



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

9 December 2015

Mr. Adam O'Connor
Sr. Environmental Scientist
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
6111 Bollinger Canyon Road, 3130G
San Ramon, Ca. 94583

CERTIFIED MAIL:
7013 0600 0002 4320 5351

WDID: 5A04NC00057

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ-0142, STATEWIDE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT R-503 LINE 050A, GRIDLEY, BUTTE COUNTY

On 23 November 2015, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a 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 groundwater from excavation dewatering during Natural Gas Pipeline Replacement Project R-503 on Line 050A. Up to 50,000 gallons per day of hydrostatic and trench water is estimated to be discharged to privately owned agricultural land (GPS coordinates 39° 21' 8.01" N and 121° 41' 38.23" W).

The submittal contains all of the information required to evaluate applicability of the General Order. 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 2003-0003-DWQ-0142. Please include this order number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

This project is also covered under General Permit 2009-0009-DWQ for storm water discharges (WDID# 5F10C372564).

PROJECT LOCATION

Project R-503, on pipeline 050A, includes the installation of approximately 9,500 feet of 8-inch natural gas pipeline which begins at PG&E's Gridley Station near 60 W Liberty Road, extends along W. Liberty Road to Highway 99, and terminates 535 feet north of the Highway 99 and Standish Lane intersection, in the City of Gridley.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The natural gas pipeline replacement project requires trenches to be dug and borings to be drilled. Since groundwater has been historically measured at approximately 3 feet below ground surface, dewatering of trenches is anticipated. There is a potential for groundwater and soil in the area to contain gasoline and/or volatile organic compounds according to Geotracker and Envirostor database searches. Initial background sampling also found aluminum, iron and manganese to be above the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). Due to these potential contaminants, the discharge from dewatering will be stored in fractionation storage tanks to allow for sedimentation and filtered through 25-micron, or 5-micron and 1-micron, bag filters and granulated active carbon prior to discharge. A groundwater sample will then be collected for characterization of possible groundwater contaminants. If results of groundwater characterization are within General Order guidelines it will be discharged to privately owned agricultural land (See Attachment 2, Figure 2 of the NOI) via temporary irrigation system or by water truck for dust control. If contaminants are found, then appropriate management alternatives will be proposed for disposal.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Dewatering wells shall be permitted, constructed and permanently abandoned in accordance with Butte County requirements and under the oversight of the Butte County Division of Environmental Health.
2. Groundwater shall be disposed of as described in the NOI and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
3. Discharge of water at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI is prohibited.
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. Monitoring reports shall be submitted of all sampling conducted for the project on a semi-annual schedule, in accordance with the General Order.
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 about this Notice of Applicability, please contact Heidi.Bauer@waterboards.ca.gov, at (530) 224-4996 or the footer address.



(for) Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

HTB:reb

Enclosure: General Order 2003-0003-DWQ