

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

Order No. R1-2010-0022  
WDID NO. 1B09031RSON

Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements

For

Pacific Resources  
Septage Transfer Facility  
3660 Copperhill Lane, Santa Rosa

Sonoma County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. On March 5, 2009, the Regional Water Board received a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) from Pacific Resources (hereinafter Discharger) for the construction and operation of a septage transfer facility at 3660 Copperhill Lane in Santa Rosa (APN 059-250-004). The Discharger submitted additional information to complete the ROWD, and the ROWD was deemed complete on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009; and
2. The project involves the construction of a septage transfer facility on 0.80 acres of a 6.78 acre site in a heavily industrialized area of the Airport Industrial Park north of Santa Rosa. The facility will consist of a concrete pad for the loading and unloading of tanker trucks; a looped gravel driveway; an office trailer; a 10,000 gallon rigid, cone-bottom, aboveground tank for the storage of grease and other oils; and a 20,000 gallon aboveground bladder tank for the storage of septage wastes; and
3. The septage transfer facility will receive only permitted, non-hazardous, liquid wastes such as septic tank waste, portable toilet waste, grease trap waste, food service waste and winery waste, for the purpose of consolidating the wastes for transport to the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) wastewater treatment plant in Oakland, California; and
4. The following safety features will be built into the design of the septage transfer facility to reduce the potential for impacts to water quality and to prevent nuisance:

**Truck Pad Area**

- a. The loading and off-loading area of the truck pad will be bermed and sloped so as to capture rainfall and small leaks or spills occurring in the area.
- b. A two-inch high plastic water bar and a "V" drain will direct captured rainfall and spills or leaks directly to the 20,000-gallon bladder tank.

- c. Rainfall falling on the “no-dumping” portion of the truck pad will drain to a drop inlet connected to an adjacent grass and earthen drainage swale or drain as sheet flow run-off away from the loading and off-loading area towards the permeable gravel driveway.
- d. The flex hoses connected to the storage tanks will rest on 3-foot high hose ramps, in cut-out groves, allowing for the drainage of waste to the storage tanks when the hoses are not in use.
- e. The flex hoses will be capped when not in use to prevent the escape of odors from the storage tanks.

#### **Aboveground Storage Tanks**

- a. The 10,000-gallon aboveground tank will be located on a bermed concrete pad connected to the loading and off-loading area of the truck pad. The bermed area will act as double containment for the aboveground tank. Rainfall and leaks or spills occurring in this area will flow towards the loading and off-loading “V” drain and be directed to the 20,000-gallon bladder tank.
  - b. The 20,000-gallon aboveground bladder tank will be located in a covered, 4-foot deep, sloped earthen containment basin with a one-foot berm. The basin and berm walls will be lined with a 40-mil, flexible membrane liner designed by the manufacturer as a wastewater treatment plant lagoon liner. The liner will act as double containment for the bladder tank.
  - c. An audible and visual leak detection system will be used to notify on-site staff of leaks in the bladder tank. The leak detection probe will be placed between the bladder tank and the 40-mil liner in the area of lowest elevation.
  - d. An activated charcoal odor control system connected to the storage tanks will be utilized to prevent the escape of odors during the off-loading of the smaller trucks to the storage tanks. Vented air will pass through an activated charcoal module designed to remove hydrogen sulfide odors.
  - e. “Pumper scent” modules on each of the larger transfer trucks will be utilized to prevent the escape of odors during the direct transfer of wastes from the smaller pumper trucks to the larger transfer trucks and during emptying of the storage tanks.
  - f. The transfer trucks will be equipped with mounted vacuum pumps that may be utilized for the clean-up and containment of any spills; and
5. A Mandatory Closure Agreement, submitted as part of the ROWD, has been recorded on the property deed. The Agreement requires the facility to close and stop receiving wastes under the following conditions: the closure of the EBMUD WWTP to out-of-area waste haulers; cancellation of the EBMUD WWTP dumping permit; extended highway closures; extreme acts of vandalism; a national fuel-supply emergency; or the suspension/non-renewal of city, county or state licenses or permits; and

