STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 30, 2014

Prepared on December 20, 2013

ITEM NUMBER: 10

SUBJECT: Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements for Santa Cruz County

Sanitation District, a Wastewater Collection Agency Tributary to the City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility, Santa Cruz

County, Order No. R3-2005-0043

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KEY INFORMATION

Discharger: Santa Cruz County Sanitation District

Location: Sanitary Sewer Collection System in Santa Cruz County

Place ID: CW-215133

Type of Discharge: Untreated Municipal Wastewater

Disposal Method: Wastewater sent to City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Plant for

Treatment and Disposal to the Pacific Ocean

Existing Orders: WDR No. R3-2005-0043

This Action: Rescind Order No. R3-2005-0043

DISCUSSION

On May 13, 2005, the Central Coast Water Board adopted Order No. R3-2005-0043, establishing requirements for Santa Cruz County's sanitary sewer collection system tributary to the City of Santa Cruz's wastewater treatment plant. In 2006, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems, WQO No. 2006-0003 (Statewide General Order). In 2006, Santa Cruz County enrolled in the Statewide General Order. Central Coast Water Board staff recommends the Board rescind Order No. R3-2005-0043 to avoid duplicate regulation and fees.

VIOLATIONS

There were 31 reported violations of the Order between February 2004 and July 2007, after which the County started reporting violations under the Statewide General Order. The County has reported 80 spills since it began reporting under the Statewide General Order in August 2007. The spills have been relatively minor volumes (10s to ~1000 gallons) relative to two large spills (25,000 and 100,000 gallons) during early 2011.

Water Board enforcement staff is currently considering enforcement actions related to the spills.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

On November 14, 2013, Central Coast Water Board staff sent a letter to Santa Cruz County and other potentially interested parties notifying them of the Board's intent to rescind WDR No. R3-2005-0043. Central Coast Water Board staff has not received any comments on the proposal from any of the parties.

RECOMMENDATION

Rescind Order No. R3-2005-0043, as proposed.

ATTACHMENT

1. WDR No. R3-2005-0043

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