

California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 576-2220

Notice of Public Hearing

For

Proposed Adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements
Order No. R1-2012-0097
NPDES No. CA0022721
WDID No. 1B83136OHUM

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit

For

City of Ferndale
Wastewater Treatment Facility

Humboldt County

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) proposes to adopt Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R1-2012-0097 for the City of Ferndale Wastewater Treatment Facility. The proposed Order includes removal of final effluent limitations and monthly monitoring for chlorine, copper; lead; mercury; nickel; zinc; chlorodibromomethane; dichlorobromomethane; bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate; alpha-BHC; and heptachlor epoxide including application based on a re-evaluation of reasonable potential, which included application of a discharger-specific water effect ratio for copper. This item will be open for public comment between September 12, 2012, and October 12, 2012.

Public Hearing Procedures

A public hearing to consider comments and objections to the proposed permit modifications is scheduled for December 6, 2012, at 8:30 a.m., in Santa Rosa, California, or as announced in the Regional Water Board's agenda. The meeting will be held at the Regional Water Board's Office, located at 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed waste discharge requirements.

In order for the Regional Water Board to consider any evidentiary material concerning this hearing, any documents, including written technical reports and other evidentiary material, must be received by the Regional Water Board no later than 5:00 p.m., on

October 12, 2012, at 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403. All documents that are received timely will be distributed to the Regional Water Board members and interested persons. These records will also become a permanent part of the administrative record for this public hearing.

Except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair, written material received after the above date will not be accepted. If the Chair chooses to accept late written material, that material will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice the Discharger or the Regional Water Board staff. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 648.1 and 648.4).

All those who plan to testify at this hearing must submit written statements to the Regional Water Quality Control Board no later than November 3, 2012. The statements should provide the name of the witness, his or her qualifications (if an expert), and the scope of his or her intended testimony. The time limit for oral testimony or comments will be set by the Regional Water Board Chair and are subject to change. These time limits normally allow no more than 10 minutes each for Regional Water Board staff and Dischargers. All speakers are expected to honor these time limits. Other interested persons may also provide testimony at this public hearing. However, any testimony given by someone other than staff or the Discharger may be limited to three minutes and may only be given under the limited scope of summarizing or explaining any timely-submitted or late-accepted written evidence. No new evidence will be allowed to be presented at this public hearing. In an effort to be fair to all people who wish to testify at this public hearing, the Regional Water Board Chair may choose to use a timer to ensure that individuals stay within the time limits set by the Chair. The Chair also requests that in order to avoid unnecessary repetitive testimony, that one spokesperson be selected to speak on behalf of many individuals, when those individuals share a common affiliation or interest.

Document Review

The tentative Order, related documents, and comments, received by the Regional Water Board will be on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board's office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220. The tentative Order is also available for review on the North Coast Regional Water Board website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/.

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

September 12, 2012