

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

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 5-6, 2013**  
Prepared on July 23, 2013

**ITEM NUMBER:** 12

**SUBJECT:** Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements, Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA00000051 for Phillips 66 Company, Santa Maria Refinery, San Luis Obispo County, Order No. R3-2013-0028

**STAFF CONTACT:** Katie DiSimone 805/542-4638 or [kdisimone@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kdisimone@waterboards.ca.gov)

**KEY INFORMATION**

Location: 2555 Willow Road, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County  
Place ID: 255671  
Type of Discharge: Treated Production Wastewater and Stormwater  
Permitted Flow: 0.575 million gallons per day (MGD; average dry weather flow)  
Type of Treatment: Oil/water separation, dissolved air flotation, trickling filter, and clarifier  
Disposal Method: Ocean discharge via diffuser  
Existing Orders: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2007-0002  
**This Action:** Adopt Order No. R3-2013-0028

**DISCUSSION**

The Phillips 66 Company (hereinafter Discharger) is currently discharging pursuant to Order No. R3-2007-0002, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA00000051. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), dated March 6, 2012, and applied for an NPDES permit renewal to discharge up to 0.575 MGD of treated wastewater and stormwater from the Santa Maria Refinery (hereinafter Facility). Water Board staff deemed the application complete on April 3, 2012.

The Discharger owns and operates Santa Maria Refinery, a petroleum refinery with the primary function of converting heavy high sulfur domestic California crude oil into high quality feedstock products which are sent by pipeline to a San Francisco area refinery for finishing. The products include gas, oil, naphtha, and fuel gas. The Facility's refining process also produces petroleum coke and elemental sulfur as by-products. Adjacent to the refinery, a Carbon Plant operates a petroleum coke plant. Products from this plant include green coke and pelletized sulfur. Discharges from the Carbon Plant are regulated independently of this permit.

**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

- Updated the Central Coast Standard Provisions in Attachment D-1 to be consistent with the January 2013 revision.
- The reasonable potential analysis, conducted using historical monitoring data, has resulted in the following changes to effluent limits; (1) arsenic and nickel effluent limits have been removed at both flowrates and (2) cyanide effluent limits have been added at flows greater than 0.285 MGD. These changes are discussed on Page F-31 of the proposed permit.
- The reasonable potential analysis, conducted using historical monitoring data, has resulted in the following change to effluent monitoring: effluent monitoring for TCDD equivalents has been increased from twice a year to quarterly. This change is discussed on Page F-40 of the proposed permit.
- The monitoring for tributyltin has been reduced to once during the term of the permit based on historical low detections in semiannual testing of the analyte over the last permit term. This change is discussed on Page F-41 of the proposed permit.

Minor changes

- Added the ability for the Discharger to apply for an alternative method for estimating biologically available metal concentrations. The current permit requires a weak acid leachable extract (WAL) method. The Discharger requested in its permit renewal application to use more current methodologies recommended by its analytical laboratory. The proposed permit would allow the Discharger to submit an alternative method which demonstrates comparative results to the WAL method, for Executive Officer approval. This change can be found on page E-11 of the proposed permit.
- Updated facility information as the Discharger's name has changed from ConocoPhillips Company to Phillips 66 Company.
- Added "Privilege to Discharge" Finding (page 11) consistent with the State Board's standardized template for NPDES permits.
- Updated the Discharge Prohibitions section (page 11) to be consistent with State Board's standardized template language for NPDES permits. This is a minor change, as new prohibitions were not added and existing prohibitions were not removed.

**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 No. R3-2013-0028, 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/2013/2013\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2013/2013_agendas.shtml)

1. Proposed Order No. R3-2013-0028, including the following attachments:
  - Attachment A – Definitions
  - Attachment B – Map
  - Attachment C – Flow Schematic
  - Attachment D – Standard Provisions
  - Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program
  - Attachment F – Fact Sheet
  - Attachment G - Technology-Based Effluent Limitation Calculations

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