</sup>	ug/L	Grab	Annually	
Priority Pollutant <sup>2,3</sup>	ug/L	Grab	Bi-annually	

1. Detection limits shall be at or below the lowest minimum level (ML) published in Appendix 4 of the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Plan or SIP).
2. Priority Pollutants – one set during 1<sup>st</sup> 2-years of the permit, and one set during the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-years of the permit.
3. 126 Priority Pollutants except asbestos, and dioxins/furans.

## IX. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

### A. Log Deck Recycle Pond and Power Plant Pond

1. Monitoring Location PND-001 and PND-002

- a. The Discharger shall monitor the Log Deck Recycle Pond and Power Plant Pond at PND-001 and PND-002 respectively:

**Table E-5. Log Deck Recycle Pond and Power Plant Pond**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Freeboard	Feet, inches	Observation	Weekly	
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Monthly	
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	umhos/cm	Grab	Monthly	
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	

**B. Ash and Cooling Tower Solids Monitoring**

The Discharger shall submit an annual report by 30 January of each year, describing the quantities of fly ash, bottom ash, and solids generated plus the handling and disposal activities for these materials. A log shall be kept of the quantities generated and disposal activities. The frequency of entries is discretionary; however, the log shall be complete enough to serve as a basis for the annual report.

**X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements**

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.
2. Upon written request of the Regional Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a summary monitoring report. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year(s).
3. **Compliance Time Schedules.** For compliance time schedules included in the Order, the Discharger shall submit to the Regional Water Board, on or before each compliance due date, the specified document or a written report detailing compliance or noncompliance with the specific date and task. If noncompliance is reported, the Discharger shall state the reasons for noncompliance and include an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board by letter when it returns to compliance with the compliance time schedule.
4. The Discharger shall report to the Regional Water Board any toxic chemical release data it reports to the State Emergency Response Commission within 15 days of reporting the data to the Commission pursuant to section 313 of the "Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986.

5. **Reporting Protocols.** The Discharger shall report with each sample result the applicable Reporting Level (RL) and the current Method Detection Limit (MDL), as determined by the procedure in Part 136.

The Discharger shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

- a. Sample results greater than or equal to the RL shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).
- b. Sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported.

For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ as well as the words "Estimated Concentration" (may be shortened to "Est. Conc."). The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy ( $\pm$  a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.

- c. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or ND.
  - d. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from *extrapolation* beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.
6. **Multiple Sample Data.** When determining compliance with an AMEL, AWEL, or MDEL for priority pollutants and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:
- a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
  - b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

## B. Self Monitoring Reports (SMRs)



1. At any time during the term of this permit, the State or Regional Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program Web site (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>). Until such notification is given, the Discharger shall submit hard copy SMRs. The CIWQS Web site will provide additional directions for SMR submittal in the event there will be service interruption for electronic submittal.
2. Monitoring results shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board by the **first day** of the second month following sample collection. Quarterly and annual monitoring results shall be submitted by the **first day of the second month following each calendar quarter, semi-annual period, and year**, respectively.
3. In reporting the monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, the constituents, and the concentrations are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to illustrate clearly whether the discharge complies with waste discharge requirements. The highest daily maximum for the month, monthly and weekly averages, and medians shall be determined and recorded as needed to demonstrate compliance.
4. With the exception of flow, all constituents monitored on a continuous basis (metered), shall be reported as daily maximums, daily minimums, and daily averages; flow shall be reported as the total volume discharged per day for each day of discharge.
5. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant at the locations designated herein more frequently than is required by this Order, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the values required in the discharge monitoring report form. Such increased frequency shall be indicated on the discharge monitoring report form.
6. A letter transmitting the self-monitoring reports shall accompany each report. Such a letter shall include a discussion of requirement violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned for correcting noted violations, such as operation or facility modifications. If the Discharger has previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. The transmittal letter shall contain the penalty of perjury statement by the Discharger, or the Discharger's authorized agent, as described in the Standard Provisions.

- SMRs must be submitted to the Regional Water Board, signed and certified as required by the Standard Provisions (Attachment D), to the address listed below:

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
 Central Valley Region  
 415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100  
 Redding, CA 96002

- Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

**Table E-6. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule**

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Continuous	Permit effective date	All	Submit with monthly SMR
Hourly	Permit effective date	Hourly	Submit with monthly SMR
Daily	Permit effective date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.	Submit with monthly SMR
Weekly	Sunday following permit effective date or on permit effective date if on a Sunday	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR
Monthly	First day of calendar month following permit effective date or on permit effective date if that date is first day of the month	1 <sup>st</sup> day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	First day of the second month following month of sampling
Quarterly	Closest of January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 following (or on) permit effective date	January 1 through March 31 April 1 through June 30 July 1 through September 30 October 1 through December 31	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
Semiannually	Closest of January 1 or July 1 following (or on) permit effective date	January 1 through June 30 July 1 through December 31	August 1 February 1
Annually	January 1 following (or on) permit effective date	January 1 through December 31	February 1
Bi-annually	January 1 following (or on) permit effective date	1 <sup>st</sup> two years of permit, and 2 <sup>nd</sup> two years of permit	February 1

**C. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) - Not Applicable**

- As described in Section X.B.1 above, at any time during the term of this permit, the State or regional Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit SMRs that will satisfy federal requirements for submittal of Discharge monitoring Reports (DMRs). Until such notification is given, the Discharger shall submit DMRs in accordance with the requirements described below.

2. DMRs must be signed and certified as required by the standard provisions (Attachment D). The Discharger shall submit the original DMR and one copy of the DMR to the address listed below:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Discharge Monitoring Report Processing Center  
Post Office Box 671  
Sacramento, CA 95812

3. All discharge monitoring results must be reported on official USEPA pre-printed DMR forms (EPA Form 3320-1). Forms that are self-generated or modified cannot be accepted.

#### D. Other Reports

1. **Progress Reports.** As specified in the compliance time schedules required in Special Provisions VI, progress reports shall be submitted in accordance with the following reporting requirements. At minimum, the progress reports shall include a discussion of the status of final compliance, whether the Discharger is on schedule to meet the final compliance date, and the remaining tasks to meet the final compliance date.
2. Within **60 days** of permit adoption, the Discharger shall submit a report outlining minimum levels, method detection limits, and analytical methods for approval, with a goal to achieve detection levels below applicable water quality criteria. At a minimum, the Discharger shall comply with the monitoring requirements for CTR constituents as outlined in Section 2.3 and 2.4 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, adopted 2 March 2000 by the State Water Resources Control Board. All peaks identified by analytical methods shall be reported.
3. **Annual Operations Report.** By **30 January** of each year, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer containing the following:
  - a. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the facility for emergency and routine situations.
  - b. The Discharger may also be requested to submit an annual report to the Regional Water Board with both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. Any such request shall be made in writing. The report shall discuss the compliance record. If violations have occurred, the report shall also discuss the corrective actions taken and planned to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

## ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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## **ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET**

As described in section II of this Order, this Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this Order.

This Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for Dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this Discharger. Sections or subsections of this Order not specifically identified as “not applicable” are fully applicable to this Discharger.

### **I. PERMIT INFORMATION**

The following table summarizes administrative information related to the facility.

**Table F-1. Facility Information**

<b>WDID</b>	5A452030002
<b>Discharger</b>	Burney Forest Products, a joint venture, North American Energy Services Company, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company
<b>Name of Facility</b>	Burney Forest Power
<b>Facility Address</b>	35586-B Hwy. 299 E.
	Burney, CA 96013
	Shasta County
<b>Facility Contact, Title and Phone</b>	Douglas S. Tomison, Plant Manager, North American Energy Services at Burney Forest Power. (530) 335-5023
	Tom Franklin, Vice President, Shasta Green, Inc. (530) 335-4924
<b>Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports</b>	Douglas S. Tomison, Plant Manager, Burney Forest Power. (530) 335-5027 Tom Franklin, Vice President, Shasta Green Inc. (530) 335-4924
<b>Mailing Address</b>	35586-B Hwy. 299 E., Burney, CA 96013
<b>Billing Address</b>	35586-B Hwy. 299 E., Burney, CA 96013
<b>Type of Facility</b>	SIC Code 4911 – Electrical Services SIC Code 2421 – Sawmills and Planing Mill
<b>Major or Minor Facility</b>	Minor
<b>Threat to Water Quality</b>	2
<b>Complexity</b>	A
<b>Pretreatment Program</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Reclamation Requirements</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Facility Permitted Flow</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Facility Design Flow</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Watershed</b>	Pit River Hydrologic Unit (526.00)
	Burney Hydrologic Area (526.30)
	Upper Burney Creek Hydrologic Subarea (526.33)
<b>Receiving Water</b>	Canyon Creek
<b>Receiving Water Type</b>	Inland Surface Water

A. Burney Forest Power cogeneration plant and sawmill (hereinafter Facility) is owned and operated by separate entities. The cogeneration plant is owned by Burney Forest Products, a Joint Venture, a California partnership comprised of Forest Products LP and Burney Biomass Power LLC. North American Energy Services Company currently operates the cogeneration plant under contract with the owner. Fruitgrowers Supply Company owns the cogeneration plant and sawmill property (Assessor’s Parcel Nos. 030-040-014 and 030-040-023) at 35586 Highway 299 E. in Burney, CA, on which the Facility is located. Burney Forest Products leases the property from Fruitgrowers Supply Company. Shasta Green, Inc. owns and operates a sawmill located on the property and sub leases the property from Burney Forest Products. Together Burney

Forest Products, North American Energy Services, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company are hereinafter referred to as the Discharger.

