



California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
Katherine Hart, Chair



Linda S. Adams
Acting Secretary for
Environmental Protection

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

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

22 July 2011

Kim Donovan
Environmental Project Manager
California Water Service Company
1550 West Fremont Street, Suite 100
Stockton, CA 95203

CERTIFIED MAIL
7010 3090 0001 4843 1353

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LOW THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081; CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY, STOCKTON DISTRICT WIDE POTABLE WATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE PROJECT; SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 11 February 2011 from the California Water Service Company (Discharger) for the Stockton District Wide Potable Water System Maintenance Project. Based on the information in the NOI, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Low Threat General Order). This project is hereby assigned Low Threat General Order No. R5-2008-0081-092 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001. Please reference the unique Order No. R5-2008-0081-092 in all future correspondence and documents.

The Low Threat General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2008-0081.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Low Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA, the Low Threat General Order, and with the information submitted by the Dischargers. This NOA rescinds and replaces the General Order Numbers, R5-2008-0081-067, R5-2008-0081-071, R5-2008-0081-072, R5-2008-0081-073, R5-2008-0081-079, R5-12008-0081-082, and R5-2008-0081-083, which were issued for various portions of the Stockton District Wide Potable Water System.

CALIFORNIA TOXIC RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Low Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxic Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP).

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Section 5.3 of the SIP allows “exceptions from meeting the Priority Pollutant criteria/objectives if determined to be necessary to implement control measures...” The Discharger is requesting an exception from the CTR requirements under the SIP Categorical Exceptions, Item Number 2, regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the California Health and Safety Code, in accordance with the California Department of Public Health, Title 22, requirements and water quality standards. Therefore, the Discharger(s) qualified for the SIP exception in Section 5.3 and are not required to conduct Priority Pollutant (CTR constituent) sampling.

Dischargers authorized to discharge under this Low Threat General Order who have been granted an exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives in the SIP, must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the beneficial uses of the receiving water have been restored upon completion of the discharge.

The receiving waters were identified as the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta which is listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies. The Discharger submitted lab data that show non-detection for the constituents on the 303(d) List.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Stockton District Wide Potable Water System (System) consists of over 520 miles of distribution system pipelines, servicing over 49,000 connections. The System also includes 13 storage tanks, 11 booster pump stations, over 3,700 fire hydrants including blow off valves, and over 30 groundwater wells. Nearly every well in the System has orthorhosphate treatment to remove iron and manganese.

The Discharger will dechlorinate all potable water discharges and will conduct any necessary treatment from their potable water system to comply with the Effluent and Receiving Water Limitations contained in General Order No. R5-2008-0081 prior to discharging into surface waters. Discharges are generally to the nearest storm drain inlet located within the Discharger's property boundaries and within the vicinity of the respective groundwater wells or distribution system's point of discharge. All of the receiving waters are tributary to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

All Dischargers must notify Central Valley Water Board staff 24 hours before the start of each new discharge, as soon as noncompliance is anticipated, and when the discharge ceases. This is a water supply project with numerous discharge points. Therefore, the Discharger is required to submit a Pollution Prevention and Monitoring and Reporting Program (PPMRP) with the NOI. The PPMRP dated 7 June 2011 complies with Attachment H and with Sections I, IX, and X of Attachment E of the Low Threat General Order, and is hereby approved.

Effluent and receiving water analytical monitoring shall be conducted as described in the approved PPMRP and the results submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis unless specified otherwise. The Discharger must submit quarterly reports, as described in Attachment E, Section X, even if there is no discharge or receiving water flow during the reporting quarter, until the Discharger formally requests that coverage under this Order be terminated.

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GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until the discharge is terminated. To terminate coverage under the Low Threat General Order, the Dischargers must submit written notification to the Central Valley Water Board that the discharge regulated by this Low Threat General Order has ceased and is no longer necessary. If a timely written request is not received, then the Dischargers will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Low Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. Late reports may be subject to an MMP of \$3,000 for each period of 30 days late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly monitoring period, the Dischargers must still submit a quarterly report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

COMMUNICATION

All monitoring report submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Victor Vasquez of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit. Mr. Vasquez can be reached at (916) 464-4623 or vvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov.

Questions regarding the permitting aspects of this Low Threat General Order, and written notification for termination of coverage under this Order, shall be directed to Mike Negrete of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Permitting Unit. Mr. Negrete can be reached at (916) 464-4662 or mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed By Kenneth D. Landau

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Enclosures: General Order No. R5-2008-0081 (Discharger only)
Notice of Termination letters for General Order Numbers R5-2008-0081-067,
R5-2008-0081-071, R5-2008-0081-072, R5-2008-0081-073, R5-2008-0081-079,
R5-2008-081, R5-2008-0081-082

cc: Mr. Dave Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco
Mr. Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento