



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

23 December 2015

WDID: 5A040115001

Randy Hodges
Paradise Unified School District
6696 Clark Rd
Paradise, CA 95969

CERTIFIED MAIL:
7015 1660 0000 2319 3189

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA), WATER QUALITY ORDER 2014-0153-R5196, PINE RIDGE SCHOOL, BUTTE COUNTY

In December 2015 Paradise Pines Elementary School, now known as Pine Ridge School (hereafter "Discharger"), responded with information pertaining to the Central Valley Regional Water Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff's request for updated information for the domestic wastewater treatment and disposal system at their facility in Butte County.

Based on a site inspection conducted on 2 December 2015, the facility treats and disposes of less than 100,000 gallons of wastewater per day, and is therefore eligible for coverage under the general and specific conditions of State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). This letter serves as formal notice that the General Order is applicable to your facility and the wastewater discharge described below. You are hereby assigned General Order 2014-0153-R5196 for your facility.

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclosed with this letter, which prescribes mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached *Monitoring and Reporting Program* (MRP). This MRP was developed after consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached *Technical Memorandum*.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) 85-100 were adopted for this facility by the Central Valley Water Board on 31 May 1985. A Monitoring and Reporting Program was adopted on 27 November 1989 requiring a minimum of annual septic tank inspections and quarterly visual monitoring of the treatment system and leach field area for signs of failure.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Discharger operates the wastewater treatment facility located north of Paradise in Section 35, Township 23 North, Range 3 East, MDB&M in Butte County. The wastewater treatment system is comprised of an anaerobic septic system and two alternating leach lines. The location is shown in Attachment A of this letter.

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PAMELA C. CREEDON P.E., BCCE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

This is an existing facility; therefore enrollment under the General Order is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 which applies to ongoing or existing projects.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger will maintain exclusive control over the discharge, and shall comply with the terms and conditions of this NOA and the General Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5196, with all attachments.

Additionally the General Order states in Section B.1.L that the discharger shall comply with the setbacks as described in Table 3. This table summarizes different setback requirements for wastewater system equipment, activities, and storage and/or treatment ponds from sensitive receptors and property lines where applicable. The Discharger shall comply with the following applicable setback requirements as summarized in the following table.

Site Specific Applicable Setback Requirements¹					
Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit, Treatment System, or Collection System	150 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
Leach Field	100 ft.	100 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.

¹ Setbacks established by the California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 60310(d).

Failure to comply with the requirements in the documents could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, you must submit a new Report of Waste Discharge describing the new operation.

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by the General Order ceases, so that we may terminate coverage and avoid unnecessary billing.

The Central Valley Water Board has gone to a Paperless Office System. All regulatory documents, MRPs, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyredding@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disc and mailed to the appropriate regional water board office, in this case 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Randy Hodges
Pine Ridge School

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23 December 2015

Program: Non-15
Facility Name: Pine Ridge School

WDID: 5A040115001
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5196

Please note that WDRs Order No. 85-100 is proposed to be rescinded at the 18/19 February 2016 meeting of the Central Valley Water Board. Upon rescission of your individual WDRs, coverage for your facility under the General Order shall become applicable subject to this Notice of Applicability.

If you have any questions regarding submitting an updated report of waste discharge, making changes to your permitted operations, compliance or enforcement please contact Monique Gaido at (530) 224-4205, monique.gaido@waterboards.ca.gov, or the footer address.



(for) Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

MG:reb

Attachments: Paradise Elementary School Wastewater Treatment Facility Location Map
Technical Memorandum
Monitoring and Reporting Program
Monitoring and Reporting Form
General Order No. 2014-0153-DWQ

cc w/o encls: Butte County Environmental Health Department, Oroville
Gordon Innes, State Water Board, Sacramento
Patrick Pulupa, SWRCB, Office of Chief Counsel, Sacramento

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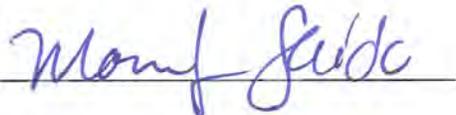
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

