



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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23 December 2010

Mr. Chris Nelson
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
San Joaquin Regional Project Manager
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LOW THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081; SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, PELICAN CROSSOVER PROJECT, STANISLAUS COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 27 October 2010 from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) (Discharger) for the Pelican Crossover Project. Based on the information in the NOI, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Low Threat General Order). This project is hereby assigned Low Threat General Order No. R5-2008-0081-089 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001. Please reference the unique Order No. R5-2008-0081-089 in all future correspondence and documents.

The Low Threat General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2008-0081.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Low Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA, the Low Threat General Order, and with the information submitted by the Discharger.

CALIFORNIA TOXIC RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Low Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for 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 are found in Attachment B of the Low Threat General Order. Review of your water quality data in comparison to the CTR screening values, showed no reasonable potential to impact the San Joaquin River.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Discharger is proposing to discharge groundwater associated with the construction of a new valve facility, the Pelican Crossover, to the existing San Joaquin Pipelines located two miles south of Highway 132 and west of the San Joaquin River. The project includes the installation of 10.3 miles of new 78-inch pipeline from the San Joaquin River to the Tesla Portal on the western side of the San Joaquin River, 6.7 miles of 78-inch pipeline from the Oakdale Portal to Pipeline No. 3 located on the eastern side of the San Joaquin River, and the hydrostatic testing of the new pipelines. The project also includes the placement of 10 valves near Emery Road and 12 valves near Pelican Road.

The estimated flow will be 0.2 million gallons per day for a period of three months.

The groundwater will be discharged into near-by agricultural ditches that are tributaries of the San Joaquin River.

Discharge of groundwater from Monitoring Well PZ-11 and PZ-2 will not be covered under this Low Threat Permit as lab data shows diesel concentrations to be at 56 ppb and 57ppb respectively, unless the Discharger can prove cross contamination or lab error occurred.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

All Dischargers must notify Central Valley Water Board staff 24 hours before the start of each new discharge, as soon as noncompliance is anticipated, and when the discharge ceases.

Effluent and receiving water analytical monitoring shall be conducted and the results submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis unless specified otherwise. The Discharger must submit quarterly reports, as described in Attachment E, Section X, even if there is no discharge or receiving water flow during the reporting quarter, until the Discharger formally requests that coverage under this Order be terminated.

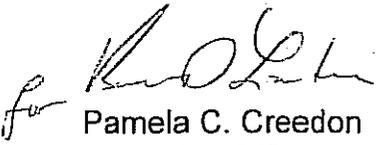
GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until the discharge is terminated. The Discharger must notify the Central Valley Water Board in writing if the discharge regulated by this Low Threat General Order is no longer necessary, so we may terminate applicability of this Low Threat General Order and avoid additional and unnecessary billing.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Low Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. Late reports are subject to an MMP of \$3,000 per each period of 30 days late. If you have no discharge during a quarterly monitoring period, you must still submit a report indicating that no discharge occurred, or you may be subject to MMPs.

All monitoring report submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Spencer Joplin at (916) 464-4660 or sjoplin@waterboards.ca.gov. Questions regarding the permitting aspects of this Low Threat General Order, and requests for termination of coverage under this Order, may be directed to Mike Negrete at (916) 464-4662 or mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov.


for Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2008-0081 (Discharger only)

cc: Mr. Dave Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco
Mr. Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento