

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TENTATIVE ORDER NO. R9-2009-0105

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DISTRICT 11 BUCKMAN SPRINGS SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The Regional Board has the following responses to the California Department of Transportation's (Discharger) letter dated September 23, 2009:

No.	COMMENTS	REGIONAL BOARD RESPONSES
1.	<p><u>Finding No. 10:</u> The Discharger requests that the Regional Board change the date specified for submittal of the water quality investigation from January 30, 2011 to April 30, 2011.</p> <p><u>Reason:</u> Assuming the tentative order is adopted in mid October, the time required to develop a contract, schedule drilling, etc would result in the monitoring wells installed within the first quarter of 2010. Moreover, the Regional Board wishes to collect one year's worth of data for inclusion in the technical report, which would result in the last sample being collected within the first quarter of 2011, excluding the time for laboratory to turn around the results and subsequent data analysis.</p>	<p>The date specified for submittal of the water quality investigation in Finding No. 10 will be changed from January 30, 2011 to April 30, 2011 (see Errata Sheet Item No. 2).</p>
2.	<p><u>Finding No. 11:</u> The Discharger requests that the Regional Board change the date specified for submittal of the water quality investigation from January 30, 2011 to April 30, 2011.</p> <p><u>Reason:</u> Same as in comment 1 above</p>	<p>The date specified for submittal of the water quality investigation in Finding No. 11 will be changed from January 30, 2011 to April 30, 2011 (see Errata Sheet Item No.3).</p>
3.	<p><u>Facility Design and Operation Specification No. 4:</u> Replace "...after periods of rainfall when disposal by subsurface <i>irrigation</i> cannot be successfully practiced' with "... after periods of rainfall when disposal by subsurface <i>disposal</i> cannot be successfully practiced..."</p> <p><u>Reason:</u> The disposal system is not intended for irrigation use</p>	<p>The word "irrigation" will be replaced with "disposal" (see Errata Sheet Item No. 4).</p>
4.	<p><u>Facility Design and Operation Specification No. 9:</u> Change date for submittal of water quality investigation from January 30, 2011 to April 30, 2011.</p> <p><u>Reason:</u> Same as in comment No. 1 above</p>	<p>The date for submittal of the water quality investigation will be changed from January 30, 2011 to April 30, 2011 (see Errata Sheet Item No. 5).</p>

No.	COMMENTS	REGIONAL BOARD RESPONSES
5.	<p>Standard Provision No. 7: This provision states that the following: “A defense for the Discharger shall not be that halting or reducing the permitted activity would have been necessary to maintain compliance with this Order...”. The Discharger reported that there may be periods when the Rest Area or onsite waste water treatment system may be shut down.</p>	<p>This provision does not prevent the Discharger from shutting down the Rest Area and the onsite wastewater treatment system when necessary, such as during periods when facilities are being maintained or repaired. The provision, however, does not allow the use of the restrooms or facility dump station when the septic tanks or the disposal system are not in operation.</p>
6.	<p>Section B2. of Tentative Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105 (Tentative MRP): The Discharger requested that the Regional Board eliminate the requirement for monitoring the effluent for most of the organic and inorganic chemical constituents listed in Table 3 of the Tentative MRP (requested that monitoring should not be required for all chemical constituents listed in Table 3 ranging from Aluminum to 2,3,5-TP Silvex).</p> <p>Discharger also noted that 1,4 Dichrobenzene, Thibencarb, and 2,3,5-TP-Silvex in Table 3 should be correctly spelt as 1,4 Dichlorobenzene, Thiobencarb, and 2,4,5-TP (Silvex)</p> <p>Reasons: The Discharger reported that conducting effluent and groundwater monitoring for all organic and inorganic chemical constituents specified in the Tentative MRP would be a significant cost burden to the State. The Discharger also reported that there is no evidence to suggest that several of the organic and inorganic constituents present are in RV septic tank effluent, and that some of the compounds to be monitored have been banned and are no longer produced. The Discharger also expressed concern that detection limits for some of the organic and inorganic chemicals listed in the Tentative MRP may not be readily achievable in septic tank effluent.</p>	<p>In order to reduce the cost of monitoring, the Tentative MRP includes provisions for discontinuing monitoring for selected constituents after the first two sampling events. Monitoring costs are also expected to be significantly less than in the cost estimates submitted by the Discharger because the Tentative Order specifies that groundwater monitoring is only required for several of the constituents listed in Table 4 of the Tentative MRP in the event that these constituents are detected in the septic tank effluent (see Footnote No. 2 in Table 4 of the Tentative MRP).</p> <p>The Regional Board is also willing to modify the effluent and groundwater monitoring requirements if the Discharger submits information that demonstrates that the organic and inorganic chemical constituents in question are not present in RV waste. Such information can include analyses results for RV waste monitoring conducted at similar facilities showing that the constituents in question were not detected, or information that specifically identifies which chemical constituents are no longer produced.</p> <p>The typographical errors noted will be corrected (see Errata Sheet Item No. 6).</p>
7.	<p>Section C.1 of the Tentative MRP: The Discharger requested that the timeframe for constructing monitoring wells be changed from within 60 days of adoption of the Order to within 120 days of adoption of the Order.</p> <p>Reason: Given the constraints of the State contracting requirements, we request 120 days of adoption of the Order to construct monitoring wells.</p>	<p>The Regional Board will modify the MRP to allow for construction of monitoring wells within 120 days of adoption of the Order (see Errata Sheet Item No. 7)</p>

<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Section C.2 of the Tentative MRP:</u> The Discharger requested that the Regional Board eliminate the requirement for monitoring the groundwater for most of the organic and inorganic chemical constituents listed in Table 4 of the Tentative MRP (requested that monitoring should not be required for all chemical constituents listed in Table 4 ranging from Aluminum to 2,3,5-TP Silvex).</p> <p><u>Reason:</u> Same as in comment No. 6 above</p>	<p>See response for comment No. 6 above.</p> <p>The typographical errors noted will be corrected (see Errata Sheet Item No. 6).</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Section G of the Tentative MRP:</u> The Discharger requested that the monitoring report submittal date be changed from January 30 to April 30</p> <p><u>Reason:</u> Same as in comment 1 above</p>	<p>Monitoring reports shall be submitted on January 30 of each year. A report submittal date of January 30 each year gives the Discharger sufficient time to collect samples and compile analyses results for samples collected the previous year. The Regional Board, however, will change the date for submittal of the water quality investigation to April 30, 2011 to give the Discharger sufficient time to collect an adequate number of samples, and assess results of monitoring data collected.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>The Discharger plans to close the Rest Area comfort station for demolition and construction of a new comfort station. The Discharger requested that monitoring be suspended during construction and resumed 6 months after reopening the Rest Area.</p>	<p>Groundwater and effluent monitoring can be suspended during the construction period, provided there is no discharge from the onsite treatment and disposal system. The Discharger, however, is required to conduct effluent and groundwater monitoring as specified in the Tentative MRP whenever the discharge from the onsite treatment and disposal system resumes.</p>