

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

**RENEWAL OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
AND
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
(NPDES NO. CA0081759)
AND
TENTATIVE TIME SCHEDULE ORDER R5-2011-0906 RESCISSION
FOR
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
EL PORTAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MARIPOSA COUNTY**

The U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park (hereafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the El Portal Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility), which serves the Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park and the unincorporated community of El Portal. The Facility is in El Portal at 5083 Foresta Road. The Facility consists of preliminary treatment (bar screening, grit removal, and grinders), primary treatment (primary clarification followed by a flow equalization basin), secondary treatment (activated sludge and secondary clarification), tertiary treatment (coagulation, flocculation, tube settling, and sand filtration, and ultraviolet light disinfection). Disinfected tertiary-treated wastewater is discharged from the Facility to the Merced River either directly or via percolation ponds adjacent to the Merced River. Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2008-0060 currently regulates the discharge of disinfected tertiary-treated wastewater to the Merced River.

On 15 September 2011, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Central Valley Water Board) Executive Officer issued Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906 to provide the Discharger an interim copper effluent limitation and time schedule to fully implement additional control measures specified in plans submitted by the Discharger, or take other actions to come into compliance with average monthly final effluent limitation for copper contained in Order R5-2008-0060. The Discharger has achieved compliance by completing all the tasks in Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906 and has demonstrated the ability, through monitoring, to comply with the proposed effluent limits for copper in the tentative WDRs/NPDES Permit for the Facility. Therefore, Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906 is no longer needed.

The Central Valley Water Board will consider both the adoption of the WDRs renewing the NPDES Permit and the rescission of Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906. The proposed WDRs/NPDES Permit includes final effluent limitations for flow, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), BOD and TSS removal, pH, ammonia, copper, total phosphorus, nitrite plus nitrate (as N), total coliform organisms, zinc, and acute whole effluent toxicity.

A public hearing concerning these matters will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 5/6 June 2014
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

The designated party for this hearing is as follows:

- U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Designated parties, but not interested persons will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. Central Valley Water Board staff will prepare the administrative record, and may present evidence, make an oral presentation, and cross-examine opposing witnesses.

Interested persons may not cross-examine witnesses and will not be subject to cross-examination. Interested persons may submit evidence (e.g., photographs, eyewitness testimony, monitoring data) if the evidence is submitted in accordance with the deadlines for submitting evidence described below. Interested persons who present evidence may be subject to cross-examination. 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 no later than **5 May 2014**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and, in particular, how the person is affected by the discharge.

The tentative WDRs/NPDES and tentative Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906 were issued on 3 April 2014. Persons wishing to comment on these hearing items must submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Central Valley Water Board no later than **5 p.m. on 5 May 2014**. Testimony, evidence, and/or written comments submitted after **5 p.m. on 5 May 2014** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record absent a ruling by the Board Chair. A party requesting to submit late materials must demonstrate good cause for the late submission, and the Board Chair must find that the late submission would not prejudice the Central Valley Water Board or any designated party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Central Valley Water Board hearing and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross-examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair. Both designated parties and interested persons may be asked to respond to clarifying questions from Board members, counsel staff, or others at the discretion of the Central Valley Water Board.

Anyone having questions regarding the tentative WDRs/NPDES Permit or tentative Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906 Rescission should contact Mr. Alex Mushegan at (559) 488-4397 or at Alexander.Mushegan@waterboards.ca.gov. Interested parties may download the tentative WDRs/NPDES Permit or tentative Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906 Rescission and related documents from the Central Valley Water Board's Internet website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/. Copies of these documents may also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 1685 "E" Street, Fresno, California 93706, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The final Central Valley Water Board meeting agenda will be available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/index.shtml#2014 at least ten days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the dates the hearing will be held, will indicate the

anticipated order of agenda items, and may include staff revisions to the tentative WDRs/NPDES Permit and tentative Time Schedule Order R5-2011-0906.

The procedures governing Central Valley Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also 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-Rizzarda 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-Rizzarda 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 the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original signed by:

24 March 2014

CLAY L. RODGERS, Assistant Executive Officer