

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

TIME SCHEDULE ORDER NO. R4-2007-XXXX

**REQUIRING THE VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 16
VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
TO UNDERTAKE ACTIONS TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN
ORDER NUMBER R4-2004-0032
(Piru Wastewater Treatment District)**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) finds:

1. Ventura County Waterworks District No. 16 (VCWWD16) owns the Piru Wastewater Treatment Plant (Plant) located at 2815 East Telegraph Road in an unincorporated area of Ventura County, California. The Plant is operated and maintained by the Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD) under contract with VCWWD16. The VCWWD16 and VRSD are both subject to the Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. R4-2004-0032 (Order), adopted by this Regional Board on January 29, 2004, and are collectively hereinafter identified as the Discharger. The Plant was originally constructed in 1974, and serves the community of Piru, which has a population of approximately 2,200.
2. Domestic and commercial (fruit washing) wastewater produced from the community of Piru is treated at the Plant. Final effluent from the Plant is discharged to groundwater through two percolation ponds under requirements contained in the Order.
3. The existing Plant can not produce a treated effluent similar in quality to that produced a by secondary wastewater treatment processes as required by the USEPA for public owned treatment works (POTWs). However, recognizing that the Discharger can not meet effluent limits for biological oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), and total nitrogen (nitrate + nitrite + ammonium + organic nitrogen) until Plant upgrades are completed, interim effluent limits are allowed for these constituents in Order No. R4-2004-0032. Also, the Order contains the provision that an exceedance of the effluent limit for chloride does not constitute a violation if the Discharger provides supporting documentation that it is caused by domestic water supply.
4. The Discharger was given from January 29, 2004, to March 30, 2007, to complete upgrade of the existing Plant and to comply with the effluent limitation contained in the Order. Order No. R4-2004-0032 also states that in the event that the proposed upgrade is delayed by events occurring beyond the Discharger's control, the Regional Board Executive Officer may, at his discretion, extend the time schedule by one time period, not to exceed six months to achieve compliance with these requirements.
5. The Discharger has decided to construct a new Plant instead of upgrading the existing Plant. The Discharger plans to construct a new Plant and decommission the existing Plant once the new Plant is in operation. The new Plant will use micro-membrane technology, will provide nitrification-denitrification capabilities, and will increase the design treatment capacity from a daily dry weather average flow of 260,000 gallons per day (gpd) of the existing Plant to up 500,000 gpd for the new Plant.

**T
E
N
T
A
T
I
V
E**

May 25, 2007
Revised June 22, 2007

6. The estimated cost of constructing the new Plant is \$9.4 million. In December 2004, the Small Communities Wastewater Grant Program (SCG) provided \$2.0 million. However, the Discharger has had difficulty obtaining the remaining \$7.4 million in funding. Several funding alternatives, including the State Revolving Fund (SRF), Certificates of Participation (HUD section 108), and the SCG, were considered. In October 2006, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff informed the Discharger that the SRF would only provide enough funding to upgrade the Plant to 330,000 gpd. However, on December 18, 2006, SWRCB staff notified the Discharger that sufficient justification for the additional requested funds had been provided and therefore the SCG would provide the funding to complete the construction of the new Plant with the design capacity of up to 500,000 gpd.
7. By a letter dated January 22, 2007, the Discharger provided to the Regional Board Executive Officer a summary of all the activities conducted toward complying with the TSO to upgrade the existing Plant and now to construct the new Plant, and difficulties encountered to fund the estimated \$9.4 million project.
8. By a letter dated March 29, 2007, the Discharger informed Regional Board staff that the new Plant construction may begin by the end of September 2007 and may be completed by February 28, 2009, and requests a time extension to February 28, 2009. The Discharger further requested authorization from the Executive Officer to approve additional extension(s) of up to one additional year beyond February 2009. The Discharger informed Regional Board staff that they were waiting for approval of the final design specification plans from the SWRCB in order to advertise for bidding the project.
9. On April 18, 2007, under authority of section D.2. of the existing Order, the Executive Officer granted a six-month time extension, until September 30, 2007, the maximum extension allowed by D.2.
10. The Order contains waste discharge influent, effluent, and receiving water requirements for the discharge of wastes from the existing wastewater treatment Plant. Recognizing that the Discharger can not meet the effluent limitations of Section B.1. of the Order until plant upgrades are completed, interim effluent limitations are allowed as follows. The interim period is the period from January 29, 2004 (date of adoption of the Order No. R4-2004-0032) to the date of the completion of the Plant upgrade or by March 30, 2007, whichever is sooner. During this interim period, the Discharger shall comply immediately with the following interim limits for BOD₅, suspended solids, and nitrogen:

