CALIFORNIA
Water Boards

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

MAY 3 1 2012

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND AGENCIES:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT CA0102695, BOARD ORDER NUMBER R6T-2008-0022, FOR THE SUSANVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, LASSEN COUNTY (WDID: 6A181554001)

Enclosed is a proposed amendment to the above cited Board Order for the Susanville Sanitary District's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination system permit for the wastewater treatment facility. The Water Board is opening up the permit on a limited basis for a minor modification to change the location where the District will be required to sample for total coliforms. These changes are proposed are to allow for a new compliance point for coliform due to a new disinfection treatment process. The Water Board requests you review the Proposed Order Amendment and provide your written comments no later than **July 2, 2012**. Comments received after that date may not be considered in preparation for the final proposed Order to be presented to the Water Board for consideration at the public meeting to be held on **July 11 & 12, 2012,** in the Water Board Annex Board Room located at 971 Silver Dollar Ave, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. At the meeting, interested persons may provide testimony limited to the proposed amendment.

Approximately 10 to 15 days prior to each meeting, the Water Board publishes its agenda on the Internet at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/. If you prefer to receive a hard copy of the Water Board meeting agenda, please contact Rob Tucker at (530) 542-5467.

If you need further information regarding this matter, please contact our office.

Robert Tucker
Water Resources Control Engineer

Enclosures: Proposed Board Order

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ORDER NO. R6T-2008-0022-A01(PROPOSED)
NPDES NO. CA0102695
WDID 6A181554001

AMENDMENT TO WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SUSANVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGES TO THE JENSEN SLOUGH VIA OUTFALL 001, LASSEN COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) finds that:

1. Discharger

The following Discharger is authorized to discharge in accordance with the conditions set forth in Order R6T-2008-0022 and as revised in this Order:

Discharger	**Susanville Sanitary District**
Name of Facility	**Wastewater Treatment Plant**
Facility Address	**476-200 Paul Bunyan Road**
	Susanville, CA 96130
	Lassen County
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Lahontan Water Board) have classified this discharge as a major discharge.	

2. History and Reason for Action

The Susanville Sanitary District (the Discharger) has had a history of violations for total coliform bacteria (bacteria) and residual chlorine being discharged under the Board Order No. R6T-2008-0022. The Facility's chlorine disinfection process has not consistently met the bacteria and residual chlorine effluent limits. The bacteria effluent limits must be met at the end of the disinfection process, the chlorine contact chamber. The bacteria limits are in terms of the most probable number (MPN) of bacterial colonies, currently of 23 MPN per 100 milliliters (mL) using the last seven days and not to exceed 240 MPN per 100 mL in more than one sample per 30 days. The residual chlorine effluent limit currently must be met after the effluent has travelled through polishing ponds and a wetland just

prior to be being discharged. The residual chlorine limit at the discharge point is a monthly average of 0.01 mg/L or an instantaneous maximum of 0.02 mg/L.

The chlorine contact chamber has been considered by the Discharger to be part of the problem in meeting the bacteria and residual chlorine limits. The chlorine contact chamber, which is a 48-inch-diameter pipe approximately two hundred yards in length, is supposed to provide time for the chlorine to destroy the bacteria in the treated wastewater. However, the chlorine contact chamber does not provide adequate contact and mixing of the chlorine to prevent bacteria regrowth. Additionally, there are several surface openings in the contact chambers that could allow for deposition of new bacteria from the ambient environment. To prevent bacteria growth, the chlorine dosing has been very high to get the proper disinfection. The high dosing has resulted in residual chlorine above the effluent limits after passing through holding ponds and wetlands that are intended to provide dechlorination.

To resolve the disinfection process problems, the Discharger upgraded the Facility by installing an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system to replace the chlorine disinfection process. In addition to the new UV disinfection system, the Discharger has installed a traveling bridge filter. This filter was installed to further lower the turbidity and increase the light transmittance to improve disinfection effectiveness. The Discharger proposes to discharge from the UV disinfection system to the chlorine contact chamber to convey the treated effluent to the wetland or to the discharge outfall. The chlorine disinfection system will be maintained as a backup system while thorough testing is conducted and in case there is a problem with the UV disinfection system.

The current compliance point for total coliform at the end of the chlorine contact chamber has the Discharger concerned that bacteria could affect their treated wastewater after the UV disinfection system. The contact chamber conditions could allow for bacteria growth not associated with the wastewater source and could provide false indication that the disinfection system is not functioning.

Therefore, the Discharger has requested to change the point of compliance for total coliform to after the UV disinfection system.

3. Basis to Reopen the Permit

The Discharger requested the point of compliance for the coliform effluent limit be relocated from the end of the chlorine contact chamber to the point the UV disinfection system discharges into the chlorine contact chamber. This request requires altering the current NPDES permit, which requires a public notice and Water Board approval. Reopening the Permit is authorized in the Permit at Standard Provisions, section II.A.

4. California Environmental Quality Act

This action to amend an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with Section 13389 of the California Water Code (CWC).

5. Notice to Interested Parties and Public Notice

The Water Board has notified the Discharger and all known interested parties and persons of its intent to amend the Order. A public notice was placed in the Lassen County Times on XXXX

6. Consideration of Comments

The Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this Order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Board Order No. R6T-2008-0022 incorporate the following changes of this amending Order No. R6T-2008-0022-A01(proposed):

1 Change to Attachment B, page B-1 of Order No. R6T-2008-0022; the new page will read as identified in Attachment B to this Order that now identifies the Discharge Point EFF-002 from the UV disinfection system.

2 Change to Attachment C2, page C-2 of Order No. R6T-2008-0022; the new page will read as identified in Attachment C2 to this Order that now identifies the Discharge Point EFF-002 from the UV disinfection system, renames the old EFF-002 as EFF-002-CL for when the chlorine system is in use, and identifies discharge point EFF-001.

