

# Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant

Progress Report
Method of Compliance Work Plan
and Schedule for
Ammonia Effluent Limitations
and
Title 22 or Equivalent Disinfection Requirements

Submitted: July 9, 2016

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# Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District Contact Information

For additional information on this work plan, please contact:

Vick A. Kyotani, Deputy Director of Operations Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Email: kyotaniv@sacsewer.com

Phone: 916.875.9001

#### 1.0 Introduction

On June 9, 2011, the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San) submitted a Method of Compliance Work Plan and Schedule for Ammonia Effluent Limitations and Title 22 or Equivalent Treatment Requirements (Work Plan). This submittal was required by the compliance schedule contained in the waste discharge requirements Order No. R5-2010-0114 (2010 NPDES Permit¹) adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) on December 9, 2010 for the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWTP). The 2010 NPDES Permit imposed new final effluent limitations for ammonia and nitrate (requiring nutrient reduction facilities) and new requirements for Title 22 or equivalent disinfection requirements (requiring tertiary treatment facilities). The 2010 NPDES Permit required the submittal of annual progress reports following approval of the Work Plan. The Regional Board approved the Work Plan on July 8, 2011.

As a component of a Partial Settlement Agreement, Regional San stated that it will post on its website a second progress report on or before February 1 of each year until completion of the nutrient reduction facilities. Previous progress reports posted on Regional San's website on or before February 1 provided a status of only the nutrient reduction facilities. At Regional San's discretion, all future progress reports will also include an update on the tertiary treatment facilities in addition to the nutrient reduction facilities.

On April 21, 2016, Regional Board adopted Order R5-2016-0020 (2016 NPDES Permit) for the SRWTP which rescinds and replaces the 2010 NPDES Permit. The 2016 Permit also requires compliance with final effluent limitations for ammonia and nitrate and Title 22 or equivalent disinfection. The applicable requirements and schedules are reflected in the 2016 Permit and Tables 1 and 2 below.

# 2.0 Overall Compliance Schedule

The following compliance schedules for Ammonia Effluent Limitations and Title 22 or Equivalent treatment requirements are listed below in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively:

**Table 1. Compliance Schedule for Ammonia Final Effluent Limitations** 

Task	Relevant Dates	
i. Submit Method of Compliance Workplan/Schedule	Due Date: 9 June 2011	
	Date Submitted: 9 June 2011	
	Date Approved: 8 July 2011	
	Status: Complete	
ii. Submit and Implement PPP for Ammonia <sup>1</sup>	Due Date: 9 December 2011	
	Date Submitted: 8 December 2011	
	Revised Plan Submitted: 15 November 2012	
	Date Approved: 17 May 2013	
	Status: Complete	
iii. Progress Reports <sup>2</sup>	Progress report required by permit due 9 July, annually <sup>3</sup>	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The 2010 NPDES Permit was amended several times. All the amendments were incorporated into Regional Board Order No. R5-2010-0114-04.

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Task	Relevant Dates
iv. Begin CEQA process for Compliance Project	Due Date: 19 May 2015
	Process Initiated: 22 August 2012
	Date EIR Approved: 24 September 2014
	Status: Complete
v. Begin Construction of Compliance Project	Due Date: 19 May 2018
	Status: Complete
vi. Full Compliance	Due Date: 11 May 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Discharger shall continue to implement the PPP.

Table 2. Compliance Schedule for Title 22 or Equivalent Treatment Requirements

Task	Relevant Dates	
i. Submit Method of Compliance Workplan/Schedule	Due Date: 9 June 2011	
	Date Submitted: 9 June 2011	
	Date Approved: 8 July 2011	
	Status: Complete	
ii. Progress Reports <sup>1</sup>	Progress report required by permit due 9 July, annually	
iii. Begin CEQA process for Compliance Project	Due Date: 16 May, 2017	
	Process Initiated: 22 August 2012	
	Date EIR Approved: 24 September 2014	
	Status: Complete	
iv. Begin Construction of Compliance Project	Due Date: 16 May 2020	
v. Submit Seasonal Operations Plan <sup>2</sup>	No later than 30 days prior to full compliance	
vi. Full Compliance	Due Date: 9 May 2023	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The progress reports shall detail the steps implemented towards achieving compliance with waste discharge requirements, including studies, construction progress, evaluation of measures implemented, and recommendations for additional measures as necessary to achieve full compliance by the final compliance date.

