

ITEM: 12

SUBJECT: Burney Forest Power, Sawmill and Cogeneration Facility, Shasta County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal*

BACKGROUND: Burney Forest Power sawmill and cogeneration plant (hereinafter Facility) is owned and operated by separate entities. The cogeneration plant is owned by Burney Forest Products, a Joint Venture, a California partnership comprised of Forest Products LP and Burney Biomass Power LLC. North American Energy Services Company currently operates the cogeneration plant under contract with the owner. Fruitgrowers Supply Company owns the cogeneration plant and sawmill property (Assessor's Parcel Nos. 030-040-014 and 030-040-023) at 35586 Highway 299 E. in Burney, CA, on which the Facility is located. Burney Forest Products leases the property from Fruitgrowers Supply Company. Shasta Green, Inc. owns and operates a sawmill located on the property and sub leases the property from Burney Forest Products. Together Burney Forest Products, North American Energy Services, Shasta Green, Inc., and Fruitgrowers Supply Company are hereinafter referred to as the Discharger.

The Facility discharges storm water to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States, and is currently regulated by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit No. 5-00-257 which was adopted on 8 December 2000 and expired on 1 December 2005. The terms and conditions of the current NPDES permit have been automatically continued and remain in effect until new Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES permit are adopted pursuant to this Order.

The cogeneration plant consists of a wood fuel storage area, boiler, generator, transmission system, cooling tower, equipment fueling and maintenance, aboveground petroleum storage, chemical, and waste storage, paved and unpaved roadways, laboratory, and office. The primary fuel source for the cogeneration plant is wood waste from the sawmill and off-site sources; natural gas is used as a supplementary fuel for startup and flame stabilization for the cogeneration plant's boilers.

The Sawmill operation consists of log scaling, wet and dry log storage, mechanical log debarking, sawmill, planning mill, kilns, lumber storage, aboveground petroleum storage area, equipment fueling and maintenance, paved and unpaved roadways, and an office. Wood waste from the sawmill is delivered to the cogeneration plant by conveyor.

First flush process water from the log deck sprinkling operation is retained onsite in a lined pond. Subsequent storm water runoff from the log deck area, and general industrial storm water from the rest of the site, is discharged from a storm water retention pond at Discharge Point SW-001 to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States, a tributary to Burney Creek in the Sacramento River Basin.

Storm water discharges could be regulated under the existing State Water Board general industrial storm water permit (Order No. 97-03-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001). However, due to the complexity of the Facility, and the specific threat to water quality from log deck discharges, the Regional Water Board has elected to regulate this Facility with an individual NPDES permit.

Applicable water quality objectives and criteria have been implemented as receiving water limitations, and are also utilized as benchmark values to evaluate the effectiveness of Best Management Practices (BMPs).

ISSUES: This item is uncontested at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review \_\_\_\_\_

21/22 June 2007  
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