

ITEM: 22

SUBJECT: Uncontested NPDES Permits

REPORT: Following are the proposed permits. All agencies and the dischargers concur, or have offered no comments. *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal*

	<p>a. COLLINS PINE COMPANY, CHESTER SAWMILL, PLUMAS COUNTY</p> <p>Collins Pine Company, Chester Sawmill (hereinafter Discharger) owns and operates a sawmill and wood-burning cogeneration power facility in Chester, Plumas County. The Discharger diverts up to 1 million gallons per day (mgd) of water from the North Fork Feather River. Approximately 360,000 gallons per day (gpd) of water is used in the power plant and sawmill and the remaining bypasses the facility. The facility consists of a sawmill, planing mill, wood fired steam-generating power plant, and wet and dry decks for log storage. Wastes generated from the facility include cooling tower blowdown water, electrostatic precipitator water, boiler mud drum blowdown water, boiler steam drum blowdown, compressor cooling water, feedwater pump cooling water, demineralizer and reverse osmosis concentrate, front ash hopper overflow, ash, wood waste, and storm water runoff. Effluent from the fire pond and ash settling pond discharges to Stover Ditch, a tributary to Lake Almanor. The proposed Order requires the Discharger to perform additional studies (copper and lead constituent study and a salinity evaluation and minimization plan). Interim effluent limits will be established for copper and lead, with a final effluent limit that will be protective of the beneficial uses of Stover Ditch and Lake Almanor. The Discharger operates a closed-looped recycle sprinkling system on a 40-acre log deck. Log deck runoff contains bark, sawdust, tannins and lignins, dissolved organics, settleable, and suspended solids. No water from the log deck system is discharged to surface waters.</p> <p>The proposed Order requires the Discharger to implement a combination of BMPs, and contains numeric effluent limitations (final and interim), and receiving water limitations to ensure the quality of the receiving water is protected.</p>
	<p>b. AEROJET-GENERAL CORPORATION, INTERIM GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEMS, ARGET, GET E/F, GET H, INTERIM GET H, GET J, GET K, INTERIM GET K, GET L, GET L1, SAILOR BAR PARK WELL, CHETTENHAM WELL, AND LOW-THREAT DISCHARGES, SACRAMENTO COUNTY</p>

		<p>Aerojet-General Corporation operates a rocket-testing and chemical manufacturing facility in eastern Sacramento County. Past practices at the facility has led to pollution of the groundwater on and off the Aerojet property. In the process of cleaning up the polluted groundwater, Aerojet extracts and treats the groundwater. The water is discharged to ground, to surface water and injected back into the aquifers. The discharges to surface water are currently at seven locations under an NPDES permit. GET E/F utilizes biological reduction to treat for perchlorate, ultraviolet/peroxide to treat for n-nitrosodimethylamine (NMDA) and volatile organics (VOCs), including trichloroethylene (TCE), and air stripping to remove VOCs remaining in the flow from the ultraviolet unit. As stand-alone treatment systems, those technologies constitute best available treatment equivalents for removal of perchlorate to less than 4 µg/L, NDMA to around 0.002 µg/L and VOCs to 0.5 µg/L or less. However, after operating the GET E/F facility for the past decade, it has been determined that at times low concentrations of suspended solids from the perchlorate treatment system allow very low concentrations of TCE to pass through the ultraviolet and air-stripper treatment units. Aerojet installed a clarifier to reduce the suspended solids concentrations from the perchlorate treatment unit. Even with that modification, there are still infrequent detections of TCE over 0.5 µg/L in the effluent from GET E/F. The proposed resolution revises the effluent limitation for GET E/F for TCE to 1.5 µg/L for the daily maximum value during regular operations. This value is below both the current MCL (5.0 µg/L) and proposed Public Health Goal (1.7 µg/L). When GET E/F is discharging at the effluent limitation and mixing with the flows from ARGET and GET J, the estimated concentration in Buffalo Creek would be approximately 0.9 µg/L. The ARGET and GET J facilities consistently do not detect TCE in their respective effluents. The other six treatment systems operated by the Discharger and covered by the permit do not have their effluent limitations modified by this Order. (AMM)</p>
	c.	<p>CITY OF DAVIS WWTP, YOLO COUNTY</p> <p>The City of Davis (Discharger) owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) that provides service to the City of Davis, a population of approximately 65,000. Existing Waste Discharge Requirement Order No. R5-2007-0132 (NPDES Permit) regulates the WWTP discharge to the Willow Slough Bypass and the Conway Toe Drain, two tributaries to the Yolo Bypass. The existing NPDES Permit grants the Discharger an eight-year compliance schedule for upgrade of its non-conventional secondary treatment facility to a tertiary treatment facility that is able to treat the wastewater to a Title 22-quality discharge.</p>

	<p>To consider wastewater reuse for agricultural irrigation purposes, the Discharger proposes to conduct a wastewater reuse feasibility study to examine the feasibility of delivering part or all of its WWTP secondary treated effluent to neighboring lands owned by the Conaway Ranch Preservation Group. On 24 October 2008, the Discharger requested a two-year extension to its existing compliance schedule in the existing NPDES Permit to conduct the study.</p> <p>The proposed NPDES Permit Amendment extends the existing eight-year time schedule for compliance with effluent limitations for biological oxygen demand, total suspended solids, turbidity, total coliform organisms, aluminum, ammonia, and iron, to a ten-year compliance schedule. The amended compliance schedule also includes interim milestones dates for the Discharger to submit a preferred option for compliance (wastewater reuse or WWTP upgrade) by 25 October 2010. A specific Reopener Provision is proposed for the Regional Water Board to include additional requirements and/or to amend compliance dates to implement reuse of treated wastewater on the Conaway Ranch if the Discharger determines that reuse is feasible.</p> <p>The amendment also proposes to grant the Discharger an additional eight months for submittal of a technical report that (1) characterizes the natural groundwater background quality monitoring study, and (2) evaluates the need for additional groundwater monitoring. The evaluation will correspond with the conclusions of the wastewater reuse feasibility study.</p> <p>The tentative NPDES Permit Amendment was issued for public review on 10 December 2008. No public comments were received on this Item.</p>
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RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed NPDES permits.

Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legal Review \_\_\_\_\_

5 February 2009  
 Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting  
 11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670