**T
E
N
T
A
T
I
V
E**

<u>Effluent Limitations Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>¹	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>²
BOD ₅	mg/L	---	76
Suspended solids	mg/L	---	72
Ammonia plus Nitrate Plus Nitrite plus Organic Nitrogen as nitrogen	mg/L	---	39

¹ mg/L: milligrams per liter

² Interim effluent limits were derived statistically using effluent monitoring data obtained from February 10, 2000 to February 6, 2003. Effluent values are assumed to be normally distributed. Interim effluent limits are determined using the 95th percentile.

Thereafter, the Discharger shall comply with the final limitations specified in Section B.1. of the Order.

11. Effluent limits in Section B.1 of the existing Order were based upon the existing wastewater treatment Plant technology which can produce a treated effluent similar in quality to that produced a by secondary wastewater treatment processes as required by the USEPA for public owned treatment works (POTWs). The new micro-membrane technology that will be used by the new Plant will provide an effluent of better quality. Therefore, new waste discharge requirements (new Order) will be required for the future new Plant to incorporate new findings describing the new process, new prohibitions, new provisions, new influent and effluent limitations.
12. The Discharger indicated that the new Plant will produce an effluent for BOD of less than 10 mg/L, TSS of equal or less than 5 mg/L, and total nitrogen of equal or less than 8 mg/L.
13. The Regional Board is adopting this Time Schedule Order (TSO) to allow the Discharger time to construct the new wastewater treatment Plant and will allow the Discharger to meet the above-listed interim limitations within the timeframe specified herein without being in violation of the existing Order.
14. California Water Code section 13300 states:

“Whenever a regional board finds that a discharge of waste is taking place or threatening to take place that violates or will violate requirements prescribed by the regional board, or the state board, or that the waste collection, treatment, or disposal facilities of a discharger are approaching capacity, the board may require the discharger to submit for approval of the board, with such modifications as it may deem necessary, a detailed time schedule of specific actions the discharger shall take in order to correct or prevent a violation of requirements.”

**T
E
N
T
A
T
I
V
E**

15. California Water Code section 13263(c) also provides for a time schedule to meet the requirements of the Order.
16. The Discharger will be required to submit a new report of waste discharge within 90 days from adoption of this TSO for the new Plant. The new Order is required for discharge from the new Plant. Once the new plant is in operation, the existing Plant will be decommissioned and the existing Order rescinded.
17. This action is being taken for the existing facility and, as such, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301.
18. The Regional Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to issue a TSO for this discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their views and recommendations for the TSO.
19. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the TSO.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, the Discharger, Ventura County Waterworks District No. 16 and Ventura Regional Sanitation District, shall comply with the following requirements in conjunction with the wastewater treatment and disposal operations at the existing Plant:

1. By February 28, 2009, the Discharger shall complete construction, startup activities, and testing of the new Plant, to achieve full compliance with all effluent limitations contained in new Order.
2. The Discharger shall submit quarterly and annual progress reports for the project activities outlined in the time schedule below in conjunction with self-monitoring reports required under Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-5714. The first progress report is due on October 15, 2007:

<u>Reporting Period</u>	<u>Report Due</u>
January - March	April 15
April - June	July 15
July - September	October 15
October - December	January 15

3. In the event that the proposed construction of the new Plant is delayed by events occurring which are beyond the Discharger's control, the Regional Board Executive Officer may, at their discretion, extend the time schedule by two time periods, not to exceed six months each, to complete construction and start up of the new Plant and achieve full compliance with the new Order.

T
E
N
T
A
T
I
V
E

4. The Discharger shall submit a new report of waste discharge requirement within 90 days from adoption of this TSO for the new Plant. The discharger of wastewater from the new Plant shall be in compliance with the new Waste Discharge Requirement.
5. Should the Discharger fail to comply with any provision of this Order, the Executive Officer may issue an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint pursuant to California Water Code section 13323. The Regional Board may also refer the case to the Attorney General for injunction and civil monetary remedies pursuant to appropriate California Water Code sections such as 13350.

I, Deborah J. Smith, Interim Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Time Schedule Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on September 6, 2007.

Deborah J. Smith
Interim Executive Officer

**T
E
N
T
A
T
I
V
E**