For the purposes of this Order, references to the “discharger” or “permittee” in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

- B.** The Facility discharges storm water to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States, and is currently regulated by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit No. 5-00-257 which was adopted on 8 December 2000 and expired on 1 December 2005. The terms and conditions of the current NPDES permit have been automatically continued and remain in effect until new Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES permit are adopted pursuant to this Order.
- C.** The Discharger filed a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) and submitted an application for renewal of its Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and NPDES permit on 31 May 2005. Supplemental information was requested on 30 June 2005 and received on 8 October 2005. A site visit was conducted on 30 November 2006, to observe operations and collect additional data to develop permit limitations and conditions. The RWD was deemed complete on 30 June 2005.

## **II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

### COGENERATION PLANT

The cogeneration plant consists of a wood fuel storage area, boiler, generator, transmission system, cooling tower, equipment fueling and maintenance, aboveground petroleum storage, chemical, and waste storage, paved and unpaved roadways, laboratory, and office. The primary fuel source for the cogeneration plant is wood waste from the sawmill and off-site sources; natural gas is used as a supplementary fuel for startup and flame stabilization for the cogeneration plant's boilers. The Discharger has submitted a list of chemicals used to treat the cogeneration plant's water and maintain the boiler and cooling tower. The cogeneration plant's wastes include: cooling tower blow down, boiler blow down, cooling tower treatment sludge, fly ash, bottom ash, used petroleum products, sewage, and storm water runoff. The bottom ash is used onsite for roads; the fly ash is transported to private agricultural lands for use as soil amendment or to a manufacturer for reuse. The cooling tower sludge is filtered and the cake disposed of at a Class III landfill.

The cogeneration plant is designed for zero discharge of process water. The cooling tower receives approximately 300 gallons per minute (gpm) of potable water from Burney Water District in the winter (400 gpm in the summer), 15 gpm of boiler blowdown, and 15 gpm of recycle water from the power plant pond. In addition, Burney Water District supplies approximately 25 gpm of make-up water for the demineralizer. Cooling tower water blowdown (approximately 13 gpm) and demineralizer regeneration wastewater (approximately 3 gpm) are collected in a 20,000-gallon tank that discharges to the log deck recycle pond. Approximately 4 gpm cooling tower water is used for conditioning fly ash, a waste product from wood fuel combustion.



Cooling water is recycled which results in increased electrical conductivity and total dissolved solids. A side stream water softener treatment system was installed to remove calcium, magnesium and silica from the water for reuse in the cogeneration plant. Precipitating agents and flocculants are added to the blowdown water. The treated water is then recycled through the cooling tower while the sludge-laden slurry is filtered and removed for disposal.

Cooling tower treatment sludge is disposed at a Class III landfill. Fly ash is either used for soil amendment or transported to a manufacturer for recycling. Bottom ash, which is comprised entirely of mineral matter, is used onsite for road base.

### SAWMILL

The Sawmill operation consists of log scaling, wet and dry log storage, mechanical log debarking, sawmill, planing mill, kilns, lumber storage, aboveground petroleum storage area, equipment fueling and maintenance, paved and unpaved roadways, and an office.

Waste generated by the sawmill operations include: process water and storm runoff from the log deck storage areas, wood waste, saw cooling water, non-contact cooling water, kiln condensate, waste petroleum products, sewage, and storm water runoff from within the sawmill facility. Wood waste from the sawmill is delivered to the cogeneration plant by conveyor.

### PONDS

#### Log Deck Pond -

The log deck recycle pond receives process water discharges from log sprinkling during the dry season, and the initial flush of storm water runoff from the log deck areas. This pond has a synthetic liner and a storage capacity of 3- million gallons. The log deck areas are asphalt paved. In addition, the cogeneration plant discharges demineralizer regeneration wastewater and cooling tower blowdown to the log deck recycle pond. This Order prohibits discharge from the log deck recycle pond.

#### Power Plant Pond -

The power plant pond storm water from the wood fuel storage area at approximately 10 gpm in the winter (0.5 gpm in summer), the ash storage area at approximately 3 gpm in the winter (0.5 gpm in summer), and the oil water separator at 2 gpm in the winter (0.5 gpm in the summer). This pond has a synthetic liner and a storage capacity of 1-million gallons. Water collected in the power plant pond is used as makeup water for the cooling tower.

#### Storm Water Retention Pond -

The storm water retention pond acts as a retention/settling pond. This pond is not lined and has a storage capacity of 3.6 acre-feet. During rainfall events, storm water from the sawmill area combines with runoff from the cogeneration plant area prior to entering the storm water retention pond. After the log deck has been adequately flushed storm water runoff from the log deck area is directed to the storm water retention pond. The storm water retention pond is designed with two discharge weirs (a floating weir and a

stationary weir), both of which discharge to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States, and a tributary to the Pit River within the Pit River Hydrologic Unit (526.00). Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility at Storm Water discharge point SW-001.

A process flow diagram is provided in Attachment C of this Order.

#### **A. Description of Wastewater Treatment or Controls**

The 3.6 acre-foot unlined storm water retention pond acts as a retention/settling pond. The pond is designed with two discharge weirs, both of which discharge at storm water discharge point SW-001. Weir #1 is a floating weir, while weir #2 is a stationary weir. During storm events, storm water enters the pond and is held until sufficient settling has occurred with discharge occurring through the floating weir only. The stationary weir is used as a safety discharge and protects the pond from overflowing its banks.

Cooling water is recycled which results in increased total dissolved solids. A side stream water softener treatment system was installed to remove calcium, magnesium and silica from the water for reuse in the cogeneration plant. Precipitating agents and flocculants are added to the blowdown water. The treated water is then recycled through the cooling tower, while the sludge-laden slurry is filtered and removed for disposal.

Cooling tower treatment sludge is disposed at a Class III landfill. Fly ash is either used for soil amendment or transported to a manufacturer for recycling. Bottom ash, which is comprised entirely of mineral matter, is used onsite for road base.

#### **B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters**

1. The Facility is located in Section 23, T35N, R2E, MDB&M, as shown in Attachment B (Figure B-1), a part of this Order.
2. Settled storm water is discharged at storm water discharge point SW-001 to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States and a tributary to Burney Creek at a point latitude 40°, 52', 35" N and longitude 121°, 43', 00" W within the Pit River Hydrologic Unit (526.00)

#### **C. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data**

Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications contained in the existing Order for discharges from storm water discharge point SW-001 (Monitoring Location SW-001) and representative monitoring data from the term of the previous Order are as follows:

**Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (1/2001 – 5/2006)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	umhos/cm						6,990
Settleable Matter	mL/L	0.1		0.2			<0.1
Turbidity	NTU						277
COD							472
Suspended Solids	mg/L						134
Tannins & Lignins	mg/L						19.5
Hardness	mg/L						225
Iron	mg/L						4,540
Zinc (total)	ug/L						189
Zinc (dissolved)	ug/L						59
pH	pH units	pH shall remain within the range of 6.5 and 8.5 at all times					(10.20, 6.50) <sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Instantaneous Maximum and Instantaneous Minimum.

**D. Compliance Summary**

Based on the monitoring data submitted by the Discharger from January 2001 through May 2006, the Discharger reported a pH of 9.69, 10.20, and 9.53 on 21 May 2002, 27 May 2002, and 3 June 2002 respectively. The three reported pH readings were violations of Effluent Limitation B.2 of the current NPDES permit. In addition, receiving water violations for turbidity were recorded on 11, 12, and 27 January 2001, 9 and 25 February 2001, 3 November 2001, 22 October 2004, and 3 November 2004. No other effluent or receiving water violations set by Order No. 5-00-257 have been documented.

