
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706

PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

**PROPOSED ORDER
RESCISSION OF CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R5-2006-0064
EXXONMOBIL PRODUCTION COMPANY
HILL LEASE, SOUTH BELRIDGE OIL FIELD
KERN COUNTY**

ExxonMobil Production Company owns and operates four unlined surface impoundments on the Hill Lease in the South Belridge Oil Field, Kern County. Non-hazardous oilfield production wastewater and filter backwash water have been discharged since the 1950's to the impoundments for disposal by evaporation and percolation.

Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2004-0080 (WDRs) prescribes requirements and contains a time schedule requiring ExxonMobil to implement a wastewater disposal plan in compliance with state regulations and policy and to cease the discharge of wastewater to the impoundments by 30 June 2006.

On 27 February 2006, ExxonMobil notified Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff that additional time, past the 30 June 2006 compliance date, was needed to implement the wastewater disposal plan and cease the wastewater discharge. Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2006-0064 (CDO), adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 23 June 2006, required ExxonMobil to implement a wastewater disposal plan and cease the discharge of wastewater to the impoundments by 31 December 2006. The CDO also required ExxonMobil to submit by 28 February 2007, a technical report with the final results of a hydrogeologic investigation that began in 2002 and a groundwater corrective action plan. ExxonMobil completed all tasks identified in the CDO by the compliance dates.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting which is scheduled for:

DATES: 13/14 August 2009
TIME 8:30 am
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Central Valley Water Board staff
- ExxonMobil Production Company staff

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are

interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Central Valley Water Board staff no later than **5:00 PM on 20 July 2009**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item must submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Central Valley Water Board staff no later than **5:00 PM on 20 July 2009**. Written testimony, evidence, or comments submitted after **5:00 PM on 20 July 2009** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party. The noticed hearing will address only the proposed order rescinding the CDO and accordingly only testimony, evidence, or comments concerning the proposed rescission will be considered.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Central Valley Water Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Central Valley Water Board Chair.

Anyone having questions on the proposed Order should contact Douglas Wachtell at (559) 445-5114. Interested parties may download the proposed Order from the Central Valley Water Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders. Copies of the documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 1685 E St., Fresno, California 93706, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The procedures governing Central Valley Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and is available upon request. Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code Section 11500 et seq. The procedures are available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is available on the Central Valley Water Board's website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml or by contacting any one of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring this information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original Signed by

CLAY RODGERS, Senior Engineering Geologist

24 June 2009