Installation of advanced treatment technologies is needed to meet the new discharge permit requirements. To construct the required treatment facilities, Regional San identified other major activities needed to achieve compliance with the NPDES Permit requirements, including:

- Treatment Technology Identification Completed
- Pilot Study Implementation
  - Phase 1 Treatment Technology Selection Completed
  - Phase 2 Design Criteria Optimization Completed
  - Phase 3 Process optimization and operator training In planning
- Establishment of the Program Management Office (PMO) Completed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The progress reports shall detail the steps implemented towards achieving compliance with waste discharge requirements, including studies, construction progress, evaluation of measures implemented, and recommendations for additional measures as necessary to achieve full compliance by the final compliance date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Regional San will prepare an additional report annually, to be posted on the Regional San's website on or before February 1 of each year, beginning in 2014. This additional report is not required by the 2016 NPDES Permit, but is a report the Partial Settlement Agreement states that Regional San will prepare. Both reports will be posted on Regional San's website but only the report required by July 9 will be transmitted directly to the Regional Board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The plan shall incorporate as a goal to reasonably limit the amount of unfiltered discharge and describe anticipated operations of the Facility when flows in excess of filter design capacity occur considering influent flows to the entire Facility, available storage, river flows, impending meteorological conditions, and any other relevant operational considerations. This plan will be periodically updated, as necessary, based on accumulated operating data experience.

- Select treatment technologies for environmental review, design, and implementation -Completed
- Design full-scale treatment systems In progress
- Environmental Analysis Completed
- Construction Phase In progress
- Startup and Commissioning In planning

#### 3.0 Progress towards Compliance

The following is a summary of the various activities associated with complying with the Ammonia Effluent Limitations and Title 22 or Equivalent requirements. The summary provided here is the information required as part of the permit requirements.

#### 3.1 Pilot Study Implementation

The Phase 2 pilot system was completed in December 2014. A final report was completed in December 2015.

The goal of Phase 3 Pilot Study is to further optimize the biological process and provide training to operators. This phase is not required to successfully commission the new facilities.

#### 3.2 Design of Treatment Systems

Design consultants have been procured to provide pre-designs and final designs of various individual treatment systems and project features. Table 3 lists the major projects required to meet nutrient related (i.e., final ammonia and nitrate) limitations and Title 22 or Equivalent treatment requirements. Major design projects, as defined in the Partial Settlement Agreement, are those with a design contract in excess of \$1 million. Dates in bold are actual dates of accomplishment. Other dates are planned dates. Regional San has determined that construction completion will be designated as when nutrient reduction facilities and the Title 22 or Equivalent treatment facilities are commissioned respectively as systems. Additional project information is included in Appendix A.

**Table 3. Major EchoWater Projects** 

Major Project	Design Contract Award	Construction Contract Award	Construction Completion
Biological Nutrient Removal	22 Feb 2013	27 Apr 2016	14 Jan 2021
Flow Equalization	28 Aug 2013	25 Feb 2015	11 Apr 2018
Primary Effluent Pumping Station	23 Oct 2013	Combined with BNR	-
RAS Pumping System	13 Nov 2013	25 May 2016	31 May 2019
Building Relocations	25 Sep 2013	19 Mar 2015	29 Feb 2016
Site Preparation	11 Dec 2013	25 Feb 2015	15 Sep 2016
Main Electrical Substation Expansion	In House Design	01 Jan 2016	30 Sep 2016
Disinfection Chemical Storage	11 Dec 2013	22 Jul 2015	25 Jan 2017
Nitrifying Sidestream Treatment	26 Mar 2014	13 Jan 2016	31 Oct 2018
Tertiary Treatment Facilities	27 May 2015	20 Jun 2018	09 Nov 2022

#### 3.3 Environmental Analysis

The CEQA process was initiated on August 22, 2012 and the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was certified by the Regional San Board of Directors on September 24, 2014.

#### 3.4 Construction Phase

Construction of treatment facilities was initiated in March 2015 for three of the major projects required for the ammonia and nitrate and Title 22 or Equivalent treatment facilities. One major project was completed in February 2016. There are currently seven major projects under construction.

#### 3.5 Startup and Commissioning

Startup and commissioning for each project will occur as major treatment processes are completed and existing processes are cut over as required. Additional time is required to start up and commission the new facilities to ensure stable process operation. Regional San is defining full compliance as completion of this phase of the last project (the Tertiary Treatment Facilities). This phase is anticipated to be accomplished before May 2023.

#### 3.6 Regional San Project Acceptance

This milestone of the project is a contractual step to formally close out the construction project and is subject to Regional San Board action. Treatment facilities will have already been commissioned and will be fully operational. This date is subject to the nearest Board meeting after all contractual issues have been resolved and is not the measure of full compliance.

#### 3.7 Ammonia Pollution Prevention

As stated in the November 2012 revised Ammonia PPP, domestic waste contributes the majority of ammonia in the treatment plant influent. Most of the ammonia found in domestic waste is derived from urea, which breaks down rapidly to ammonia in the wastewater conveyance system. Therefore, the primary source of ammonia to the sewer system is considered uncontrollable.