**E. Planned Changes**

The Facility does not anticipate any planned changes within the next five years.

**III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS**

The requirements contained in this Order are based on the applicable plans, policies, and regulations identified in section II of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements (Findings). This section provides supplemental information, where appropriate, for the plans, policies, and regulations relevant to the discharge.

## **A. Legal Authority**

See Limitations and Discharge Requirements - [Findings](#), Section II.C.

## **B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

See Limitations and Discharge Requirements - Findings, Section II.E.

## **C. State and Federal Regulations, Policies, and Plans**

- 1. Water Quality Control Plans.** As explained in Findings, Section II. H, the Regional Water Board adopted a *Water Quality Control Plan, Fourth Edition (Revised February 2007), for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (Basin Plan) that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. In addition, State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63 requires that, with certain exceptions, the Regional Water Board assign the municipal and domestic supply use to water bodies that do not have beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan. The beneficial uses of Canyon Creek downstream of the discharge are municipal and domestic supply, agricultural irrigation, agricultural stock watering, industrial power water supply, water contact recreation including canoeing and rafting, other non-contact water recreation, warm freshwater aquatic habitat, cold freshwater aquatic habitat, warm spawning habitat, cold spawning habitat, and wildlife habitat.

The Basin Plan on page II-1.00 states: “*Protection and enhancement of existing and potential beneficial uses are primary goals of water quality planning...*” and with respect to disposal of wastewaters states that “*...disposal of wastewaters is [not] a prohibited use of waters of the State; it is merely a use which cannot be satisfied to the detriment of beneficial uses.*”

The federal CWA section 101(a)(2), states: “*it is the national goal that wherever attainable, an interim goal of water quality which provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreation in and on the water be achieved by July 1, 1983.*” Federal Regulations, developed to implement the requirements of the CWA, create a rebuttable presumption that all waters be designated as fishable and swimmable. Federal Regulations, 40 CFR sections 131.2 and 131.10, require that all waters of the State regulated to protect the beneficial uses of public water supply, protection and propagation of fish, shell fish and wildlife, recreation in and on the water, agricultural, industrial and other purposes including navigation. Section 131.3(e), 40 CFR, defines existing beneficial uses as those uses actually attained after November 28, 1975, whether or not they are included in the water quality standards. Federal Regulation, 40 CFR section 131.10 requires that uses be obtained by implementing effluent limitations, requires that all downstream uses be protected and states that in no case shall a state adopt waste transport or waste assimilation as a beneficial use for any waters of the United States.

2. **Thermal Plan. Not Applicable.**
3. **Bay-Delta Plan. Not Applicable.**
4. **Antidegradation Policy.** Section 131.12, 40 CFR, requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies. As discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet (Attachment F, Section IV.D.4.) the discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16. This Order specifically prohibits the discharge from causing the water quality in the receiving water to be degraded so as to cause a designated beneficial use or water quality standard to be violated.
5. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at title 40, Code of Federal Regulations section 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed. Compliance with the Anti-Backsliding requirements is discussed in Section IV.D.3. This Order has been revised from the previous Order to recognize that the regulated discharge is storm water only. Previously applicable effluent limitations have been removed, and BMPs and receiving water limitations added.

This is not backsliding, as the previous regulatory approach is not considered appropriate for this discharge being regulated. All receiving water beneficial uses and water quality standards will be met in the receiving water.
6. **Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act. Not Applicable.** Facility is not a POTW, and does not discharge wastes, other than domestic wastes, into a POTW collection system.
7. **Storm Water Requirements.** USEPA promulgated Federal Regulations for storm water on 16 November 1990 in 40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124. The NPDES Industrial Storm Water Program regulates storm water discharges from industrial facilities. This site-specific, individual Order implements the requirements of the Industrial Storm Water Program.
8. **Endangered Species Act.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code sections 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. sections 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the

beneficial uses of waters of the state. The Discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

#### **D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List**

1. Under Section 303(d) of the 1972 Clean Water Act, states, territories and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of water quality limited segments. The waters on these lists do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology. On July 25, 2003 USEPA gave final approval to California's 2002 Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments. The Basin Plan references this list of Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs), which are defined as "...*those sections of lakes, streams, rivers or other fresh water bodies where water quality does not meet (or is not expected to meet) water quality standards even after the application of appropriate limitations for point sources (40 CFR 130, et seq.)*." The Basin Plan also states, "*Additional treatment beyond minimum federal standards will be imposed on dischargers to [WQLSs]. Dischargers will be assigned or allocated a maximum allowable load of critical pollutants so that water quality objectives can be met in the segment.*" The receiving water has not been 303d-listed.
2. **Total Maximum Daily Loads.** No TMDL has been adopted for the receiving water.

#### **E. Other Plans, Policies and Regulations**

1. The State Water Board adopted the *Water Quality Control Policy for the Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California*. The requirements within this Order are consistent with the Policy.

### **IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

Effluent limitations and toxic and pretreatment effluent standards established pursuant to Sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 304 (Information and Guidelines), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and amendments thereto are applicable to the discharge.

The Federal CWA mandates the implementation of effluent limitations that are as stringent as necessary to meet water quality standards established pursuant to state or federal law [33 U.S.C., § 1311(b)(1)(C); 40 CFR, § 122.44(d)(1)]. NPDES permits must incorporate discharge limits necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met. This requirement applies to narrative criteria as well as to criteria specifying maximum amounts of particular pollutants. Pursuant to Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Section 122.44(d)(1)(i), NPDES permits must contain limits that control all pollutants that "*are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any state water quality standard, including state narrative criteria for water quality.*" Federal Regulations, 40 CFR, §122.44(d)(1)(vi), further provide that "[w]here a state has not established a water quality criterion for a specific chemical pollutant that is present in an effluent at a concentration that causes, has the reasonable potential to cause,

*or contributes to an excursion above a narrative criterion within an applicable State water quality standard, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits.”*

The CWA requires point source discharges to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations: 40 CFR §122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards, and 40 CFR §122.44(d) requires that permits include water quality-based effluent limitations to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water where numeric water quality objectives have not been established. The Regional Water Board’s Basin Plan, page IV-17.00, contains an implementation policy (“Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives”) that specifies that the Regional Water Board “*will, on a case-by-case basis, adopt numerical limitations in orders which will implement the narrative objectives.*” This Policy complies with 40 CFR §122.44(d)(1). With respect to narrative objectives, the Regional Water Board must establish effluent limitations using one or more of three specified sources, including (1) EPA’s published water quality criteria, (2) a proposed state criterion (*i.e.*, water quality objective) or an explicit state policy interpreting its narrative water quality criteria (*i.e.*, the Regional Water Board’s “Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives”)(40 CFR 122.44(d)(1) (vi) (A), (B) or (C)), or (3) an indicator parameter. The Basin Plan contains a narrative objective requiring that: “*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life*” (narrative toxicity objective). The Basin Plan requires the application of the most stringent objective necessary to ensure that surface water and groundwater do not contain chemical constituents, discoloration, toxic substances, radionuclides, or taste and odor producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses. The Basin Plan states that material and relevant information, including numeric criteria, and recommendations from other agencies and scientific literature will be utilized in evaluating compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. The Basin Plan also limits chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect surface water beneficial uses. For waters designated as municipal, the Basin Plan specifies that, at a minimum, waters shall not contain concentrations of constituents that exceed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) of CCR Title 22. The Basin Plan further states that, to protect all beneficial uses, the Regional Water Board may apply limits more stringent than MCLs.

#### **A. Discharge Prohibitions**

As stated in section I.G of Attachment D, Standard Provisions, this Order prohibits bypass from any portion of the treatment facility. Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.41 (m), define “bypass” as the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. This section of the Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.41 (m)(4), prohibits bypass unless it is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage.

In considering the Regional Water Board’s prohibition of bypasses, the State Water Board adopted a precedential decision, Order No. WQO 2002-0015, which cites the Federal Regulations, 40 CFR 122.41(m), as allowing bypass only for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.

1. Discharge of industrial storm water at a location or in a manner different from that described in the Findings is prohibited.
2. The by-pass or overflow of industrial storm water to surface waters is prohibited, except as allowed by Federal Standard Provisions I.G. and I.H. (Attachment D).
3. Neither the discharge nor its treatment shall create a nuisance as defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
4. Discharge from the power plant pond or the log deck pond to Canyon Creek is prohibited.
5. The power plant pond or the log deck pond shall not be discharged off site except to a suitable treatment plant or for reclamation purposes specifically approved by the Executive Officer.
6. Discharge of ash and cooling tower sludge to surface waters is prohibited.

