

ITEM: 20

SUBJECT: Sierra Pacific Industries, Inc., Burney Division Sawmill and Cogeneration Facility, Shasta County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal*

BACKGROUND: Sierra Pacific Industries, Inc., Burney Division (Discharger) owns and operates a sawmill and cogeneration facility and discharges storm water from the log yard area to Canyon Creek tributary to Burney Creek, in Shasta County. Log deck sprinkling water is contained in a log yard retention pond, and following containment of the wet weather first flush that is completed after two (2) inches of rainfall has occurred, subsequent storm water from the log deck is discharged to Canyon Creek. Industrial storm water from other parts of the facility is also discharged to Canyon Creek. Discharges from these other areas of the facility are covered under the WQO No. 97-03-DWQ (State Board General Industrial Storm Water Permit).

Past discharges of process water and storm water from the log yard area pose an elevated threat to water quality. The Discharger has constructed some facility improvements such as grading and paving much of the log yard area and a new retention pond as well as improved BMPs for capturing and containing wet weather first flush storm water. Results from whole effluent toxicity testing performed pre and post facility improvements demonstrated acute and chronic toxicity. Effluent limitation violations for settleable solids and receiving water limitations for turbidity were exceeded post improvements. Therefore, renewal of the existing individual NPDES permit includes requirements for the Discharger to evaluate effectiveness of existing BMPs through a log yard flushing study and implement improved BMPs to protect beneficial uses of the receiving water, if necessary.

ISSUES: This item has been contested by the Discharger. The Discharger requests to cease renewal of the existing individual NPDES permit and instead obtain coverage for storm water discharges from the log yard area under WQO No. 97-03-DWQ (State Board General Industrial Storm Water Permit).

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed NPDES permit.

Mgmt. Review\_\_BJS\_\_\_\_  
Legal Review\_\_NJ\_\_\_\_\_

4/5 June 2015  
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670