

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

October 23, 2009

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: Orange County Sanitation District

DISCUSSION:

The Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) discharges approximately 200 mgd of treated municipal wastewater from its Reclamation Plant No. 1 and Treatment Plant No. 2 to the Pacific Ocean via an ocean outfall system. The discharges are regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements issued by the Regional Board and an NPDES permit issued jointly by the Regional Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (both encompassed within Order No. R8-2004-0062, NPDES No. CA0110604). A Time Schedule Order (Order No. R8-2004-0067), also issued by the Regional Water Board, specifies a schedule for compliance with certain terms of the NPDES permit/ Waste Discharge Requirements.

Order No. R8-2004-0062 will expire on October 30, 2009; but, it will remain in effect until it is replaced. On April 24, 2009 OCSD submitted a Report of Waste Discharge and applied for a NPDES permit renewal for the discharge. Regional Board and EPA staff are jointly drafting new Waste Discharge Requirements to replace the expiring Order No. R8-2004-0062. The new NPDES permit /Waste Discharge Requirements is currently scheduled for the Regional Board's consideration at the December 10, 2009, meeting.

Time Schedule Order (TSO) No. R8-2004-0067 specifies a compliance schedule for OCSD to complete the construction of the necessary facilities to achieve compliance with secondary treatment standards that are specified in Order No. R8-2004-0062. When the renewed order is adopted for the OCSD's discharge, the TSO will have to be amended to reflect the renewed order. This amendment will also be considered at the Board's December 10, meeting.

During the October 23, 2009, Regional Board meeting, OCSD staff will discuss the status of their progress toward the construction of secondary treatment facilities and compliance with TSO No. R8-2004-0067. OCSD staff will also describe extensive investigations undertaken by OCSD on emerging contaminants. Finally, OCSD staff will review the proposed changes to their NPDES permit that are requested in OCSD's renewal application.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

No action to adopt the waste discharge requirements or Time Schedule Order will be taken at the October 23, 2009 meeting. Consideration of adoption of the waste discharge requirements and Time Schedule Order is scheduled for a public hearing on December 10, 2009. The proposed waste discharge requirements and Time Schedule Order will be distributed for public review and comment at least 30 days in advance of the hearing.