6. The Regional Water Board staff has reviewed the ROWD, including the Emergency Spill Response Procedures, the Mandatory Closure Agreement and other submitted information related to the proposed discharge and determined that issuance of a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements is consistent with the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region and is in the public interest. The Regional Water Board has determined the design, location, construction and maintenance of the proposed septage transfer facility project will provide adequate protection of beneficial uses of water and prevent nuisance, pollution and contamination; and
7. A mitigated negative declaration was prepared and certified by the Sonoma County Planning Department on June 17, 2009, to satisfy the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code section 21000 et. seq.) ("CEQA"). The Regional Water Board is a responsible agency under CEQA; and
8. The Regional Water Board conducted a public hearing on April 29, 2010, in Ukiah, California, and considered all evidence concerning this matter.

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, that pursuant to California Water Code section 13269 the Regional Water Board, based on the aforementioned hearing, finds that a Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for the Septage Transfer Facility at 3660 Copperhill Lane, Santa Rosa, would be in the public interest and consistent with the Basin Plan provided that the Discharger is in compliance with the following:

- a. The Discharger shall obtain all appropriate construction permits prior to initiating construction;
- b. The Discharger shall construct post-construction water quality controls in accordance with the terms described in the ROWD;
- c. The Facility shall accept only permitted, non-hazardous liquid waste such as septic waste, portable toilet waste, grease trap waste, food service waste and winery waste;
- d. The Facility, including the truck pad and bladder tank containment basin shall be constructed in accordance with the design plans submitted in the ROWD (Attachment A);
- e. The Discharger will respond to all spills and leaks of waste in accordance with the Pacific Resources Emergency Spill Response Plan (Attachment B);
- f. The Facility will close and stop receiving wastes under the conditions specified in the Mandatory Closure Agreement (Attachment C);

- g. The Discharger and subsequent property owners shall allow Regional Water Board staff reasonable access onto the affected property for the purpose of performing inspections to determine compliance with waiver conditions;
- h. The Discharger shall submit to the Regional Water Board semi-annual reports, on or before March 15<sup>th</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. The semi-annual reports shall include the following:
  - i. The type and volume of waste received at the transfer facility over the previous six month time period;
  - ii. The volume of waste hauled to the EBMUD wastewater treatment facility over the previous six month time period;
  - iii. A description of how the system operated during the previous six month time period including any substantial modifications made to the system during that time;
  - iv. A description of any significant malfunctions with the system, including any leaks, spills and/or complaints received and the corrective actions taken to remedy the malfunction.
- i. The discharge shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region;
- j. The discharge shall comply with the conditions for this Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements as set forth herein, and discharge only in accordance with the terms described in the ROWD;
- k. The discharge shall not create a pollution, contamination, or nuisance, as defined by California Water Code Section 13050;
- l. If the Discharger wishes to continue the activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of the Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new conditional waiver.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Regional Water Board has reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Septage Transfer Facility project, and finds that based on the mitigation proposed and described above, the septage transfer facility project will not have an impact on water quality. All of the necessary mitigation measures to protect water quality have become conditions of this Order. The Regional Water Board will file a Notice of Determination within five days from the issuance of this order.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the discharge of any waste not specifically regulated by the Waiver described herein is not authorized by this Waiver.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that this Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements shall expire April 29, 2015, in accordance with Section 13269 of the Water Code.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that this action waiving the issuance of Waste Discharge Requirements for the septage transfer facility at 3660 Copperhill Lane, Santa Rosa; (a) is conditional, (b) may be terminated at any time, (c) does not permit an illegal activity, (d) does not preclude the need for permits which may be required by other local or governmental agencies, and (e) does not preclude the Regional Water Board from administering enforcement remedies (including civil penalties) pursuant to the Water Code.

CERTIFICATION:

I, Catherine Kuhlman, Executive Officer do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on April 29, 2010.

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Catherine Kuhlman  
Executive Officer