

ITEM: 21

SUBJECT: Hathaway, LLC, Reuse of Oil Field Production Wastewater for Irrigation, Kern County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of: A. Resolution Adopting a Negative Declaration and Approving an Initial Study, and B. Resolution Adopting a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements and a Monitoring and Reporting Program*

BACKGROUND: Hathaway proposes to reuse good quality oil field production wastewater for irrigation purposes. Wastewater will be piped to an irrigation reservoir on the Concordia Ranch, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile southwest of the Lease, where approximately 120 acres of citrus are farmed and irrigated by groundwater from an irrigation well on the Ranch. During the months of February through November, approximately 3.5 acre-feet of water per day are applied as irrigation. The wastewater (7%) and groundwater (93%) will be blended in an existing irrigation reservoir. Use of the reclaimed wastewater may reduce the amount of groundwater currently used for irrigation on the Ranch by approximately 70 acre-feet-per-year. When irrigation is not needed, wastewater will be discharged to a Class II injection well on the Lease permitted by the California Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources. The Kern River Formation is the principle groundwater aquifer. The produced wastewater meets Basin Plan oilfield numerical limitations and is similar in character, but of slightly lower quality than groundwater produced from the Ranch irrigation water supply well. Based on weighted average calculations, the quality of the blended irrigation water will not cause degradation of underlying groundwater. The reuse of good quality wastewater is consistent with water reclamation policy.

ISSUES No comments were received.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed resolutions

Mgmt. Review_____

Legal Review_____

13 October 2011
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