## **B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations**

### **1. Scope and Authority**

The CWA requires that technology-based effluent limitations be established based on several levels of controls:

- a. Best practicable treatment control technology (BPT) represents the average of the best performance by plants within an industrial category or subcategory. BPT standards apply to toxic, conventional, and non-conventional pollutants.
- b. Best available technology economically achievable (BAT) represents the best existing performance of treatment technologies that are economically achievable within an industrial point source category. BAT standards apply to toxic and non-conventional pollutants.
- c. Best conventional pollutant control technology (BCT) represents the control from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including BOD, TSS, fecal coliform, pH, and oil and grease. The BCT standard is established after considering the "cost reasonableness" of the relationship between the cost of attaining a reduction in effluent discharge and the benefits that would result, and also the cost effectiveness of additional industrial treatment beyond BPT.
- d. New source performance standards (NSPS) represent the best available demonstrated control technology standards. The intent of NSPS guidelines is to set limitations that represent state-of-the-art treatment technology for new sources.



The CWA requires USEPA to develop effluent limitations, guidelines and standards (ELGs) representing application of BPT, BAT, BCT, and NSPS. Section 402(a)(1) of the CWA and section 125.3 of the Code of Federal Regulations authorize the use of best professional judgment (BPJ) to derive technology-based effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis where ELGs are not available for certain industrial categories and/or pollutants of concern. Where BPJ is used, the permit writer must consider specific factors outlined in section 125.3.

## 2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

The Discharger operates a “wet deck” log storage operation, a “barking” operation, and a “sawmills and planing mills” operation. Therefore, effluent limitations established in Timber Products Processing Point Source Category (40 CFR Part 429) are applicable to the discharge. Specifically, Subpart A (Barking Subcategory), Subpart I (Wet Storage Subcategory), and Subpart K (Sawmills and Planing Mills Subcategory) apply.

Except as provided in 40 CFR 125.30 through 125.32, any existing point source subject to this subpart must achieve the following effluent limitations representing the degree of effluent reduction attainable by the application of the best practicable control technology currently available (BPT). The following effluent limitations apply to Discharge Point 001:

- Barking - There shall be no discharge of process wastewater into navigable waters.
- Sawmills and Planing Mills - There shall be no discharge of process wastewater pollutants into navigable waters.
- Wet Storage - There shall be no debris discharged and the pH shall be within the range of 6.0 to 9.0 at all times. Where, “debris” means woody material such as bark, twigs, branches, heartwood or sapwood that will not pass through a 2.54 cm (1.0 in) diameter round opening and is present in the discharge from a wet storage facility.

### Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations Discharge Point SW-001

**Table F-3. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
pH	pH units				6.0	9.0

## C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

### 1. Scope and Authority

As specified in section 122.44(d)(1)(i), permits are required to include WQBELs for pollutants (including toxicity) that are or may be discharged at levels that cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above any state water quality standard. The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBELs when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

Also as specified in Section 122.44(K), best management practices (BMPs) may be used in lieu of numeric effluent limitations when:

- a. authorized under section 304(e) of the CWA for control of toxic pollutants and hazardous substances from ancillary industrial activities;
- b. authorized under section 402(p) of the CWA for the control of storm water discharges;
- c. numeric effluent limitations are infeasible; or
- d. the practices are reasonably necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purpose and intent of the CWA.

Section 402(p) authorizes regulation of storm water discharges associated with industrial activities. A combination of BMPs, numeric effluent limitations, and receiving water limitations are utilized in this Order to regulate the discharge of pollutants from the Dischargers Facility.

### 2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

- a. **Receiving Water.** The beneficial uses of Canyon Creek downstream of the discharge are municipal and domestic supply, agricultural irrigation, agricultural stock watering, industrial power water supply, water contact recreation, including canoeing and rafting, other non-contact water recreation, including aesthetic enjoyment, warm freshwater aquatic habitat, cold freshwater aquatic habitat, warm spawning habitat, cold spawning habitat, and wildlife habitat.
- b. **Hardness.** While no effluent limitation for hardness is necessary in this Order, hardness is critical to the assessment of the need for, and the development of, limitations for certain metals. The *California Toxics Rule*, at (c)(4), states the following:

*“Application of metals criteria. (i) For purposes of calculating freshwater aquatic life criteria for metals from the equations in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, for*

*waters with a hardness of 400 mg/L or less as calcium carbonate, the actual ambient hardness of the surface water shall be used in those equations.”*

The State Water Board, in footnote 19 to Water Quality Order No. 2004-0013, stated: “*We note that...the Regional Water Board...applied a variable hardness value whereby effluent limitations will vary depending on the actual, current hardness values in the receiving water. We recommend that the Regional Water Board establish either fixed or seasonal effluent limitations for metals, as provided in the SIP, rather than ‘floating’ effluent limitations.*”

Limitations for the discharge must be set to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water for all discharge conditions. In the absence of the option of including condition-dependent, “floating” limitations that are reflective of actual conditions at the time of discharge, limitations must be set using the worst-case condition (e.g., lowest ambient hardness) in order to protect beneficial uses for all discharge conditions. For purposes of establishing water quality-based limitations, a reported hardness value of 27 mg/L (lowest upstream receiving water hardness) as CaCO<sub>3</sub> was used.

**c. Assimilative Capacity/Mixing Zone.**

The Discharger is in the process of conducting a mixing zone and dilution study. Results are not yet available. Therefore, based on the available information, the worst-case dilution is assumed to be zero to provide protection for the receiving water beneficial uses. The impact of assuming zero dilution/assimilative capacity within the receiving water is that the discharge limitations are end-of-pipe limits with no allowance for dilution within the receiving water.

**d. Translators.**

USEPA regulations at 40 CFR 122.45(c) require effluent limitations for metals to be expressed as total recoverable metal, and therefore, attention must be given to ensure that analytical data and water quality standards for metals are expressed accordingly. Appendix 3 of the SIP provides Conversion Factors (CFs) or translators, for certain metals including arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, silver, and zinc, to convert total recoverable concentrations to dissolved concentrations and vice versa. Since the Discharger has not provided translators specific to the receiving water, this Order used CFs from the SIP summarized in Table F-4 below:

**Table F-4. Translators at 27 mg/L hardness as CaCO<sub>3</sub>.**

Parameter	Conversion Factor Freshwater Acute Criteria	Conversion Factors Freshwater Chronic Criteria
Arsenic	1.000	1.000
Cadmium	0.999	0.964
Copper	0.960	0.960
Lead	0.982	0.982
Silver	0.85	(1)
Zinc	0.978	0.986

(1) U.S. EPA has not published an aquatic life criterion value.

### 3. Determining the Need for WQBELs

- a. **pH.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for surface waters (except for Goose Lake) that the “...pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5. Changes in normal ambient pH levels shall not exceed 0.5 in fresh waters with designated COLD or WARM beneficial uses.” Effluent Limitations for pH are included in this Order based on the Basin Plan objectives for pH. A range of 6.0 to 9.0 is allowed in the effluent, recognizing the mixing potential in the receiving water, and the protective receiving water limitation.
- b. **Settleable Solids.** For inland surface waters, the Basin Plan states that “[w]ater shall not contain substances in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.”

### 4. WQBEL Calculations – Not Applicable

#### Summary of Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations Discharge Point SW-001

**Table F-5. Summary of Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Settleable Solids	mL/L	0.1		0.2		
pH	pH units				6.0	9.0

### 5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

For compliance with the Basin Plan’s narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct whole effluent toxicity testing for acute and chronic toxicity, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E, Section V.). This Order also contains effluent limitations for acute toxicity and requires the Discharger to implement best management practices to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity.

- a. **Acute Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan states that “...effluent limits based upon acute biotoxicity tests of effluents will be prescribed where appropriate...”. Effluent limitations for acute toxicity have been included in this Order.
- b. **Chronic Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, “All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.” (Basin Plan at III-8.00). Based on annual whole effluent chronic toxicity testing performed by the Discharger from 1 January 2001 through 31 December 2005, the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or

contribute to an to an in-stream excursion above of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

No dilution has been granted for the chronic condition. Therefore, chronic toxicity testing results exceeding 1 chronic toxicity unit (TUC) demonstrates the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. Numeric chronic WET effluent limitations have not been included in this order.

