
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 3, 2012

In the Matter of

Water Quality Certification

for the

**City of Eureka – Mad River Pipeline Rehabilitation Phase 4, Project A
WDID No. 1B12052WNHU**

APPLICANT: City of Eureka
RECEIVING WATER: Wetlands
HYDROLOGIC AREA: Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit No. 110.00
COUNTY: Humboldt
FILE NAME: Eureka, City of – Mad River Pipeline Rehabilitation Phase 4,
Project A

BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

1. On April 12, 2012, the City of Eureka (Applicant) filed an application for water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341) with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (Regional Water Board) for activities associated with replacement of a section of the Mad River Pipeline. Phase 4, Project A is part of the fourth phase of the Mad River Pipeline Rehabilitation Project. Project A is located entirely within the city limits of the City of Arcata and extends from the intersection of 7th and A Streets to the south end of Union Street. The Regional Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to title 23, California Code of Regulations, section 3858 on June 8, 2012, and posted information describing the project on the Regional Water Board's website. We did not receive any public comments on this project.
2. The Mad River Pipeline is the City of Eureka's primary water supply and is used to transport water from the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District facility in northern Arcata to the City of Eureka's main reservoir near Sequoia Park. The primary purpose of the Mad River Pipeline Rehabilitation Project, Phase 4, is to replace two

sections of the pipeline to assure continued reliability of the primary water supply for area residents, including Humboldt Community Services District customers. The Project A pipeline alignment crosses down the slope above Healthsport, crosses the Healthsport parking lot, crosses a portion of a wetland constructed for storm water treatment, crosses Community Park Way, continues along a drainage swale located on the east edge of the City of Arcata's sports fields, and finally crosses Samoa Boulevard and the southern end of Union Street near the California Highway Patrol station. The two parcels crossed by the pipeline alignment are owned by the City of Arcata. Phase 4, Project B is a separate but related project located in the Myrtle town area, east of the City of Eureka. Phase 4, Projects A and B have independent function and utility, and are being considered separate projects with regards to permitting.

3. Project A involves installation of new 24-inch diameter ductile iron pipe in parallel to the existing pipe alignment, offset by approximately 10 feet. The new pipe section will be interconnected with the existing pipeline at each end. At the 7th Street end an air release valve and blow off valve will be installed in concrete vaults. The Project A alignment is approximately 1,600-feet long. The new section of pipeline will be installed using conventional trenching methods. Excavated materials will be temporarily stockpiled adjacent to the 3-foot wide trench within a 30-foot wide construction corridor. Where excavated or imported materials will be stockpiled on non-paved areas, a layer of weed-free straw (or equivalent) of adequate thickness will be placed over the ground to ensure that the existing topsoil will not be disturbed when the stockpile is removed.
4. Approximately 860 linear feet of trench will be excavated across wetland areas including wetlands constructed for storm water treatment and a drainage swale adjacent to the City of Arcata's sports fields. The Applicant anticipates that the entire 30-foot wide construction corridor will potentially be disturbed. Trenching activities will result in approximately 25,800 square feet of temporary impacts to wetlands. Use of a staging area within diked former tidelands at the southern end of the alignment will result in an additional 13,500 square feet of temporary impacts to wetlands. During trench excavation, the upper six inches of wetland topsoil containing the roots, rhizomes, seeds, and other organic material will be stockpiled separately and returned to the upper six inches of the trench as the trench is backfilled. Excess excavated materials will be hauled offsite for disposal at an appropriate upland site. All wetland impacts will be temporary and the ground surface will be restored to pre-project conditions at the end of construction.
5. Project A will result in 0.9 acres of temporary impacts to existing wetlands. Mitigation for temporary wetland impacts involves replacement of the upper 6 inches of topsoil to restore the wetland surface and existing vegetation. The project will not result in any permanent wetland impacts. Compensatory mitigation is not required for the project. Noncompensatory mitigation includes the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for sediment and erosion control and for operation

of heavy equipment in wetlands. Implementation of Phase 4, Project A is scheduled to begin in August 2012 and is expected to take approximately six weeks to complete.

6. The Applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project under Nationwide Permit No. 12 (File No. 2004-286430), pursuant to Clean Water Act, section 404. A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game is not required.
7. On April 2, 2002, the City of Eureka certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH No. 2001012088) for the project in order to comply with CEQA. The Regional Water Board has considered the environmental document. The project may have significant effects on the biological environment associated with construction activities that involve crossing wetlands, waterways, and areas that may result in erosion and sedimentation of habitat supporting listed fish species. Construction methods, BMPs, and mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project description in order to reduce and avoid significant impacts on the environment.
8. The federal antidegradation policy requires that state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies. This Order is consistent with applicable federal and state antidegradation policies, as it does not authorize the discharge of increased concentrations of pollutants or increased volumes of treated wastewater, and does not otherwise authorize degradation of the waters affected by this project.
9. This discharge is also regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges That Have Received State Water Quality Certification," which requires compliance with all conditions of this water quality certification.
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo/wqo2003-0017.pdf.

Receiving Waters: Wetlands in the Eureka Plain Hydrologic
Unit No. 110.00

Filled or Excavated Area: Area Temporarily Impacted: 0.9 acre of wetland
Area Permanently Impacted: None

of State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ to any contractor(s), subcontractor(s), and utility company(ies) conducting work on the project, and shall require that copies remain in their possession at the work site. The Applicant shall be responsible for ensuring that all work conducted by its contractor(s), subcontractor(s), and utility companies is performed in accordance with the information provided by the Applicant to the Regional Water Board.