TO: George Low, PG
Senior Engineering Geologist

FROM: Monique Gaido, PG
Engineering Geologist

DATE: 23 December 2015

SIGNATURE: 

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF NITRATE AND SETBACK CONDITIONS FOR PINE RIDGE SCHOOL, BUTTE COUNTY

I have reviewed the case file and the 2 December 2015 Inspection Report for Paradise Pines Elementary School, now known as Pine Ridge School. The Report assesses the general condition of the wastewater treatment system, the lift station and the leach field. The Discharger has kept adequate maintenance documentation and all treatment and collection infrastructure appears in good order. The current permit did not include a Monitoring and Reporting Program, but one was adopted on 27 November 1989 which required annual septic tank inspections and quarterly visual inspections of the treatment system and leach field areas.

The Inspection Report identified that minimal reporting has occurred, but the Discharger has expressed a willingness to comply with future monitoring and reporting requirements. The Discharger reported a pipe blockage which occurred in 2013 and was repaired promptly. Agency staff informed the Discharger that such occurrences must be self-reported to the Agency when they occur for documentation and assessment of response measures.

Potential Threats to Water Quality

The wastewater treatment system is located in the southwestern portion of the main facility, approximately 45 feet from the western property line. The closest potable water well is 500 feet northwest of the leach field. Local topography and soils indicate the depth to groundwater is greater than 50 feet below ground surface (bgs). This is far greater than the minimum required depth to groundwater of 5 feet (Table 5) which corresponds with the maximum estimated percolation rate of 50 minutes per inch (MPI) presented in the WDR Finding (7). Completion of the Nitrate Checklist in Attachment 1 of Order 2014-0153-DWQ indicates the following flow and rationale:

A1 Exceed 20,000 gpd? No.
Wastewater flow generally is less than 6,500 gpd.

Conclusion: No nitrogen removal is required.

Monitoring Requirements

To protect water quality, General Order monitoring requirements will be sufficient. In summary, Staff recommends monthly reporting of the average daily flow rate, visual inspections of the leach field for evidence of soil saturation or ponding, excessive weed growth or burrowing animals, and annual inspections of the septic tank, pumps and lift stations. For convenience, a sample Monitoring and Reporting Form is enclosed with the General Order. These results will be reported quarterly by the first day of the second month after the quarter ends (e.g. January-March report is due by May 1st).

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5196

FOR

PINE RIDGE SCHOOL

BUTTE COUNTY

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a wastewater treatment system. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The Discharger shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) Executive Officer.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Regional Water Boards are transitioning to the paperless office system. In some regions, Dischargers will be directed to submit reports (both technical and monitoring reports) to the State Water Board's GeoTracker database over the Internet in portable document format (pdf). In addition, analytical data shall be uploaded to the GeoTracker database under a site-specific global identification number. Information on the GeoTracker database is provided on the Internet at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/index.shtml

Water Code section 13267 states, in part:

"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."

Water Code section 13268 states, in part:

"(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of section 13399.2, or falsifying any information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.”

The Discharger owns and operates the wastewater system that is subject to the Notice of Applicability (NOA) of Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ. The reports are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order. Pursuant to Water Code section 13267, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to who samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Regional Water Board staff.

Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by a State Water Board California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program certified laboratory, or:

1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
3. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.

SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL AREA

Subsurface disposal areas may be configured many different ways (e.g. traditional leach field, pressure-dosed, drip system, mound/at grade, gravel less, etc.). In general, monitoring shall be sufficient to determine if wastewater is evenly applied, the disposal area is not saturated, burrowing animals and/or deep rooted plants are not present, and odors are not present. Inspection of dosing pump controllers, automatic distribution valves, etc. is required to maintain optimum treatment in the disposal area (and any sand or media filter if present). Monitoring shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Constituent	Inspection Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Pump Controllers, Automatic Valves, etc. ^a	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nuisance Odor Condition	Quarterly	Quarterly
Saturated Soil Conditions ^b	Quarterly	Quarterly
Plant Growth ^c	Quarterly	Quarterly
Vectors or Animal Burrowing ^d	Quarterly	Quarterly
Seepage Pit Condition ^e	Quarterly	Quarterly

