

ITEM: 27

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. SEWERAGE COMMISSION-OROVILLE REGION, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, BUTTE COUNTY</p> <p>Sewerage Commission-Oroville Region (SC-OR) (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the SC-OR Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereafter Facility). The Discharger owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system, and provides sewage service to the City of Oroville, Thermalito Water and Sewer District, and Lake Oroville Area Public Utility District as a regional treatment plant. The facility average dry weather flow design is 6.5 mgd. The treatment system consists of screening for removal of large solids, grit removal, primary clarification, activated sludge treatment with secondary clarification, filtration, chlorination, and dechlorination. Sludge is aerobically treated, dried on site, and then disposed at a solid waste landfill. Wastewater is discharged to the Feather River, a water of the United States, and tributary to the Sacramento River within Lower Feather River Hydrologic Area.</p> <p>The existing NPDES permit has effluent limitations for copper, zinc, and tetrachloroethene. Review of the last five years of effluent/receiving water data, indicated that there is still reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives for copper and zinc. Additionally, new silver, dibromochloromethane and electrical conductivity effluent limitations will be included in the permit renewal. The Discharger is able to immediately comply with the effluent limitations for copper, silver, zinc, and dibromochloromethane.</p> <p>Public comments on the proposed permit were received from the Central Valley Clean Water Association after the deadline date; minor changes have been made to the proposed permit in response to the comments received.</p>
	<p>b. OLIVEHURST PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, YUBA COUNTY</p> <p>The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5 2004-0094 (NPDES Permit) on 9 July 2004, for the Olivehurst Public Utility District Wastewater</p>

	<p>Treatment Facility (Facility) in Yuba County. The facility is owned and operated by the Olivehurst Public Utility District (Discharger) and consists of fine screening, grit removal, oxidation-ditch activated sludge process, equalization, tertiary filtration and ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection. Sludge is treated in sludge lagoons, dewatered in sludge drying beds, and hauled to a landfill for disposal. Tertiary-treated wastewater is discharged to the Western Pacific Interceptor Drainage Canal, and a tributary to the Bear River within the Sacramento River Basin.</p> <p>The existing Waste Discharger Requirements (NPDES permit) authorizes a major discharge of up to 5.1 million gallons per day (mgd) to the receiving water. To comply with NPDES permit requirements, in August 2006, the Discharger completed a facility upgrade project that added a tertiary treatment system and replaced the chlorination disinfection system with UV disinfection.</p> <p>The proposed NPDES permit renewal contains new and/or more stringent effluent limitations for ammonia, tetrachloroethene and salinity. Proposed effluent limitations for ammonia are based on implementation of the narrative Basin Plan objective using the USEPA's National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria for protection of aquatic life. Proposed effluent limitations for tetrachloroethene are based on implementation of the CTR criterion for the protection of human health. Additionally, a performance-based salinity effluent limit is included in the proposed permit.</p> <p>The Discharger is not able to comply with the more stringent ammonia effluent limitations. The proposed permit contains a compliance schedule for the discharger to comply with the new, more stringent final ammonia effluent limitations.</p> <p>Public comments were received by the Discharger and USEPA. The following is a summary of the comments and Central Valley Water Board staff responses:</p> <p>Receiving Water Monitoring During No Flow Conditions: The Discharger commented that when there is no upstream flow, downstream receiving water sampling is redundant of samples already collected from the facility effluent. Staff concurs with the comment. The following sentence has been added to the beginning of Attachment E, Section VIII.A.1, of the proposed Monitoring and Reporting Program: "During periods of discharge when there is no flow at RSW-001, required receiving water monitoring shall be limited to dissolved oxygen monitoring at RSW-002."</p> <p>Ammonia Limits/Compliance Schedule: USEPA commented that</p>
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the proposed permit includes interim “floating” ammonia limits. The permit bases the proposed average monthly and maximum daily ammonia effluent limits on the Basin Plan’s narrative toxicity criterion; however, the new fixed limits are more stringent at times, and less stringent at times, than the floating limits in the existing permit, depending on specific pH and temperature conditions. Staff does not concur. The maximum concentrations of ammonia in the effluent are greater than the proposed final water quality-based effluent limits and therefore, a compliance schedule is included in the tentative permit to allow the discharger to comply when the fixed limits are more stringent than the floating limits. USEPA also commented that the proposed fact sheet does not address how the compliance schedule meets the new State Water Board’s Policy for Compliance Schedules in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits (Compliance Schedule Policy).

Although the new fixed ammonia effluent limits are established based on the same water quality criteria, the proposed “fixed” ammonia effluent limitations are more stringent than the existing “floating” effluent limitations at times and requires the Discharger to implement actions to come into compliance. A compliance schedule was included in the existing Cease and Desist Order R5 2004 0095 and the Discharger successfully complied with the existing floating ammonia limits by 30 November 2007. The Discharger constructed facility upgrades and since the compliance date has been in full compliance with the existing final “floating” ammonia effluent limits. If the Discharger had to comply with the proposed “fixed” effluent limit in the tentative Order, the effluent discharge would have violated the limits at least five times between November 2007 and February 2009. This demonstrates that the proposed new “fixed” ammonia effluent limitations are more stringent and meets the conditions for establishing a compliance schedule specified in the State Water Board’s Compliance Schedule Policy.