The measured average influent concentration was 35 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for the period January 1 to May 31, 2016, which is slightly down from 38 mg/L reported in the last progress report. Flows were slightly higher than last period due to rain.

Regional San continues to monitor industrial ammonia and total Kjeldahl nitrogen contributions from permitted users through its pretreatment program pollutant accounting activities. Industrial point sources remain a relatively insignificant source of ammonia. Also, no new point source discharges have been identified in the last year. Regional San will continue to monitor existing point source dischargers of ammonia and will screen potential new point source dischargers for the presence of ammonia in their discharge.

Further, Regional San has continued the implementation of interim operational changes, namely the cessation of solids storage basin (SSB) flushing since May 2009, which has resulted in reductions in effluent ammonia discharged to the river by approximately 10 percent.

Regional San is committed to continuing those interim operational changes as long as feasible, pending any process concerns that may develop due to algal blooms, odor generation or struvite accumulation. Short-term sporadic flushing may be implemented during winter to mitigate any process concerns noted above or to reduce the potential of any wet weather induced slug loads from the SSBs.

#### 4.0 Schedule

Regional San has been making progress and is on schedule to meet the compliance dates for ammonia and nitrate and Title 22 or Equivalent permit requirements. Designs have been completed for all of the projects required to construct the necessary treatment facilities to meet the ammonia and nitrate reduction requirements. The current schedule indicates that full system commissioning of the nutrient reduction facilities is on schedule to be accomplished before May 2021. Design is underway for the treatment facilities needed to meet the Title 22 or equivalent requirements. Regional San staff continues to identify and evaluate means by which compliance can be accelerated without unacceptable risks or costs.

A detailed Program schedule (updated in June 2016) is included in Appendix B showing the major projects as well as other projects and work efforts required to comply with the final effluent limitations for ammonia and nitrate limitations and for Title 22 or Equivalent requirements. The high level schedule shown in Table 3 reflects more recent updates to key project milestones.

#### **Appendices**

- A. Status of Ammonia and Nitrate Reduction and Title 22 or Equivalent Projects
- B. Workplan Schedule for Compliance

# Appendix A

Status of Ammonia and Nitrate Reduction and Title 22 or Equivalent Projects

# Status of Ammonia and Nitrate Reduction and Title 22 or Equivalent Projects

#### **Biological Nutrient Removal**

The project advertised for bids on October 28, 2015. A construction contract was awarded on April 27, 2016 and Notice to Proceed was issued on May 27, 2016. Construction is scheduled to be completed by January 2021. The project is on schedule to meet this date.

#### Flow Equalization

A construction contract was awarded on February 25, 2015 and Notice to Proceed was issued on March 4, 2015. Construction is underway and is scheduled to be completed by April 11, 2018. The project is on schedule to meet this date.

### **Primary Effluent Pumping Station**

Construction of this project has been combined with the Biological Nutrient Removal project and future updates will be included with the Biological Nutrient Removal project.

### **RAS Pumping System**

The project advertised for bids on January 13, 2016 and a contract was awarded on May 25, 2016. Notice to Proceed was issued on June 15, 2016. Construction is expected to be completed by May 31, 2019. The project is on schedule to meet this date.

# **Building Relocations**

A construction contract was awarded on March 19, 2015, Notice to Proceed was issued on April 7, 2015, and construction was completed on February 29, 2016.

# Site Preparation

A construction contract was awarded on February 25, 2015 and Notice to Proceed was issued on March 11, 2015. Construction is underway, projected to be complete by September 15, 2016 and is on schedule to meet this date.

# Main Electrical Substation Expansion

A construction contract was awarded on January 7, 2016. Notice to Proceed was issued on January 8, 2016. Construction is expected to be completed by September 30, 2016. The project is on schedule to meet this date.

### Disinfection Chemical Storage

A construction contract was awarded on July 22, 2015 and Notice to Proceed was issued on August 20, 2015. The project is expected to be completed by January 25, 2017. The project is on schedule to meet this date.

# Nitrifying Sidestream Treatment

The contract was awarded on January 13, 2016 and Notice to Proceed was issued on February 19, 2016. Construction is expected to be completed by October 31, 2018. The project is on schedule to meet this date.

## **Tertiary Treatment Facilities**

The Filtration and Filter Influent Pumping Station and the Disinfection Contact Basin projects have been combined into a single project called the Tertiary Treatment Facilities. A design contract was awarded on May 27, 2015 and preliminary design was completed in April 2016. Final design efforts are underway and design is expected to be completed by May 2018. The project is on schedule to meet this milestone.

# Appendix B

Workplan Schedule for Compliance





