

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 30-31, 2013

Prepared on December 10, 2012

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: **Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 89-117 for Yanke Energy (Formerly Soledad Energy Partnership), Forest and Agricultural Waste Fueled Power Plant, Soledad, Monterey County**

KEY INFORMATION

Discharger: Yanke Energy (Current Owner)
Location: 959 Los Coches Drive, Soledad
Type of Waste: Boiler Blowdown and cooling water waste
Design Flow: 120,000 gallons per day
Current Flow: None
Treatment: 1) Discharge before salts are concentrated, or 2) Dilution
Disposal: 50-acre land disposal site near Salinas River
Recycling: None
Existing Order: Order No. 89-117
This Action: Rescind Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 89-117

SUMMARY

Waste discharge requirements Order No. 89-117 is no longer necessary because the power plant was taken off-line in mid-2006 and has no plans to restart in the near future. The Discharger requested a rescission. Staff inspected the facility and proposes a rescission of the waste discharge requirements.

DISCUSSION

In 1989, the Water Board adopted waste discharge requirements for the seven-acre, 13.5-megawatt, wood-waste burning electric electrical power plant located on the south side of the City of Soledad. The power plant generated boiler blowdown and cooling wastewater that was discharged to a 50-acre disposal site located adjacent to the Salinas River and about one mile from the plant. Waste products discharged included salts concentrated in the steam making process and low concentrations of chemicals used as boiler corrosion inhibitors and biocides. Chemicals used to control corrosion included potassium hydroxide (caustic potash), phosphonic acid (1-hydroxylthylidine), and 1-h-benzotriazole (tolyltriazole) and are reportedly non-toxic in low concentration in the discharge. Also, 2,2 dibromo3-nitropropionamide was used as a biocide.

Since WDRs were adopted, the power plant ran intermittently from about 1989 to 1995, and from about 2001 to 2006. The power plant has not run since 2006. Since the Discharger ceased discharging in 2006 and does not plan on discharging any more, the Discharger sent a letter

requesting a rescission. Staff inspected the facility on November 29, 2012, and concluded that the facility

- is not discharging,
- has not discharged for a long time,
- has no stockpiled woodwastes, and
- is in such a state of disrepair that it is unlikely to discharge again

COMPLIANCE HISTORY

The Water Board's CIWQS database includes the following violations for the power plant:

Description	Violation Date
Failed to submit ROWD	9/1/2002
Sulfate violation; max limit is 500 mg/L; reported value is 910 mg/L.	10/17/2002
TDS violation; max limit is 1500 mg/L; reported value is 1900 mg/L.	10/17/2002
Total Dissolved Solids violation; permit limit is 1500 mg/L; reported value is 1600 mg/L.	7/30/2003
Chloride violation; permit limit is 250 mg/L; reported value is 330 mg/L.	8/5/2003
Effluent chloride violation; permit limit is 250 mg/L; reported value is 310 mg/L.	11/19/2003
Discharge flow violation; permit limit is 120,000 gpd; reported value is 126,464 gpd over a 6 month period.	12/31/2003
Failed to submit report by 07/30/2005	7/31/2005
Failed to submit report by 01/30/2006	1/31/2006

COMMENTS

(Pending)

RECOMMENDATION

Since the power plant will not generate process wastewater, there is no need for Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 89-117. Staff recommends rescission of Waste Discharge Requirement Order No. 89-117.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Waste Discharge Requirement Order No. 89-117
2. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Order No. 89-117

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 CIWQS Place: 257675