6. All project work shall be conducted as described in this Order and in the application submitted by the Applicant. If the Regional Water Board is not notified of a significant alteration to the project, it will be considered a violation of this Order, and the Applicant may be subject to Regional Water Board enforcement actions.
7. No debris, soil, silt, sand, bark, slash, sawdust, cement or concrete washings, oil or petroleum products, or other organic or earthen material from any construction or associated activity of whatever nature, other than that authorized by this Order, shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall into waters of the State. When operations are completed, any excess material or debris shall be removed from the work area.
8. All activities and BMPs shall be implemented according to the submitted application and the conditions in this certification. BMPs for erosion, sediment and turbidity control shall be implemented and in place at commencement of, during and after any ground clearing activities or any other project activities that could result in erosion or sediment discharges to surface water.
9. The Applicant shall prioritize the use of wildlife-friendly biodegradable (not photo-degradable) erosion control products wherever feasible. The Applicant shall not use or allow the use of erosion control products that contain synthetic materials within waters of the United States or waters of the State at any time. The Applicant shall not use or allow the use of erosion control products that contain synthetic netting for permanent erosion control (i.e. erosion control materials to be left in place for two years or after the completion date of the project). If the Applicant finds that erosion control netting or products have entrapped or harmed wildlife, personnel shall remove the netting or product and replace it with wildlife-friendly biodegradable products. The Applicant shall request approval from the Regional Water Board if an exception from this requirement is needed for a specific location.
10. Disturbance or removal of existing vegetation shall not exceed the minimum necessary to complete the project.
11. The mitigation measures, and monitoring and reporting requirements detailed in the *Statement of Mitigation Measures and Monitoring Programs Mad River Water Pipeline Project* (MMRP) are hereby incorporated by reference and are conditions

of approval of this certification. Notwithstanding any more specific conditions in this certification, the Applicant shall comply with all applicable mitigation measures identified in the MMRP that are within the Regional Water Board's jurisdiction.

12. If, at any time, an unauthorized discharge to surface water (including wetlands, rivers or streams) occurs, or any water quality problem arises, the associated project activities shall cease immediately until adequate BMPs are implemented including stopping work. The Regional Water Board shall be notified promptly and in no case more than 24 hours after the unauthorized discharge or water quality problem arises.
13. Fueling, lubrication, maintenance, storage and staging of vehicles and equipment shall not result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the United States. At no time shall the Applicant use any vehicle or equipment, which leaks any substance that may impact water quality.
14. Spill kits are required at each fueling location and at each location where power equipment will be working within waters of the State. In the event of an unauthorized release of fuel (spill or leak) to waters of the State, the Applicant shall immediately stop work and conduct the following measures:
 - a) notify the appropriate agencies including the Regional Water Board, CDFG, and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) at 1(800) 852-7550;
 - b) utilize the appropriate spill kits for containment and cleanup of the release;
 - c) collect samples within the immediate area of release, 50 feet downstream, and downstream to the full extent of the release if the release reaches surface waters; and,
 - d) analyze required surface water samples for all appropriate constituents including but not limited to total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel (TPH-D), total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH-G), and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, total xylenes (BTEX).
15. Any potentially hazardous waste(s) (solids, liquids, or slurries) derived or encountered during this project shall undergo the appropriate characterization to demonstrate compliance with all applicable waste disposal laws and regulations.
16. Prior to implementing any change to the project that may have a significant or material effect on the findings, conclusions, or conditions of this Order, the Applicant shall obtain the written approval of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer. If the Regional Water Board is not notified of a significant alteration to the project, it will be considered a violation of this Order, and the Applicant may be subject to Regional Water Board enforcement action(s).

17. The Regional Water Board may add to or modify the conditions of this Order, as appropriate, to implement any new or revised water quality standards and implementation plans adopted and approved pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act or Section 303 of the Clean Water Act.
18. The Applicant shall provide Regional Water Board staff access to the project site to document compliance with this certification.
19. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this certification, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process or sanctions as provided for under applicable State or federal law. For the purposes of section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act, the applicability of any State law authorizing remedies, penalties, process or sanctions constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this certification. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this certification, the Regional Water Board may require the holder of any federal permit or license subject to this certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Regional Water Board deems appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In response to any violation of the conditions of this certification, the Regional Water Board may add to or modify the conditions of this certification as appropriate to ensure compliance.
20. In the event of any change in control of ownership of land presently owned or controlled by the Applicant, the Applicant shall notify the successor-in-interest of the existence of this Order by letter and shall forward a copy of the letter to the Regional Water Board at the above address.

To discharge dredged or fill material under this Order, the successor-in-interest must send to the Regional Water Board Executive Officer a written request for transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the state of incorporation if a corporation, and the address and telephone number of the person(s) responsible for contact with the Regional Water Board. The request must also describe any changes to the project proposed by the successor-in-interest or confirm that the successor-in-interest intends to implement the project as described in this Order.

21. Except as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all certification actions are contingent on: a) the discharge being limited to and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with the Applicant's project description, and b) compliance with all applicable requirements of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan).

22. The authorization of this certification for any dredge and fill activities expires on July 3, 2017. Conditions and monitoring requirements outlined in this certification are not subject to the expiration date outlined above, and remain in full effect and are enforceable.

If you have any questions or comments, please call Dean Prat at (707) 576-2801.

Original Signed By

Matthais St. John
Executive Officer

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Weblink: State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003-0017 -DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges That Have Received State Water Quality Certification can be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo/wqo2003-0017.pdf

Original to: Ms. Lisa Shikany, City of Eureka, 531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Copy to: Mr. Stein Coriell, Oscar Larson & Associates, 317 Third Street, 2nd Floor, Eureka, CA 95501

Electronic

Copies to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, District Engineer, 601 Startare Drive, Box 14, Eureka, CA 95501
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Functions, 1455 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-1398