

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600**

**Public Notice No. 16-021
NPDES No. CA0057827**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF
TIME SCHEDULE ORDER (TSO) NO. R4-2013-0022-A01
REQUIRING FREEPORT-MCMORAN OIL & GAS,
(INGLEWOOD OIL FIELD)
TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN
ORDER NO. R4-2013-0021
(NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0057827)**

DISCHARGER

Freeport-McMoRan Oil & Gas
Inglewood Oil Field

DISCHARGER LOCATION

5640 South Fairfax Avenue,
Los Angeles, CA 90056

RECEIVING WATER

Ballona Creek and
Centinela Creek

Freeport-McMoRan Oil & Gas, formerly Plains Exploration & Production Company, (hereinafter FM O&G or Discharger) owns and operates the Inglewood Oil Field (hereinafter Facility or Field), an actively producing oil and gas field located in the Baldwin Hills area of Los Angeles, California. FM O&G discharges storm water from the Inglewood Oil Field under waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. R4-2013-0021 adopted by the Regional Water Board on February 7, 2013. Order No. R4-2013-0021 serves as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit (NPDES No. CA0057827).

Order No. R4-2013-0021 authorizes the Field to discharge up to 7.55 million gallons per day (MGD) of storm water runoff. Storm water runoff including construction storm water runoff within the Field flows via natural drainage areas to six retention basins: LAI Last Chance Basin, Dabney-Lloyd Basin, Stocker Basin, Vickers – I Basin, Lower Vickers- II Basin and Upper Vickers- II Basin, with corresponding Discharge Point Nos. 1 through 6, respectively. Order No. R4-2013-0021 prescribed effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium and zinc for each of six basins, respectively. For Discharge Point Nos. 002, 004, 005, and 006, the final effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium and zinc were based on WLAs in the Ballona Creek Metals TMDL. The final effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium and zinc for Discharge Point Nos. 001 and 003 were based on California Toxics Rule (CTR) criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

The Facility cannot consistently meet the newly prescribed effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium and zinc contained in Order No. R4-2013-0021. On February 7, 2013, Time Schedule Order (TSO) No. R4-2013-0022 was adopted and issued to the Discharger with interim effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium and zinc. This TSO allowed the Discharger a three-and-a-half year period until September 15, 2016 for the implementation of Phase 1 activities that included improving the storm water sampling and analysis, assessing modifications to the discharge infrastructure to minimize sediment release, improving water management by conducting releases during non-rainfall events, and the identification of source areas for metals accumulation to achieve compliance with the final effluent limits in Order No. R4-2013-0021.

The Discharger has completed the Phase 1 tasks as required in TSO No. R4-2013-0022 and the additional erosion control measures originally proposed as Phase 2 activities. During an intense rainfall event in February 2014, the Discharger discovered that the proposed

implemented activities are not sufficient to achieve compliance with the final effluent limits in Order No. R4-2013-0021. The Discharger believes that a change in focus from source control and erosion control to the implementation of storm water treatment systems is required. Due to the infrequent discharges from the basins (less than 2 per year at each basin), on June 13, 2016, the Discharger requested a five (5) year extension to the TSO for the determination and testing of the selected treatment system as well as the optimization of the operation parameters for each treatment unit.

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 this amendment to the TSO. The tentative amendment provides an additional one-and-a-half year up to February 7, 2018, for the Discharger to investigate and implement any required storm water treatment systems to bring the Inglewood Oil Field into compliance with the final effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium and zinc. The established time schedule is as short as possible, taking into account the technological, operational, and economic factors that affect the design, development, and implementation of the control measures that are necessary to comply with the final effluent limitations for these metals.

Please be advised that the Executive Officer intends to issue the amendment to the TSO without a public hearing. Because interested persons may not have an opportunity to make oral comments, interested persons must submit all comments in writing as described below. The Executive Officer will consider the tentative TSO amendment and all timely written comments prior to administratively issuing the TSO amendment.

WRITTEN COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on and/or submit evidence regarding the tentative TSO amendment for the Executive Officer to consider must submit written comments. Written comments must be **received** by the Regional Water Board by **5:00 pm on September 12, 2016**. Written comments submitted electronically must be emailed to losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov with a copy to JauRen.Chen@waterboards.ca.gov. Interested persons are encouraged to submit their comments electronically in either a Word or Portable Document File (PDF).

Untimely written comments will not be considered nor responded to.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The tentative TSO amendment, documents relied upon, comments received, and other information on file are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by appointment at the following address:

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Regional Water Board at (213) 576-6600.

STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any question regarding this proposed action, please contact Jau Ren Chen at (213) 576-6656 or via email at JauRen.Chen@waterboards.ca.gov

Date: August 12, 2016