

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

20 July 2012

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APPROVED

author _____

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ, STATEWIDE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE SEGMENT TIM-161-12 HYDROSTATIC TEST DISCHARGE, STANISLAUS COUNTY

On 28 June 2012, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a Programmatic Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* (hereafter General Order) for discharges to land of hydrostatic test water from testing of its existing natural gas transmission lines during the current calendar year. Site specific notification for the discharge of hydrostatic test water from pipeline segment TIM-161-12 to land was received on 5 July 2012.

The submittal contains the information required to evaluate applicability of the General Order; therefore, the NOI is complete. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under General Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ-0036. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

PROJECT LOCATION

Hydrostatic test water will be discharged to land owned by A.L. Gilbert Company in Keyes, Stanislaus County (Section 18, Township 30 South, Range 27 East MDB&M).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PG&E will conduct hydrostatic pressure line testing of its existing natural gas pipeline. For the pressure test, the pipeline segment will be isolated and vented. The segment will then be filled with water and pressurized for eight hours in accordance with industry standards. Water for the pressure test will consist of potable water from a municipal supply, surface water, or groundwater source. Approximately 125,000 gallons of water will be utilized for the test.

Following the pressure test, hydrostatic test water will be placed in portable storage tanks and filtered through particulate filters and activated carbon to remove any residual contaminants. To ensure compliance with the conditions in the General Order, samples of the filtered hydrostatic test water will be collected and analyzed by a certified laboratory prior to discharge.

Following treatment and testing, the hydrostatic test water will be discharged to undeveloped land. No indication of sensitive species, or active waste sites have been reported for this site. The discharge will comply with PG&E's Best Management Practices (BMPs) for non-storm water discharges.

The General Order and this Notice of Applicability (NOA) regulate the discharge of hydrostatic test water from PG&E's Hydrostatic Test Project of Natural Gas Transmission Line Segment TIM-161-12 to land owned by A.L. Gilbert Company.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Hydrostatic test waters shall be disposed of as described in the NOI and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
2. Discharge of hydrostatic test water at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI is prohibited.
3. All wells connected to any irrigation system utilized for the discharge of hydrostatic test water will be equipped with an air gap or other backflow prevention device.
4. All technical reports required herein that involve evaluation, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, section 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
5. Analytical results shall be submitted on a semi-annual basis in accordance the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program.
6. The Discharger shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until the NOA is officially terminated.
7. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, and this letter authorizing applicability could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA or associated fees, please contact Anne Olson at (916) 464-4740 or by email at aolson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Frederick S. Moss

PC PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ

cc: Kathy Rose, CH2M Hill (email)