



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

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9 January 2009

Mr. David W. Ferguson
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CERTIFIED MAIL
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081; DEWATERING AND OTHER LOW THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS; UPPER NORTHWEST INTERCEPTOR (UNWI) PIPELINE, SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 28 August 2008 from the Traylor-Shea Joint Venture (Discharger) for the UNWI Project. Based on the information in the submittal, we have determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (General Order No. R5-2008-0081). This project is hereby assigned General Order No. R5-2008-0081-020 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001.

CALIFORNIA TOXIC RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY SAMPLING

General Order No. R5-2008-0081 (enclosed) prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order and with the information submitted in the NOI. This General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), Implementation of Toxic Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP). Screening levels for CTR constituents or Priority Pollutants are found in Attachment B of General Order No. R5-2008-0081.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The UNWI Project consists of installation of a 144-inch diameter interceptor sewer constructed by the Discharger for the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD). The interceptor begins at the SRCSD New Natomas Pump Station on the north side of Interstate 80 and west of Truxel Road in North Natomas. The interceptor ranges in depth to top-of-pipe from approximately 30 feet to 17 feet and is adjacent to the East Drainage Canal for the entire 3.7 mile length of the Project, crossing under the Canal once at about 1.4 miles from the start.

California Environmental Protection Agency

The pipe is installed in-situ by a specialized earth pressure balance tunnel boring machine (TBM) that enables the pipe to be installed from the rear of the TBM as it bores forward. The Project also includes two short pipe connections of about 150 feet at manhole 1-10 and 90 feet at manhole 1-12 to tie the new pipeline into existing sewers.

This General Order provides coverage for the discharges described below. Dewatering is required of the access shaft while the TBM is being assembled and during tunneling operations. This water is discharged under a sewer discharge permit from the SRCSD. The tunnel boring process produces a small amount of water which is also pumped to the SRCSD. Coverage for this discharge will be used as a contingency plan in the event the current discharge to the sewer is suspended. The two pipe segments to connect the new pipeline to the existing sewer will be conventional open trench construction which will require dewatering and discharge. The construction of these two segments are of relatively short duration and are expected to produce up to 1,000 gallons per minute for up to 60 days each.

All discharges covered by this General Order will be to the East Drainage Canal. Prior to discharge, the water will flow through a compartmented settling tank and monitored for pH. The coverage for the discharges will be necessary until project completion scheduled for August 2010.

REPORTING

Quarterly Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board by the first day of the second month following each calendar quarter. Reporting requirements are found in Attachment E.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger will be required to follow their Pollution Prevention and Monitoring and Reporting Plan. Effluent and receiving water monitoring of this dewatering/low threat discharge shall be conducted and submitted to the Regional Water Board, quarterly, until completion of the project. The Regional Water Board shall be notified immediately if any violation, nuisance or detriment to the receiving water is observed during implementation of the project.

Failure to comply with the conditions of the Effluent Limitations and Receiving Water Monitoring found in the General Order No. R5-2008-0081 could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of material other than what is described in the NOI is prohibited.

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Board) shall be submitted until this Notice of Applicability is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing when the project has been completed and the discharge is no longer necessary, so we may terminate applicability of this General Order.

Effective January 2004, any NPDES effluent monitoring report received more than 30 days after its due date is subject to a \$3,000 Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) [Water Code Section 13385]. An additional \$3,000 MMP is required for each additional 30 days a report is late. If you have no discharge, you must still submit a report indicating that no discharge occurred, or you will be subject to the MMP.

If you have any question or comments regarding this notification, please contact David Kirn at (916) 464-4761 or at dwkirn@waterboards.ca.gov.


for PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2008-0081

cc: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento
Mr. Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento
Ms. Susan Kelly, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Rancho Cordova