Pretreatment: USEPA comments that the Regional Board should re-evaluate whether the discharger should develop a pretreatment program based on the presence of significant industrial users discharging to the facility, including those subject to USEPA’s categorical pretreatment standards. The Regional Board should not base the requirement to develop a pretreatment program solely on the 5.0 MGD flow criterion. Staff concurs that the decision to require an industrial pretreatment program should not be based solely on whether the average dry weather flow exceeds 5 MGD. The Olivehurst Public Utility District currently does not have any categorical or non-categorical significant industrial users or categorical industrial users discharging to its collection system. The current treatment capacity for the Facility is 3.0 MGD, and

current flows average approximately 1.5 MGD. The Discharger has plans for a Phase 2 expansion that will increase the treatment capacity to 5.1 MGD. This was planned for completion in late 2007; however, with the downturn in the housing market and economy Phase 2 was not implemented. The proposed Fact Sheet has been updated to explain that during the renewal process the number of industrial dischargers was reviewed and a pretreatment program is not warranted at this time for the current permitted discharge of 3.0 MGD. During the next permit renewal the need for an industrial pretreatment program will be re-evaluated.

Biosolids: USEPA comments that the Regional Board should update the tentative permit and monitoring and reporting program with the most current biosolids requirements. These requirements should also replace the biosolids requirements in the Regional Board's permit template. Central Valley Water Board staff does not concur that additional biosolids requirement, which are based on the requirements of 40 CFR Part 503, should be included in the proposed NPDES Permit. The regulations established at 40 CFR Part 503 are self-implementing, meaning that anyone engaged in activities covered by the regulations must comply with the appropriate requirements on or before the compliance deadlines despite the inclusion of requirements in an NPDES permit. The State does not have delegated authority to implement 40 CFR Part 503. Therefore, the proposed NPDES Permit will not include the additional biosolids requirements. However, Provision VI.C.5.b.iv of the proposed NPDES Permit requires the use and disposal of biosolids to comply with existing federal and State laws and regulations, including permitting requirements and technical standards included in 40 CFR Part 503. If the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board are given the authority to implement regulations contained in 40 CFR Part 503, the proposed NPDES Permit may be reopened to incorporate appropriate time schedules and technical standards. The proposed NPDES Permit requires compliance with the standards and time schedules contained in 40 CFR Part 503 whether or not they have been incorporated into the permit.

Receiving Water Sampling: USEPA comments that the Regional Board should include receiving water monitoring for fecal coliform and turbidity in the monitoring and reporting program to determine compliance with the corresponding receiving water limitations in the tentative order/draft permit. Staff does not concur. The final effluent limits for total coliform organisms and the turbidity operation specifications prescribed in the Order are more stringent than what would be required to meet the Basin Plan receiving water objectives for the MUN designation. Therefore, requiring the Discharger to conduct compliance monitoring for fecal coliform

		<p>and turbidity receiving water limitations would be an unnecessary burden to the Discharger.</p> <p>Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity: USEPA comments that the Regional Board should modify the chronic whole effluent toxicity and accelerated testing requirements in pages 21 through 23 of the tentative permit to exclude the words “a pattern of,” as the subjective. Staff concurs and has modified the proposed permit language accordingly.</p> <p>Factual Correction: USEPA comments that the Regional Board should clarify the language at the top of page 7, which states: “This Order does not include compliance schedules and interim effluent limitations.” the tentative order/permit does include a compliance schedule and interim limits for ammonia. Staff concurs. The proposed permit language has been revised as follows: “This Order includes a compliance schedule and interim effluent limitations.”</p>
	c.	<p>AAF-MCQUAY, INC., ET AL., GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION SYSTEM, Tulare County</p> <p>AAF-McQuay, Inc., owns and operates a groundwater remediation system near Visalia. The remediation system consists of two dual-vessel granular activated carbon treatment systems used to treat volatile organic compounds found in the groundwater. Treated groundwater is discharged to Mill Creek Ditch, which is tributary to Cross Creek and a water of the United States. Treated groundwater is also used to irrigate fields in the surrounding area. Discharges from the facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R5-2005-0059 (NPDES Permit No. CA0082511). The tentative WDRs renew AAF-McQuay’s NPDES permit and do not authorize an increase in permitted volume or mass of pollutants discharged over what was authorized in Order No. R5-2005-0059. (AMO)</p>
	d.	<p>THE BOEING COMPANY, INTERIM GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEMS, GET H-B AND SOUTHERN GROUNDWATER STUDY AREA GET, SACRAMENTO COUNTY</p> <p>The Boeing Company operates two groundwater extraction and treatment systems at the Inactive Rancho Cordova Test site project in Rancho Cordova. The two systems extract groundwater polluted with perchlorate and trichloroethylene and discharge the treated water to Morrison Creek. This permit renewal combines the two previous permits for the GET H-A and Southern Groundwater Study Area (SGSA) GET facilities. The GETs have been shown capable of removing volatile organics to less than 0.5 µg/L and perchlorate to less than 4 µg/L with</p>

		permitted flows up to 4000 gpm for GET H-A and 1100 gpm for the SGSA GET. The GETs have been in substantial compliance with the effluent limitations.
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RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed NPDES permits.

Mgmt. Review_____

Legal Review_____

27 May 2010

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting

11020 Sun Center Dr. #200

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670