The SIP contains implementation gaps regarding the appropriate form and implementation of chronic toxicity limits. This has resulted in the petitioning of a NPDES permit in the Los Angeles Region<sup>1</sup> that contained numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations. To address the petition, the State Water Board adopted WQO 2003-012 directing its staff to revise the toxicity control provisions in the SIP. The State Water Board states the following in WQO 2003-012, *"In reviewing this petition and receiving comments from numerous interested persons on the propriety of including numeric effluent limitations for chronic toxicity in NPDES permits for publicly-owned treatment works that discharge to inland waters, we have determined that this issue should be considered in a regulatory setting, in order to allow for full public discussion and deliberation. We intend to modify the SIP to specifically address the issue. We anticipate that review will occur within the next year. We therefore decline to make a determination here regarding the propriety of the final numeric effluent limitations for chronic toxicity contained in these permits."* The process to revise the SIP is currently underway. Proposed changes include clarifying the appropriate form of effluent toxicity limits in NPDES permits and general expansion and standardization of toxicity control implementation related to the NPDES permitting process. Since the toxicity control provisions in the SIP are under revision it is infeasible to develop numeric effluent limitations for chronic toxicity. Therefore, this Order requires that the Discharger meet best management practices for compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, as allowed under 40 CFR 122.44(k).

To ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, the Discharger is required to conduct chronic whole effluent toxicity testing, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E, Section V.). Furthermore, Special Provisions VI.C.2.a. of this Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify and implement corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge demonstrates a pattern of toxicity exceeding the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, the Discharger is required to initiate a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE), in accordance with an approved TRE work plan. The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation, it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to

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<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of the Review of Own Motion of Waste Discharge Requirements Order Nos. R4-2002-0121 [NPDES No. CA0054011] and R4-2002-0123 [NPDES NO. CA0055119] and Time Schedule Order Nos. R4-2002-0122 and R4-2002-0124 for Los Coyotes and Long Beach Wastewater Reclamation Plants Issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region SWRCB/OCC FILES A-1496 AND 1496(a)

perform accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, as well as, the threshold to initiate a TRE if a pattern of effluent toxicity has been demonstrated.

## **D. Final Effluent Limitations**

### **1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations.**

Title 40 CFR 122.45(f)(1) requires effluent limitations be expressed in terms of mass, with some exceptions, and 40 CFR 122.45(f)(2) allows pollutants that are limited in terms of mass to additionally be limited in terms of other units of measurement. This Order includes effluent limitations expressed in terms of mass and concentration. In addition, pursuant to the exceptions to mass limitations provided in 40 CFR 122.45(f)(1), some effluent limitations are not expressed in terms of mass, such as pH and temperature, and when the applicable standards are expressed in terms of concentration (e.g. CTR criteria and MCLs) and mass limitations are not necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

### **2. Averaging Periods for Effluent Limitations.**

Title 40 CFR 122.45 (d) requires average weekly and average monthly discharge limitations for publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) unless impracticable. However, for toxic pollutants and pollutant parameters in water quality permitting, the US EPA recommends the use of a maximum daily effluent limitation in lieu of average weekly effluent limitations for two reasons. *“First, the basis for the 7-day average for POTWs derives from the secondary treatment requirements. This basis is not related to the need for assuring achievement of water quality standards. Second, a 7-day average, which could comprise up to seven or more daily samples, could average out peak toxic concentrations and therefore the discharge’s potential for causing acute toxic effects would be missed.”* (TSD, pg. 96) This Order utilizes maximum daily effluent limitations in lieu of average weekly effluent limitations for the achievement of water quality standards and for the protection of the beneficial uses of the receiving stream.

### **3. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements.**

This Order has been revised from the previous Order to recognize that the regulated discharge is industrial storm water only. Previously applicable effluent limitations have been removed, and BMPs and receiving water limitations added.

This is not backsliding, as the previous regulatory approach is not considered appropriate for this discharge being regulated. All receiving water beneficial uses and water quality standards will be met in the receiving water.

### **4. Satisfaction of Antidegradation Policy**

The permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16. Compliance with these requirements will result in the use of best practicable treatment or control of the discharge. There are no operational changes proposed. The impact on existing

water quality will be insignificant. This Order specifically prohibits the discharge from causing the water quality in the receiving water to be degraded so as to cause a designated beneficial use or water quality standard to be violated.

**Summary of Final Effluent Limitations  
 Discharge Point SW-001**

**Table F-6. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations (SW-001)**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	
pH	pH units				6.0	9.0	

**E. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable**

**F. Land Discharge Specifications. Not Applicable**

**G. Reclamation Specifications. Not Applicable**

**H. Best Management Practices. See Fact Sheet, Section VII.B.3**

**V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

Basin Plan water quality objectives to protect the beneficial uses of surface water and groundwater include numeric objectives and narrative objectives, including objectives for chemical constituents, toxicity, and tastes and odors. The toxicity objective requires that surface water and groundwater be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in humans, plants, animals, or aquatic life. The chemical constituent objective requires that surface water and groundwater shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect any beneficial use or that exceed the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) in Title 22, CCR. The tastes and odors objective states that surface water and groundwater shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. The Basin Plan requires the application of the most stringent objective necessary to ensure that surface water and groundwater do not contain chemical constituents, toxic substances, radionuclides, or taste and odor producing substances in concentrations that adversely affect domestic drinking water supply, agricultural supply, or any other beneficial use.

Receiving water limitations are also used in this permit to ensure that the regulated storm water discharge does not cause the water quality of the receiving water to exceed an applicable standard.

## A. Surface Water

1. CWA section 303(a-c), requires states to adopt water quality standards, including criteria where they are necessary to protect beneficial uses. The Regional Water Board adopted water quality criteria as water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan states that “[t]he numerical and narrative water quality objectives define the least stringent standards that the Regional Board will apply to regional waters in order to protect the beneficial uses.” The Basin Plan includes numeric and narrative water quality objectives for various beneficial uses and water bodies. This Order contains Receiving Surface Water Limitations based on the Basin Plan numerical and narrative water quality objectives for and California/National Toxics Rule criteria biostimulatory substances, cadmium, copper, chemical constituents, color, dissolved oxygen, floating material, iron, lead, oil and grease, pH, pesticides, radioactivity, salinity and electrical conductivity, sediment, settleable material, silver, suspended material, tastes and odors, temperature, toxicity, turbidity, and zinc.
  - a. **Biostimulatory Substances.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]ater shall not contain biostimulatory substances which promote aquatic growths in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for biostimulatory substances are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
  - b. **Cadmium.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for cadmium as follows:
    - CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.7852[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 2.715\}) \times (1.101672 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.041838]\})$
    - CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.128[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 3.6867\}) \times (1.136672 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.041838]\})$
    - Basin Plan Objective (instantaneous maximum, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.160[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 5.777\})$

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

For example, using the lowest (worst-case) measured hardness from the upstream receiving water (27 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub>), the calculated criteria and objectives from the equations above would be;

- CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration = 0.849 ug/L (dissolved)
- CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration = 1.030 ug/L (dissolved)
- Basin Plan Objective = 0.141 ug/L (dissolved)



The observed MEC for dissolved cadmium (using the USEPA default conversion factors for cadmium in freshwater) is 0.298 ug/L (chronic) and 0.381 ug/L (acute), based on three samples collected between 31 October 2001 and 16 March 2005. The maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration for dissolved cadmium is 0.0193 ug/L (chronic) and 0.022 ug/L (acute), based on two samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006.

c. **Copper.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for copper as follows:

- CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.8545[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.702\}) \times (0.960)$ ;
- CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.9422[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.700\}) \times (0.960)$ ;
- Basin Plan Objective (instantaneous maximum, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.905[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.612\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

For example, using the lowest (worst-case) measured hardness from the receiving water (27 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub>), the calculated criterion and objectives from the equations above would be:

- CTR Criteria Chronic Concentration = 2.926 ug/L (dissolved);
- CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration = 3.914 ug/L (dissolved);
- Basin Plan Objective = 2.91 ug/L (dissolved).

The observed MEC for dissolved copper (using the USEPA default conversion factors for copper in freshwater) is 12.38 ug/L for both the acute and the chronic criteria, based on three samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006. The maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration for dissolved copper is 3.46 ug/L for both the acute and the chronic criteria, based on two samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006.

- d. **Color.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]ater shall be free of discoloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for color are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
- e. **Chemical Constituents.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]aters shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for chemical constituents are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.

