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Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

31 August 2015

WDID: 5A250101001

Vicki Jeppson
Adin Community Services District
P.O. Box 64
Adin, CA 96006

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA), WATER QUALITY ORDER 2014-0153-DWQ-R5178, ADIN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, MODOC COUNTY

In March 2014 the Adin Community Services District (hereafter "Discharger") responded with information pertaining to the Central Valley Regional Water Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff's request for updated information for the domestic wastewater treatment and disposal system at their facility in Modoc County.

Based on the information provided, the facility treats and disposes of less than 100,000 gallons of wastewater per day, and is therefore eligible for coverage under the general and specific conditions of State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). This letter serves as formal notice that the General Order is applicable to your facility and the wastewater discharge described below. You are hereby assigned General Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5178 for your facility.

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclosed with this letter, which prescribes mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached *Monitoring and Reporting Program* (MRP). This MRP was developed after consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached *Technical Memorandum*.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) 98-092 were adopted for this facility by the Central Valley Water Board on 17 April 1998. The existing MRP requires monthly reporting of wastewater flow, dissolved oxygen, and pond water depth.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Adin Community Services District operates the wastewater treatment facility located southeast of Adin near State Highway 299 in Section 33, Township 39 North, Range 9 East, MDB&M in Modoc County. The wastewater treatment system is comprised of a collection system with lift stations and nine evaporation/percolation treatment ponds. The location is shown in Attachment A of this letter.

This is an existing facility; therefore enrollment under the General Order is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 which applies to ongoing or existing projects.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger will maintain exclusive control over the discharge, and shall comply with the terms and conditions of this NOA and the General Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5178, with all attachments.

Additionally the General Order states in Section B.1.L that the discharger shall comply with the setbacks as described in Table 3. This table summarizes different setback requirements for wastewater system equipment, activities, and storage and/or treatment ponds from sensitive receptors and property lines where applicable. The Discharger shall comply with the following applicable setback requirements as summarized in the following table.

| Site Specific Applicable Setback Requirements | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Equipment or Activity | Domestic Well | Flowing Stream | Ephemeral Stream Drainage | Property Line | Lake or Reservoir |
| Wastewater Storage and/or Treatment Ponds | | | | | |
| Impoundment (undisinfected secondary recycled water) | 150 feet ¹ | 150 feet | 150 feet | 50 feet | 200 ft |
| ¹ Setbacks established by California Code of Regulations, title 22, Section 60310(d). | | | | | |

Failure to comply with the requirements in the documents could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, you must submit a new Report of Waste Discharge describing the new operation.

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by the General Order ceases, so that we may terminate coverage and avoid unnecessary billing.

The Central Valley Water Board has gone to a Paperless Office System. All regulatory documents, MRPs, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyredding@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the appropriate regional water board office, in this case 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office: Program: Non-15, WDID: 5A250101001, Facility Name: Adin CSD, Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5178

Please note that WDRs Order No. 98-092 is proposed to be rescinded at the 10/11 December 2015 meeting of the Central Valley Water Board. Upon rescission of your individual WDRs, coverage for your facility under the General Order shall become applicable subject to this Notice of Applicability.

If you have any questions regarding submitting an updated report of waste discharge, making changes to your permitted operations, compliance or enforcement please contact Monique Gaido at (530) 224-4205, Monique.Gaido@waterboards.ca.gov, or the footer address.


(for) Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

MEG:sjs

Attachment: Adin CSD Wastewater Treatment Facility Location Map
General Order No. 2014-0153-DWQ
Technical Memorandum
Monitoring and Reporting Program Form

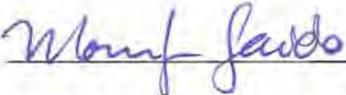
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

TO: George Low, PG
Senior Engineering Geologist

FROM: Monique Gaido, PG
Engineering Geologist

DATE: 31 August 2015

SIGNATURE: 

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF NITRATE AND SETBACK CONDITIONS FOR ADIN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, WDR ORDER NO. 98-092, MODOC COUNTY

I have reviewed the case file and the 8 January 2014 Inspection Report by Stephen Rooklidge for Adin Community Services District (ACSD). The Report assesses the general condition of the wastewater evaporation/percolation ponds, and an inspection of all lift stations was also completed during the site visit. The Discharger has kept adequate maintenance documentation and all treatment and collection infrastructure appears in good order. The dissolved oxygen levels are monitored at the first wastewater treatment pond. The flow then proceeds to eight more evaporation/percolation ponds.

The effects of a heavy storm in 1993 required ACSD to provide a water balance to this agency that showed additional storage was needed to protect water quality. In 1995, a berm breach from burrowing rodents caused a spill that did not reach a waterway and required berm expansion to ensure another breach of wastewater would not occur. The submitted Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for the 1998 Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) includes descriptions of site conditions and the treatment system. The average daily wastewater flow is less than 25,000 gallons per day. The storage ponds have a design capacity 10.4 million gallons, which is well above the storage volume required by the existing community.

Potential Threats to Water Quality

The wastewater treatment system is located southeast of the main community of Adin. The closest distance from the wastewater ponds to the nearest property line is greater than 100 feet. The closest potable water well and surface water sources are greater than 1,000 feet from the wastewater ponds. Depth to groundwater directly under the ponds is unknown, but monitoring wells located 200 feet from the ponds indicate a static water depth of 65 feet. The ponds are designed as evaporation/percolation disposal with a percolation rate recorded in the ROWD as 45 min/inch, which is well within the range of wastewater oxidation/evaporation ponds. Completion of the Nitrate Checklist in Attachment 1 of Order 2014-0153-DWQ indicates the following flow and rationale:

A1 Exceed 20,000 gpd? Yes.
Wastewater flow is generally less than 25,000 gpd.

A2 Shallow Groundwater? No.

No water depth information is directly available; however, USGS Web Soil Survey indicates water depth under the location is greater than 7 feet. The percolation rate and estimated groundwater depth compared to Table 5 is very low and the ponds are primarily designed and used as evaporation ponds.

A3 Excessive Perc Rate/Frac. Env.? No.

The pond area is primarily well drained Oxendine-Sweagert complex sand loam (USGS Web Soil Survey), and the pond berms and bottoms have an estimated percolation rate of 45 min/inch.

A4 Exceed domestic wastewater strength? No.

Monthly sampling presents no system upset or decreased function. Businesses in the community include a restaurant and shops. Septage from local residences is allowed to be discharged to the treatment system, and it is not anticipated that there are any contributions of significant contaminants beyond domestic wastewater.

A5 Nitrogen removal may be required? No.

No domestic well is in the vicinity, the percolation rate is very low, and the wastewater is typical of domestic waste suitable for regulation under the General Order 2014-0153-DWQ.

Conclusion: No nitrogen removal is required.

Monitoring Requirements

To protect water quality, a monitoring program similar to the existing Order should be instituted. General pond requirements would be sufficient to monitor physical condition of the system (Freeboard, Odor, Rodent control, etc.). Effluent Limitations described in Table 4 are not applicable because 1) the BOD and TSS limits are only applicable to land application or subsurface disposal, and 2) Nitrate Limits are not required due to environmental and design conditions. I recommend the Adin CSD wastewater system be monitored for Freeboard, Dissolved Oxygen, and Flow to ensure the limits of the General Order are met.