3 Change to Table E-1, page E-5, of Order No. R6T-2008-0022 containing written descriptions of the discharge points; the following change was made to Table E-1 and is shown with deletions in strikethrough, additions underlined. The change alters the monitoring location EFF-002, which is also the location for sampling for compliance with total coliform requirements, and added EFF-002-CL for when chlorine disinfection system is used again.

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
--	**INF-001**	Wastewater influent collected prior to the fine screen in the headwork's of the facility
001	**EFF-001**	Effluent wastewater from the treatment facility; at final discharge from the wetlands to the irrigation channel that is tributary to Jensen Slough (formerly Monitoring Location 03).
--	**EFF-002**	Wastewater from within the treatment facility, at the point of release from the ultraviolet disinfection system prior to the chlorine contact chamber. ~~DE chlorination facility (formerly Monitoring Location 03A).~~
	EFF-002-CL	Wastewater from within the treatment facility, at the point of release from the de-chlorination facility (formerly Monitoring location EFF-002). This location will be the point of compliance only if the chlorine disinfection system is in use.
--	**RSW-001**	Receiving water (Jensen Slough) monitoring location just upstream from where the Jensen Slough crosses Skyline Drive
--	**RSW-002**	Receiving water monitoring location approximately 50 feet downstream from the confluence of the irrigation channel and the Jensen Slough.

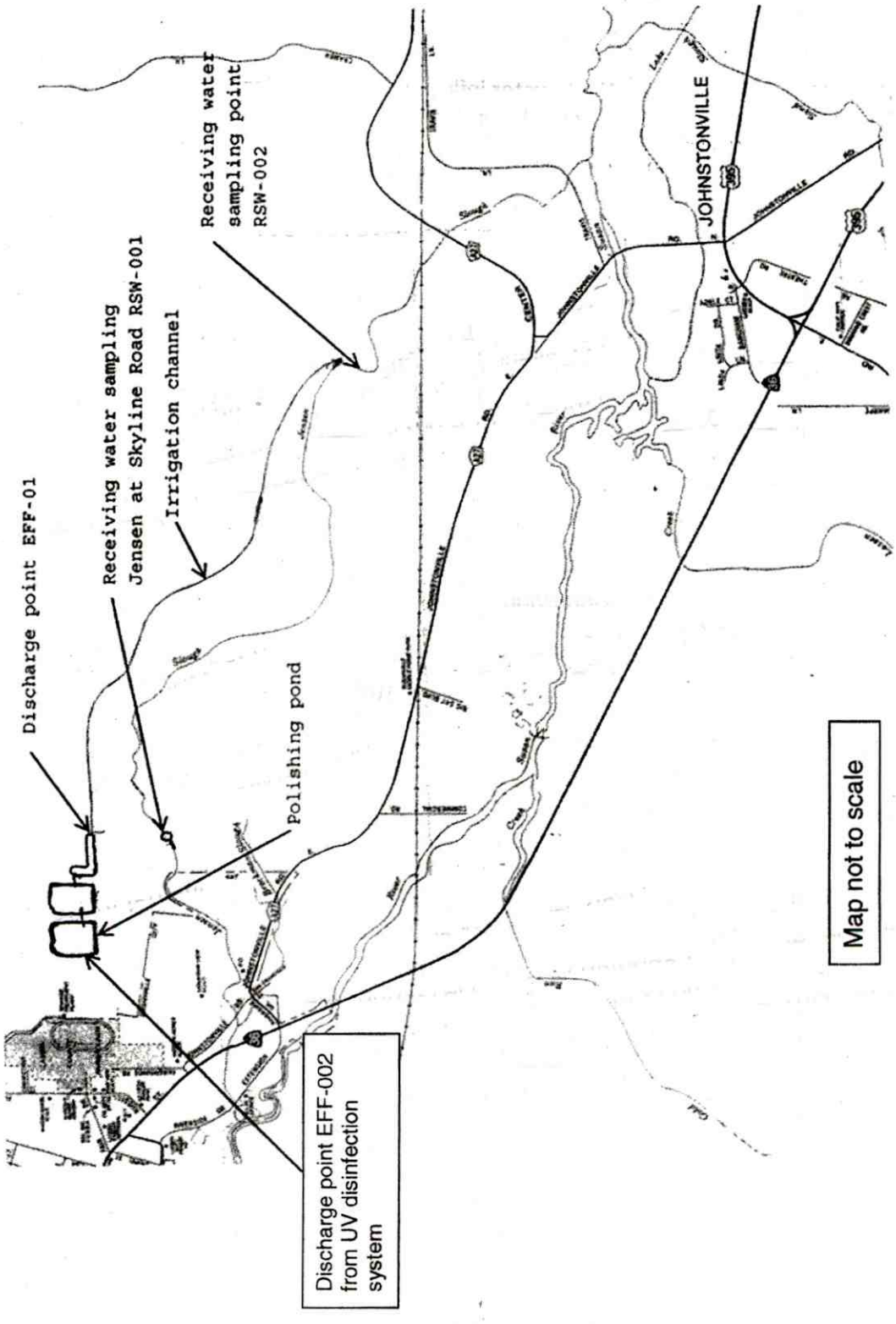
5. Change to Table E-3 in Order No. R6T-2008-0022; delete the requirement for sampling of total coliform and fecal coliform at EFF-001. Sampling for those constituents is only required at EFF-002 or EFF-002-CL.

I, Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region on July 11, 2012.

PATTY Z. KOUYOUMDJIAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment B Map
Attachment C2 Site Map

ATTACHMENT B - MAP



ATTACHMENT C2 - SITE MAP