- f. **Dissolved Oxygen.** Canyon Creek has been designated as having the beneficial use of cold freshwater aquatic habitat (COLD). For water bodies designated as having COLD as a beneficial use, the Basin Plan includes a water quality objective of maintaining a minimum of 7.0 mg/L of dissolved oxygen. Since the beneficial use of COLD does apply to Canyon Creek, a receiving water limitation of 7.0 mg/L for dissolved oxygen was included in this Order.
- g. **Floating Material.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]ater shall not contain floating material in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for floating material are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
- h. **Iron.** The Secondary MCL - Consumer Acceptance Limit for iron is 300 µg/L. The observed MEC for iron was 4,540 µg/L, based on nine samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006, while the maximum observed upstream receiving water iron concentration was 413 µg/L, based on eight samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006. An AMEL of 300 µg/L for iron is included in this Order based on protection of the Basin Plan’s narrative chemical constituents objective
- i. **Lead.** The CTR includes hardness-dependent water quality criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for lead as follows:
- CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.273[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 4.705\}) \times (1.46203 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.145712]\})$ ;
  - CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.273[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.460\}) \times (1.46203 - \{[\ln(\text{hardness})] \times [0.145712]\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

For example, using the worst-case measured hardness from the effluent and receiving water (27 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub>), the calculated criteria from the equations above would be:

- CTR Criteria Chronic Concentration = 0.590 µg/L (dissolved);
- CTR Criteria Acute Concentration = 15.138 µg/L (dissolved).

The observed MEC for dissolved lead (using the USEPA default conversion factor for lead in freshwater) is 2.750 µg/L for both the acute and the chronic criteria, based on three samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006. The maximum observed receiving water concentration for dissolved lead is 0.187 µg/L for both the acute and chronic criteria based on two samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006.

- j. **Oil and Grease.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]aters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that

*cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.”* Receiving Water Limitations for oil and grease are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.

- k. **pH.** The Basin Plan includes water quality objective that “[T]he pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5. Changes in normal ambient pH levels shall not exceed 0.5 in fresh waters with designated COLD or WARM beneficial uses” This Order includes receiving water limitations for both pH range and pH change.

The Basin Plan allows an appropriate averaging period for pH change in the receiving stream. Since there is no technical information available that indicates that aquatic organisms are adversely affected by shifts in pH within the 6.5 to 8.5 range, an averaging period is considered appropriate and a monthly averaging period for determining compliance with the 0.5 receiving water pH limitation is included in this Order.

- l. **Pesticides.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for pesticides beginning on page III-6.00. Receiving Water Limitations for pesticides are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
- m. **Salinity and Electrical Conductivity (EC).** The Regional Water Board, with cooperation of the State Water Board, has begun the process to develop a new policy for the regulation of salinity in the Central Valley. In a statement issued at the 16 March 2006, Regional Water Board meeting, Board Member Dr. Karl Longley recommended that the Regional Water Board continue to exercise its authority to regulate discharges of salt to minimize salinity increases within the Central Valley. Dr. Longley stated, *“The process of developing new salinity control policies does not, therefore, mean that we should stop regulating salt discharges until a salinity Policy is developed. In the meantime, the Board should consider all possible interim approaches to continue controlling and regulating salts in a reasonable manner, and encourage all stakeholder groups that may be affected by the Regional Board’s policy to actively participate in policy development.”*

This Order requires the Discharger to implement measures to evaluate the sources of and reduce the salinity of the storm water discharge to Canyon Creek. The Antidegradation Policy (Resolution No. 68-16) requires that the Discharger implement best practicable treatment or control (BPTC) of its discharge. Special Provision VII.B.2.b of this Order requires the Discharger to prepare a salinity evaluation and minimization plan. Implementation measures to reduce salt loading may include source control and best management practices modifications. Compliance with these requirements may result in a salinity reduction in the storm water discharged to the receiving water

The secondary MCL for EC is 900  $\mu$ mhos/cm as a recommended level, 1600 umhos/cm as an upper level, and 2200 umhos/cm as a short-term maximum.

The agricultural water quality goal, that would apply the narrative chemical constituents objective, is 700 umhos/cm as a long-term average based on Water Quality for Agriculture, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—Irrigation and Drainage Paper No. 29, Rev. 1 (R.S. Ayers and D.W. Westcot, Rome, 1985). The 700 umhos/cm agricultural water quality goal is intended to prevent reduction in crop yield, i.e. a restriction on use of water, for salt-sensitive crops, such as beans, carrots, turnips, and strawberries. Most other crops can tolerate higher EC concentrations without harm, however, as the salinity of the irrigation water increases, more crops are potentially harmed by the EC, or extra measures must be taken by the farmer to minimize or eliminate any harmful impacts.

A receiving water limitation of 900 umhos/cm as a monthly average for electrical conductivity is included in this Order based on Water Quality for Agriculture, Food, and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—Irrigation and Drainage Paper No. 29, Rev. 1 (R.S. Ayers and D.W. Westcot, Rome, 1985). If a lower concentration is required to protect salt sensitive crops, then this Order may be reopened and the EC limitation adjusted, as necessary.

A review of the Discharger's monitoring reports from 1 January 2001 through 25 May 2006 shows an average effluent EC concentration of 678 µmhos/cm, with a range from 3.6 µmhos/cm to 6,990 µmhos/cm for 172 samples. 19 of these results exceeded the most stringent objective of 700 umhos/cm. As a long term average condition, the storm water discharge meets the most limiting EC objective of 700 umhos/cm. No background receiving water EC samples were collected by the Discharger. This EC characterization is for the storm water discharge only. Waste water from the cogeneration process exhibiting elevated EC is not discharged from the site.

- n. **Sediment.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[T]he suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters shall not be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses” Receiving Water Limitations for suspended sediments are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
  
- o. **Settleable Material.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]aters shall not contain substances in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for settleable material are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.

- p. **Silver.** The CTR includes hardness-dependent water quality criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for silver. No applicable Basin Plan objective or CTR chronic criteria exists. Therefore, all calculations for silver are based on the CTR instantaneous maximum concentration as follows:
- CTR Instantaneous Maximum Concentration (dissolved) =  $(\exp\{1.72[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 6.52\}) \times (0.85)$

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed the criteria above.

For example, using the lowest (worst-case) measured hardness from the receiving water (27 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub>), the applicable criterion from the equation above would be:

- CTR Instantaneous Maximum Concentration = 0.363 ug/L (dissolved).

The observed MEC for dissolved silver (using the USEPA default conversion factor for silver in freshwater of 0.85) is 0.425 ug/L, based on three samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006. The maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration for dissolved silver is 0.595 ug/L, based on two samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006.

- q. **Suspended Material.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]aters shall not contain suspended material in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for suspended material are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
- r. **Taste and Odors.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[W]ater shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to domestic or municipal water supplies or to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.” Receiving Water Limitations for taste- or odor-producing substances are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
- s. **Temperature.** Canyon Creek has the beneficial uses of both COLD and WARM. The Basin Plan includes the objective that “[a]t no time or place shall the temperature of COLD or WARM intrastate waters be increased more than 5°F above natural receiving water temperature.” This Order includes a receiving water limitation based on this objective.

- t. **Toxicity.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[A]ll waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.” Receiving Water Limitations for toxicity are included in this Order and are based on the Basin Plan objective.
- u. **Turbidity.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective that “[I]ncreases in turbidity attributable to controllable water quality factors shall not exceed the following limits:
- i. *Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 5 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs), increases shall not exceed 1 NTU.*
  - ii. *Where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 20 percent.*
  - iii. *Where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 10 NTUs.*
  - iv. *Where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 10 percent.”*

A numeric Receiving Surface Water Limitation for turbidity is included in this Order and is based on the Basin Plan objective for turbidity.

- v. **Zinc.** The CTR and Basin Plan include hardness-dependent water quality criteria and objectives for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for zinc as follows:

- CTR Criteria Continuous Concentration (4-day Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.8473[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.884\}) \times (0.986)$ ;
- CTR Criteria Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.8473[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.884\}) \times (0.978)$ ;
- Basin Plan Objective (instantaneous maximum, dissolved) =  $(\exp\{0.830[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 0.289\})$ .

The discharge shall not cause the water quality in Canyon Creek to exceed any of the above criteria or objectives.

