# CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, California 90013 (213) 576-6600 Public Notice No. 15-035 NPDES No. CA0001198

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

# PROPOSED REISSUANCE OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)

DISCHARGER	DISCHARGE LOCATION	RECEIVING WATER
NRG California South LP	6635 South Edison Drive	Pacific Ocean
Ormond Beach Generating Station	Oxnard, CA 93033	

NRG California South LP (hereinafter, Discharger) discharges once-through cooling water, low volume industrial process wastewater, and storm water from the Ormond Beach Generating Station (hereinafter, Facility) to the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States. The discharge is currently regulated under waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. 01-092, which was adopted by this Regional Water Board on June 28, 2001, and expired on May 10, 2006. The terms and conditions of the current Order, as per 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) part 122, have been continued and remain in effect until new Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit are adopted pursuant to this Order. The delay in renewal of the permits for coastal power plants is the result of efforts to develop and implement the Statewide Water Quality Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (OTC Policy). The Policy was adopted on October 1, 2010, and amended on June 18, 2013. Order No. 01-092 also serves as a permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES No. CA0001198) Program.

The Discharger owns and operates the Ormond Beach Generating Station, located at 6635 South Edison Drive, Oxnard, CA 93033. The Facility has a combined generating capacity of approximately 1,520 megawatt (MW), with two natural gas-fueled, steam electric generating units rated at 745 MW and 775 MW. Both units use once-through cooling water. Low volume wastes (including auxiliary boiler blowdown, boiler condensate overboard, reverse osmosis reject water, demineralizer regenerant wastes, equipment wash water collected in floor drains, and seal water) are generated as internal wastes streams in the Facility. City portable water is commingled with reclaimed storm water or reverse osmosis reject water and used as the seal water to cool the once-through cooling water intake pumps. The wastewater treatment units at the Facility consist of an oil/water separator and two retention basins (the north and south basins). Storm water and some internal low volume wastes are treated by the oil/water separator and are conveyed to either the north or south retention basin. Flow of storm water and all low volume wastes except seal water are intermittent. All internal waste streams are routed to combine with the once-through cooling water stream prior to discharge through Discharge Point 001. The Facility discharges up to 688.2 million gallons per day (MGD) of once-through cooling water, low volume industrial process wastewater, and storm water to the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States, through Discharge Point 001 (Latitude 34.1285°, Longitude -119.1697°).

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On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, tentatively proposes to issue waste discharge requirements, including effluent limitations and special conditions.

#### **HEARING DATE AND LOCATION**

Date: September 10, 2015

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board Room

700 North Alameda Street Los Angeles, California

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles</a> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

## **AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS**

The Report of Waste Discharge, related documents, tentative requirements, comments received, and other information received on the discharge are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region 320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Los Angeles Regional Board at (213) 576-6600. The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are specifically referenced during the hearing. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any particular documents that are not included in the agenda packet, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business hours, not later than 5 business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

#### NATURE OF HEARING

This will be a formal adjudicative hearing pursuant to section 648 et seq. of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) will not apply to this proceeding.

Ex Parte Communications Prohibited: As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Regional Board must be directed to staff.

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### COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF BEFORE THE HEARING

The lead staff member responsible for this item is: Ching-Yin To 320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013 PHONE: (213) 576-6696 FAX: (213) 576-6660

Ching-Yin.To@waterboards.ca.gov

#### PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

1. The applicant/permittee

Any other persons requesting party status\_must submit a written or electronic request to staff no later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

Regional Water Board staff is not a party to the proceeding; their participation in this proceeding exists for the purpose of advising and assisting the Regional Water Board.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the tentative waste discharge requirements, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to the above address. To be evaluated and responded to by staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and considered by the Board, written comments must be submitted losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov with a copy to Ching-Yin.To@waterboards.ca.gov no later than close of business on August 18, 2015. Please reference the comments as "Comments on tentative NPDES Permit, NRG California South LP, Ormond Beach Generating Station, CA0001198, CI-5619". Comments or evidence received after that date will be submitted, ex agenda, to the Board for consideration, but only included in the administrative record with express approval of the Chair during the hearing. Additionally, if the Board receives only supportive comments, the permit may be placed on the Board's consent calendar, and approved without oral testimony.

#### HEARING PROCEDURE

The meeting, in which the hearing will be a part of, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. Staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to 3 minutes maximum or less for each speaker, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Parties or persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will deliberate in open or close session, and render a decision.

Parties or persons with special procedural requests should contact staff. Any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing not later than close of business 15 business days prior to the date of the hearing. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

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If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, all cases will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting on October 8, 2015. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

Date: July 17, 2015