

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 5-6, 2012
Prepared on October 31, 2012

ITEM NUMBER: 10

SUBJECT: Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements, Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0047856 for California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Men's Colony, San Luis Obispo County, Order No. R3-2012-0027

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KEY INFORMATION

Location: Highway 1 behind Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo
Type of Discharge: Treated domestic wastewater
Permitted Flow: 1.2 million gallons per day (mgd; dry weather flow design capacity)
Average Annual Flow: 1.3 MGD
Type of Treatment: Oxidation ditch, secondary clarification, sand filtration, and chlorination
Disposal Method: Inland surface water discharge to Chorro Creek
Existing Orders: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2006-0032
Reclamation: Irrigation to Dairy Creek Golf Course
This Action: Adopt Order No. R3-2012-0027

DISCUSSION

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (hereinafter Discharger) is currently discharging pursuant to Order No. R3-2006-0032, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0047856. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated August 25, 2011, and applied for an NPDES permit renewal to discharge up to 1.2 MGD of treated wastewater from the California Men's Colony Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereinafter Facility). Water Board staff deemed the application complete on August 29, 2011.

The Discharger owns and operates a trunk sewer line and a domestic wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) located on the grounds of Camp San Luis Obispo, a National Guard training site. In addition to conveying and treating domestic wastewater from the East and West Facilities of the California Men's Colony, a correctional institution, the trunk sewer and WWTP provide wastewater conveyance and treatment for the California Army National Guard (Camp San Luis Obispo), Cuesta College, and several County facilities (including the Education Center, the El Chorro Regional Park and Dairy Creek Golf Course, and the Operational Facility). The California Army National Guard, Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo County Education Center, San Luis Obispo County El Chorro Regional Park and Dairy Creek Golf Course, and San Luis Obispo County Operational Facility own and maintain discrete wastewater collection and transport systems that discharge to the Department of Corrections' trunk sewer system. These facilities are regulated by the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003.

Wastewater treatment facilities include an influent pump station, aerated grit removal, two oxidation ditches, secondary clarification, tertiary filtration, and chlorination/dechlorination capability. Planned changes for the Facility include conversion of the chlorination/dechlorination disinfection process to an ultra-violet disinfection system. The treatment facility has an average dry weather design flow of 1.2 MGD, with a peak dry weather flow of 2.4 MGD, and a peak wet weather flow of 5.2 MGD. Wastewater solids are dewatered by centrifuge and hauled from the site for disposal.

Treated wastewater is used by the County of San Luis Obispo to irrigate the Dairy Creek Golf Course and is discharged to Chorro Creek at a minimum continuous flow rate of 0.75 cubic feet per second.

CHANGES FROM THE EXISTING ORDER

The proposed Order is structured in accordance with the statewide NPDES permit template. The proposed Order is consistent with the previous Order with the exception of the following changes/modifications, which are also discussed in detail in the proposed permit fact sheet:

Substantive changes

- Changed the pH effluent limitation from 6.5-8.3 in previous permit to 7.0-8.3 in proposed permit. This change is discussed in the fact sheet Section IV.C.6.f (pages F-30 and F-31) and is the range most protective of all the designated beneficial uses of Chorro Creek.
- The numeric effluent limitation for chronic toxicity has not been carried over into the proposed permit due to the State Water Board's finding that the State Implementation Policy does not provide sufficient guidance on establishing chronic toxicity effluent limitations in NPDES permits. However, a narrative chronic toxicity effluent limitation and a numeric chronic toxicity trigger, consistent with the previous chronic toxicity effluent limitation, have been established. The Central Coast Water Board may reopen this permit once guidance for establishing numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations is provided by the State Water Board. Further discussion on this topic can be found in the proposed permit fact sheet Section IV.D.1 (page F-35).
- Changed effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for the parameters shown below based on the reasonable potential analysis, as discussed in the proposed permit fact sheet.

Parameter	Units	Previous Permit limits	Proposed Permit limits	Previous Permit Sampling Frequency	Proposed Permit Sampling Frequency
Chlorodibromomethane	(µg/L) maximum daily	0.81	0.80	quarterly	1/month
Copper, total recoverable	(µg/L) average monthly	8.5	7.5	quarterly	1/month

Dichlorobromomethane	(µg/L) maximum daily	1.1	0.88	quarterly	1/month
Bis (2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate	(µg/L) maximum daily	none	3.6	none	1/month
	(µg/L) average monthly		1.8		
Nitrite	(mg/L) maximum daily	none	1.0	weekly	1/week

- Added a receiving water limitation for Phenols at 1.0 µg/L consistent with the Basin Plan's water quality objectives for the protection of designated beneficial uses of Chorro Creek for municipal and domestic supply, and as discussed in the proposed permit fact sheet.
- Modified the Standard Provisions to add provisions B.11 and B.12 regarding standards for maintenance of mechanical and electrical systems and other editorial and reporting changes.

Minor changes

- Added finding (K) for Recycled Water Policy describing salt and nutrient management plans on page 6 of the proposed permit.
- Removed "kg/day" mass loading effluent limitations for BOD₅, Oil and Grease, Sulfate, Total Suspended Solids, and Total Nitrogen. This is a minor change as the existing and proposed permits still retain mass loading effluent limitations for those parameters in units of "lbs/day." This is simply a unit conversation, not a change to the actual permitted mass discharge limitation.
- Changed description of monitoring location R-001 to include direct Chorro Reservoir water sample collection when access to the Chorro Reservoir discharge outlet is unsafe.
- Clarified that Total Nitrogen measurement is equal the sum of Total Kjehldahl Nitrogen, Nitrite, and Nitrate. This is consistent with the existing permit and added for clarification in reporting.

COMMENTS

Public notice was provided and posted for the consideration of this proposed permit. No written comments were received on the proposed permit within the comment period.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Order R3-2012-0027, as proposed.

ATTACHMENT

For copies, please refer to the Central Coast Water Board's internet website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2012/2012_agendas.shtml

1. Proposed Order No. R3-2012-0027, including the following attachments:
 - Attachment A – Definitions
 - Attachment B – Map
 - Attachment C – Flow Schematic
 - Attachment D – Standard Provisions
 - Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP)
 - Attachment F – Fact Sheet

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