For example, using the lowest (worst-case) measured hardness from the upstream receiving water, (27 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub>), the calculated criteria and objectives from the equations above would be:

- CTR Chronic Continuous Criterion = 38.957 ug/L (dissolved);
- CTR Criteria Maximum criterion = 38.641 ug/L (dissolved); and

- Basin Plan Objective = 11.548 ug/L (dissolved).

The observed MEC for dissolved zinc (using the USEPA default conversion factors for zinc in freshwater of 0.986 for the chronic criteria and 0.978 for the acute criteria) is 186 ug/L (chronic) and 185 ug/L (acute), based on ten samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006. The Maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration for dissolved zinc is 8.8749 ug/L (chronic) and 8.802 ug/L (acute), based on nine samples collected between 1 January 2001 and 25 May 2006.

**Table F-7. Summary of Receiving Water Limitations (partial list).**

Parameter	Units	Basin Plan	CTR Acute	CTR Chronic
pH	Standard Units	6.0-9.0	N/A	N/A
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	900	N/A	N/A
Turbidity	NTU	Variable	N/A	N/A
Cadmium	ug/L	Calculate	Calculate	Calculate
Copper	ug/L	Calculate	Calculate	Calculate
Iron	ug/L	300	N/A	N/A
Lead	ug/L	Calculate	Calculate	Calculate
Silver	ug/L	N/A	Calculate	N/A
Zinc	ug/L	Calculate	Calculate	Calculate

**B. Groundwater.** Not Applicable

**VI. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorizes the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E of this Order, establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this facility.

**A. Influent Monitoring.** Not Applicable

**B. Effluent Monitoring**

1. Pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR §122.44(i)(2) effluent monitoring is required for all constituents with effluent limitations. Effluent monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with effluent limitations, assess the effectiveness of the treatment process, and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream.

## C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

The Basin Plan states that “[a]ll waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. This objective applies regardless of whether the toxicity is caused by a single substance or the interactive effect of multiple substances.” The Basin Plan requires that “[a]s a minimum, compliance with this objective...shall be evaluated with a 96-hour bioassay.” This Order requires both acute and chronic toxicity monitoring to evaluate compliance with this water quality objective.

The receiving surface water for the Facility is the Sacramento River, an inland surface water providing freshwater aquatic habitat. Beneficial uses of the Sacramento River include cold freshwater habitat (COLD); cold spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN); and wildlife habitat (WILD). Given that the receiving stream has beneficial uses of cold freshwater habitat, cold migration of aquatic organisms, and cold spawning, reproduction, and/or early development, it is appropriate to use a cold/warm-water species such as *O. mykiss* (rainbow trout) for aquatic toxicity bioassays.

USEPA has approved test methods for of *Pimephales promelas*, *Selenastrum capricornutum*, and *Ceriodaphnia dubia* for assessing chronic toxicity in freshwater organisms.

1. **Acute Toxicity.** Semi-Annually 96-hour bioassay testing is required to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitation for acute toxicity.
2. **Chronic Toxicity.** Bi-annual chronic whole effluent toxicity testing is required in order to demonstrate compliance with the Basin Plan’s narrative toxicity objective.

## D. Receiving Water Monitoring

### 1. Surface Water

- a. Receiving water monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with receiving water limitations and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream.

### 2. Groundwater. Not Applicable

## E. Other Monitoring Requirements

### 1. Storm Water monitoring

Federal Regulations for storm water discharges were promulgated by USEPA on 16 November 1990 (40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124). The regulations require specific categories of facilities, which discharge storm water associated with industrial activity (storm water), to obtain NPDES permits and to implement Best Available Technology Economically Achievable and Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology to reduce or eliminate industrial storm water pollution. This



order implements the regulations, and relieves the Discharger from obtaining coverage under the general industrial storm water permit.

## 2. Priority Pollutants

The Discharger shall conduct monitoring as specified in Attachment E of this Order to determine if the discharge from SW-001 contains priority pollutants identified in the California Toxics Rule and National Toxics Rule.

## VII. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

### A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under section 122.42.

Section 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) establish conditions that apply to all State-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with section 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in sections 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference Water Code section 13387(e).

### B. Special Provisions

#### 1. Reopener Provisions

- a. **Log Deck Flushing.** Results from the log deck flushing study may be used to establish a discharge specification requiring a certain volume of flush or amount of rainfall before log deck runoff can be directed to the storm water retention pond and off site. This Order may be reopened to implement the discharge specification.
- b. **Water Effects Ratio (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating CTR criteria for applicable priority pollutant inorganic constituents. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable when developing effluent limitations for cadmium, cooper, lead, silver, and zinc. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WERs and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations.

- c. **Mixing Zone and Dilution Studies.** Section 1.4 of the SIP established procedures for calculating effluent limitations. Included in the procedures is determination of a dilution credit, which the Regional Water Board may approve or disapprove at its discretion. However, the Discharger has not developed the information needed to determine a dilution credit. Consequently, this Order establishes final effluent limitations based on zero dilution. This Order also has a reopener that allows new effluent limitations to be adopted if a mixing zone and dilution study demonstrates that dilution credits are appropriate.
- d. **Constituent Study.** If after review of the study results it is determined that the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality objective this Order may be reopened and effluent limitations added for the subject constituents.
- e. **Electrical Conductivity.** If the Regional Board determines that a receiving water quality objective for electrical conductivity of 700 umhos/cm is required to protect agricultural activities, then this Order may be reopened and limitations added or modified to provide such protection.

## 2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements

- a. **Log Deck Flushing Study.** The Discharger shall develop a plan for conducting a Log Deck Flushing study, to be approved by the Regional Water Board. The Plan shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board prior to the 2007/2008 wet season. The intent of the study is to determine the minimum volume of flush or amount of rainfall that is required to ensure residual pollutants (e.g., tannins & lignins, EC, COD, and turbidity) on the log deck have been reduced prior to initiating discharge to the storm water retention pond and off site. All runoff from the log deck must be contained until constituents of concern reach acceptable concentrations. Results of the study must be submitted to the Regional Water Board prior to the 2008/2009 wet season.
- b. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** The Discharger shall prepare a salinity evaluation and minimization plan to address sources of salinity from the Facility. The plan shall be completed and submitted to the Regional Water Board within 1 year of the effective date of this Order for the approval by the Executive Officer.
- c. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Requirements.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, “*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*” (Basin Plan at III-8.00.) Based on annual whole effluent chronic toxicity testing performed by the Discharger from October 2001 through November 2005, the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an to an in-stream excursion above of the Basin Plan’s narrative toxicity objective.

This provision requires the Discharger to develop a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Work Plan in accordance with EPA guidance. In addition, the provision provides a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger and requirements for accelerated monitoring, as well as, requirements for TRE initiation if a pattern of toxicity has been demonstrated.

- i. **Monitoring Trigger.** A numeric toxicity monitoring trigger of  $> 1$  TUc (where TUc = 100/NOEC) is applied in the provision, because this Order does not allow any dilution for the chronic condition. Therefore, a TRE is triggered when the effluent exhibits a pattern of toxicity at 100% effluent.
- ii. **Accelerated Monitoring.** The provision requires accelerated WET testing when a regular WET test result exceeds the monitoring trigger. The purpose of accelerated monitoring is to determine, in an expedient manner, whether there is a pattern of toxicity before requiring the implementation of a TRE. Due to possible seasonality of the toxicity, the accelerated monitoring should be performed in a timely manner, preferably taking no more than 2 to 3 months to complete.