- ^{a.} All pump controllers and automatic distribution valves shall be inspected for proper operation as recommended by the manufacturer.
- ^{b.} Inspect a disposal area for saturated conditions. If a mound system is used, inspect perimeter base for signs of wastewater seepage or saturated soil conditions.
- ^{c.} Shallow-rooted plants are generally desirable, deep-rooted plants such as trees shall be removed as necessary.
- ^{d.} Evidence of animals burrowing shall be immediately investigated and burrowing animal populations controlled as necessary.
- ^{e.} Seepage pits shall be inspected to ensure they are allowing wastewater to infiltrate as designed. Visual inspection of the water level in the seepage pit is adequate.

SEPTIC TANK MONITORING

Monitoring of septic tank shall include the following:

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow Rate	gpd	Metered ^a	Continuous	Annually

gpd denotes gallons per day.

- ^{a.} Flow rate may be metered or estimated based on potable water supply meter readings or other approved method.

Septic tanks shall be inspected and/or pumped at least as frequently as described below. Inspections of sludge and scum depth are not required if the tanks are pumped at least annually.

Parameter	Units	Measurement Type	Inspection/Reporting Frequency
Sludge depth and scum thickness in each compartment of each tank	Feet	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Effluent filter condition (if equipped, clean as needed)	NA	NA	Annually

NA denotes not applicable.

Septic tanks shall be pumped when any one of the following conditions exists:

1. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one-third of the tank depth of the first compartment.
2. The scum layer is within 3 inches of the outlet device.
3. The sludge layer is within 8 inches of the outlet device.

If a septic tank is pumped during the year, the pumping report shall be submitted with the annual report. All pumping reports shall be submitted with the next regularly scheduled monitoring report. At a minimum, the record shall include the date, nature of service, service company name, and service company license number.

SOLIDS DISPOSAL MONITORING

The Discharger shall report the handling and disposal of all solids (e.g., screenings, grit, sludge, biosolids, etc.) generated at the wastewater system. Records shall include the name/contact information for the hauling company, the type and amount of waste transported, the date removed from the wastewater system, the disposal facility name and address, and copies of analytical data required by the entity accepting the waste. These records shall be submitted as part of the annual monitoring report.

REPORTING

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, solids, etc.), and reported analytical or visual inspection results are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate compliance with the General Order and NOA as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the MRP shall be reported in the next regularly scheduled monitoring report and shall be included in calculations as appropriate.

During the life of this General Order, the State Water Board or Regional Water Board may require the Discharger to electronically submit monitoring reports using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) program Internet web site or alternative database. Electronic submittal procedures will be provided when directed to begin electronic submittals. Until directed to electronically submit monitoring reports, the Discharger shall submit hard copy monitoring reports.

A. Quarterly Monitoring Reports

Quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board on the **first day of the second month after the quarter ends** (e.g. the January-March Quarterly Report is due by May 1st). The reports shall bear the certification and signature of the Discharger's authorized representative. At a minimum, the quarterly reports shall include:

1. Results of all required monitoring.
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the discharge specifications, applicable effluent limits, disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements. (Data shall be presented in tabular format.)
3. If requested by staff, copies of laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).

B. Annual Report

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board by **March 1st following the monitoring year**. The Annual Report shall include the following:

1. Tabular and graphical summaries of all monitoring data collected during the year.
2. An evaluation of the performance of the wastewater treatment facility, including discussion of capacity issues, nuisance conditions, system problems, and a forecast of the flows anticipated in the next year. A flow rate evaluation as described in the General Order (Provision E.2.c) shall also be submitted.
3. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into compliance with the NOA and/or General Order.
4. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
5. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring.

A letter transmitting the monitoring reports shall accompany each report. The letter shall report violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned to correct the violations and prevent future violations. The transmittal letter shall contain the following penalty of perjury statement and shall be signed by the Discharger or the Discharger's authorized agent:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of the those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring program as of the date of this MRP.

Ordered by:



PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer



(Date)