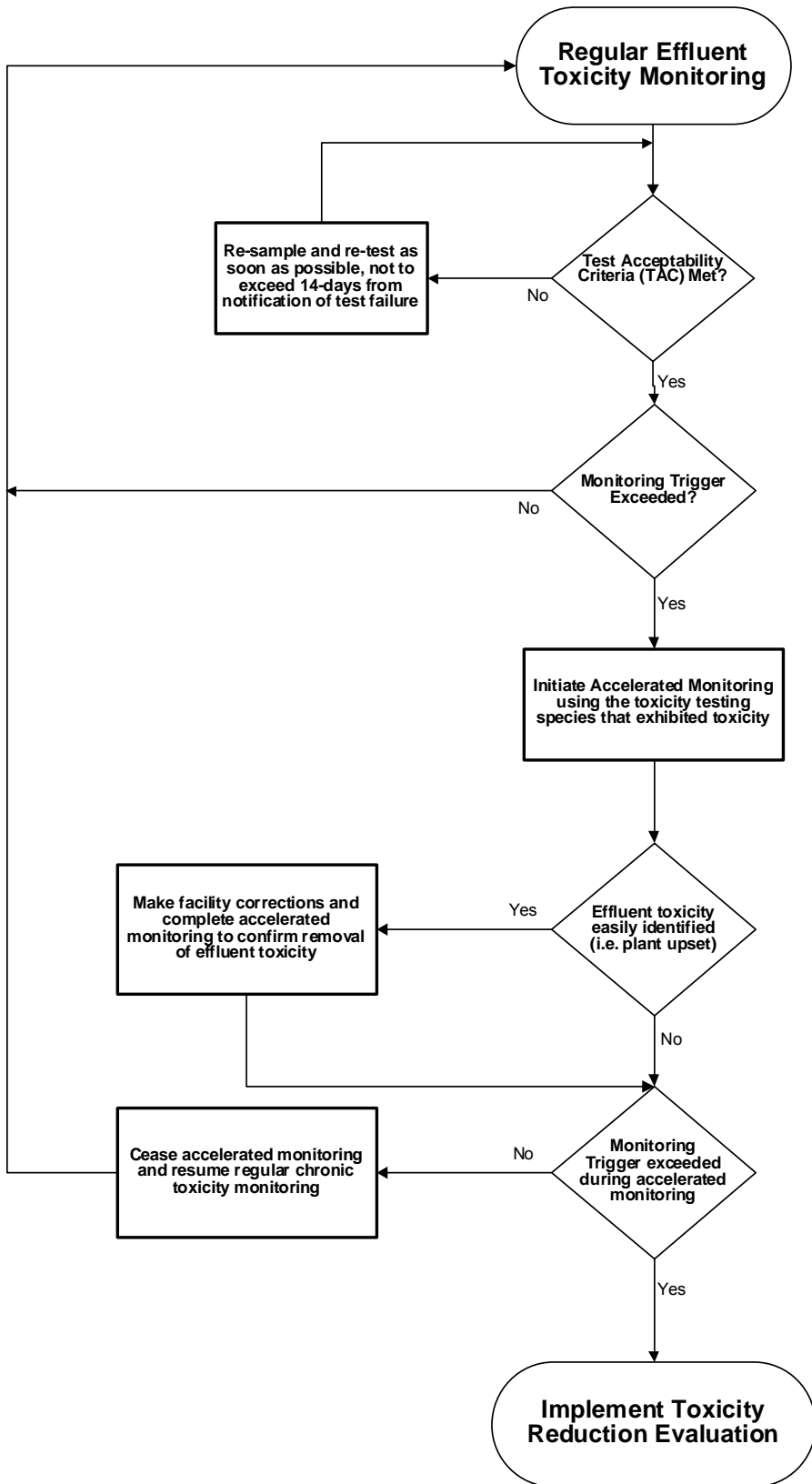
The provision requires accelerated monitoring consisting of four chronic toxicity tests every two weeks using the species that exhibited toxicity. Guidance regarding accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation is provided in the *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991* (TSD). The TSD at page 118 states, "EPA recommends if toxicity is repeatedly or periodically present at levels above effluent limits more than 20 percent of the time, a TRE should be required." Therefore, four accelerated monitoring tests are required in this provision. If no toxicity is demonstrated in the four accelerated tests, then it demonstrates that toxicity is not present at levels above the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time (only 1 of 5 tests are toxic, including the initial test). However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of a pattern of effluent toxicity (i.e. toxicity present exceeding the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time), the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.

See the WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart (Figure F-1), below, for further clarification of the accelerated monitoring requirements and for the decision points for determining the need for TRE initiation.

- iii. **TRE Guidance.** The Discharger is required to prepare a TRE Work Plan in accordance with USEPA guidance. Numerous guidance documents are available, as identified below:
  - *Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants, (EPA/833B-99/002), August 1999.*

- Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial TREs, (*EPA/600/2-88/070*), April 1989.
- *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures*, Second Edition, EPA 600/6-91/005F, February 1991.
- *Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I*, EPA 600/6-91/005F, May 1992.
- *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting acute and Chronic Toxicity*, Second Edition, EPA 600/R-92/080, September 1993.
- *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity*, Second Edition, EPA 600/R-92/081, September 1993.
- *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms*, Fifth Edition, EPA-821-R-02-012, October 2002.
- *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms*, Fourth Edition, EPA-821-R-02-013, October 2002.
- *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control*, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991

**Figure F-1**  
**WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart**



### **3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention**

This permit is for the discharge of storm water only. The SIP states in foot note number 1 of the introduction, "This Policy does not apply to regulation of storm water discharges. The SWRCB has adopted precedential decisions addressing regulation of municipal storm water discharges in Orders WQ 91-03, 91-04, 96-13, 98-01, and 99-05. The SWRCB has also adopted two statewide general permits regulating the discharge of pollutants contained in storm water from industrial and construction activities." Therefore the SIP provisions for establishment of effluent limitations are not applicable. Effluent limitations for priority pollutants have not been established, however receiving water limitations and BMPs ensure that beneficial uses of the receiving water are protected and water quality standards are not exceeded. Storm water discharges could be regulated under the existing State Water Board general industrial storm water permit (Order No. 97-03-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001). However, due to the complexity of the Facility, the Regional Water Board has elected to regulate this Facility with an individual NPDES permit.

Applicable water quality objectives and criteria have been used as receiving water limitations, and are also utilized as benchmark values to evaluate BMPs. Direct comparison of pollutant concentrations in Canyon Creek at RSW-001, RSW-002, and the discharge at SW-001 will be used to ensure that water quality standards are not exceeded.

If any receiving water limitations are exceeded, the Discharger must conduct a BMPs Improvement Evaluation and implement BMP improvements to eliminate the receiving water violations.

The BMPs improvement evaluation and proposed BMPs improvements must be submitted to the Regional Water Board for comment within 60 days of the violation date. The BMPs improvements must be implemented as soon as practicable thereafter.

### **4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications**

- b. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular
  - i. An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
  - ii. Weeds shall be minimized.
  - iii. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.
- c. Freeboard shall never be less than two feet (measured vertically to the lowest point of overflow).

## 5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only). - Not Applicable

## 6. Other Special Provisions

- a. All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, Sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. To demonstrate compliance with Title 16, CCR, Sections 415 and 3065, all technical reports must contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
- b. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition or limitation contained in this Order, this Order requires the Discharger to notify the Regional Water Board by telephone (916) 464-3291 (or to the Regional Water Board staff engineer assigned to the facility) within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing within five days, unless the Regional Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall include the information required by Federal Standard Provision [40 CFR §122.41(l)(6)(i)].
- c. Prior to making any change in the discharge point, place of use, or purpose of use of the storm water, the Discharger must obtain approval of, or clearance from the State Water Resources Control Board (Division of Water Rights).

In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to this office.

To assume operation under this Order, the succeeding owner or operator must apply in writing to the Executive Officer requesting transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the State of incorporation if a corporation, address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Regional Water Board and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory paragraph of Federal Standard Provision V.B.5 and state that the new owner or operator assumes full responsibility for compliance with this Order. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without requirements, a violation of the California Water Code. Transfer shall be approved or disapproved in writing by the Executive Officer.

## **7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable**

## **VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Regional Water Board) is considering the issuance of waste discharge requirements (WDRs) that will serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for Burney Forest Power. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Regional Water Board staff has developed tentative WDRs. The Regional Water Board encourages public participation in the WDR adoption process.

### **A. Notification of Interested Parties**

The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided through mailings and physical and internet posting.

### **B. Written Comments**

The staff determinations are tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning these tentative WDRs. Comments must be submitted either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Regional Water Board at the address above on the cover page of this Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Regional Water Board, written comments should be received at the Regional Water Board offices by 5:00 p.m. on 07 June 2007.

### **C. Public Hearing**

The Regional Water Board will hold a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: June 21 and 22, 2007  
Time: 8:30 am  
Location: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region  
11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will hear testimony, if any, pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and permit. Oral testimony will be heard; however, for accuracy of the record, important testimony should be in writing.



Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb5/> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

#### **D. Waste Discharge Requirements Petitions**

Any aggrieved person may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the decision of the Regional Water Board regarding the final WDRs. The petition must be submitted within 30 days of the Regional Water Board's action to the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Office of Chief Counsel  
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

#### **E. Information and Copying**

The Report of Waste Discharge (RWD), related documents, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Regional Water Board by calling (530) 224-4845.

#### **F. Register of Interested Persons**

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDRs and NPDES permit should contact the Regional Water Board, reference this facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

#### **G. Additional Information**

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Daniel Warner at (530) 224-4848.