



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

17 January 2019

Jeff Pietrzak, Sr. Landscape Architect
California Department of Transportation
District 3
703 B Street
Marysville, CA 95901

CERTIFIED MAIL
7014 3490 0001 3008 1797

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY
GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS
ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ
FOR
CALTRANS
ELKHORN SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA
SACRAMENTOCOUNTY

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) dated 6 September 2018 for the Elkhorn Safety Roadside Rest Area (Elkhorn SRRA) in Sacramento County. Additional information was received on 21 and 28 of December 2018. Based on the provided information, the wastewater treatment system and discharge is consistent with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (General Order). This Notice of Applicability (NOA) provides notice that the General Order is applicable to the site as described below. You are hereby assigned Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295 for the discharge. A copy of the General Order is enclosed and also available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. The General Order contains operational and reporting requirements by wastewater system type. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that exist in the General Order and this NOA.

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley



REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Waste discharges at the Elkhorn SRRA is currently regulated by State Water Board WQ Order 97-10-DWQ-R5097, under a Notice of Applicability (NOA) issued on 17 May 2012. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) R5-2012-0811 prescribes requirements for monitoring and reporting discharges at the Elkhorn SRRA. WQ Order 2014-0153-DWQ supersedes WQ Order 97-10-DWQ, which is no longer available for new enrollees. Upon issuance of this NOA, discharges at the Elkhorn SRRA will be regulated under WQ Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295 and MRP 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295. Coverage under Order 97-10-DWQ will be terminated.

FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Caltrans (hereafter "Discharger") owns and operates the Elkhorn SRRA, which is located southwest of the Sacramento International Airport, southbound on Interstate 5 at Post Mile 33.8 in Sacramento County. The Elkhorn SRRA includes men's and women's restrooms and a crew area. The Elkhorn SRRA has been open to the traveling public since 1968 and operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no recreational vehicle (RV) waste disposal facilities.

The Elkhorn SRRA generates domestic waste streams from the restrooms and drinking fountain drains, approximately 2,000 gallons per day (gpd) on average and 5,000 gpd during peak. The existing onsite wastewater treatment system includes a septic tank and leach field. Caltrans plans to replace this system with a new onsite wastewater treatment and disposal system to include a grinder pump, lift stations, septic tank, equalization tank, recirculating packed bed filter, and subsurface drip to approximately 16,000 square feet area. The new system will be designed for an average capacity of 2,000 gpd and a peak capacity of 5,000 gpd. Any emergency overflows from the lift station and equalization tank will be gravity fed to the existing subsurface leach field system for disposal. Upon completion of the new system, the existing system will be taken out of service with the exception of the leach field. Completion and operational date of the new system is anticipated for May 2020. A site plan is shown on Attachment A, which is attached hereto and is made part of this NOA by reference.

SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND EFFLUENT LIMITS

Note that the General Order contains prohibitions and specifications that apply to all wastewater treatment systems as well as those that only apply to specific treatment and/or disposal systems. The specific requirements and effluent limits for your treatment system are summarized below.

The wastewater treatment operator must be certified and familiar with the requirements contained in the General Order, this NOA, and the MRP.

Requirements by Wastewater System Type, Section B of General Order

B.1 All Wastewater Systems

This applies in its entirety to the Elkhorn SRRA with the following site-specific requirements.

- B.1.a Influent flow limit, as measured upstream of the septic tank.

Treatment Unit	Flow Limit as a Monthly Average
Septic Tank	5,000 gallons per day (gpd)

B.1.I Wastewater system setbacks.

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Treatment System, & Collection System ¹	150 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
Leach Field ²	100 ft.	100 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
¹ Septic tank, aerobic treatment unit, treatment system, or collection system addresses equipment located below ground or that impedes leak detection by routine visual inspection per Table 3 of General Order. ² "Leach Field" includes all subsurface dispersal systems, including mound systems except seepage pits per Table 3 of the General Order.					

B.2 Septic Systems

The WWTF utilizes a septic tank; therefore Section B.2 of General Order applies in its entirety.

B.6 Subsurface Disposal Systems

The WWTF utilizes a subsurface disposal system; therefore Section B.6 of General Order applies in its entirety. Wastewater will be discharged by subsurface drip to approximately 16,000 square feet of landscaped area. The existing subsurface leach field system, which includes a total of 3,150 linear feet of leach line, will be used for emergency overflows.

Effluent Limitations, Section D of General Order

This section applies in its entirety to the Elkhorn SRRA and shall include the following site-specific limitations.

The following limits apply to effluent from the recirculating sand filters:

Constituent	Units	Limit
BOD	mg/L	90 (monthly average)

Effluent Limit Rationale

The treatment system is subject to technology performance effluent limits for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) as specified in the General Order. Based on wastewater quality from several Caltrans rest area stations, the typical influent BOD concentration is approximately 480 mg/L. Although a 65-percent reduction of the incoming BOD is approximately 170 mg/L, the proposed primary and secondary treatment is expected to achieve a final effluent BOD concentration of 30 mg/L. The prescribed 90 mg/L BOD limit will allow some flexibility if an upset were to occur in the system.

Staff evaluated the need for a total nitrogen effluent limit using the method contained in the General Order and determined that a nitrogen effluent limit is not necessary because the monthly average flow will be less than 20,000 gpd

Technical Report Preparation Requirements, Provisions Section E.1 of General Order

The following technical reports shall be submitted as described below:

1. By **1 May 2019**, the Discharger shall submit a *Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan* (Response Plan) consistent with the requirements of General Order Provision E.1.a.
2. By **1 May 2019**, the Discharger shall submit a *Sampling and Analysis Plan* consistent with the requirements of General Order Provision E.1.b.
3. At **least 90 days** upon completion of the new onsite wastewater treatment system, the Discharger shall submit a Wastewater Treatment System Completion Report. The report shall certify construction and start-up testing of the system have been completed and that the system can comply with the applicable effluent limitations. As-built drawings of the system shall be included in the report.

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The Discharger shall comply with MRP 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295, which is attached hereto and made part of this NOA by reference. MRP 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295 replaces the previous MRP R5-2012-0811.

ENFORCEMENT

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the discharge. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. Prior to allowing changes to the wastewater strength or generation rate, or to the method of waste disposal, you must contact the Central Valley Regional Water Board to determine if submittal of an RWD is required.

Caltrans will generate the waste subject to the terms and conditions of WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295 and will maintain exclusive control over the discharge. As such, Caltrans is primarily responsible for compliance with this NOA, MRP, and General Order, with all attachments. Failure to comply with the requirements in the General Order or this NOA could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

ANNUAL FEES

Staff has determined the discharge is a threat to water quality and complexity rating of 3-C. The annual fee corresponding to a threat to water quality and complexity of 3-C is currently \$2,286. The fee is due and payable on an annual basis until coverage under the General Order is formally rescinded. Please note that the annual fees are reviewed each year and may change. You must provide written notice if and when the wastewater discharge ceases, so that we can terminate coverage under the General Order and no longer bill you.

DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to: centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: Elkhorn Safety Roadside Rest Area, Sacramento County		
Program: Non-15 Compliance	Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295	CIWQS Place ID: 222624

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be copied to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
ECM Mailroom
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

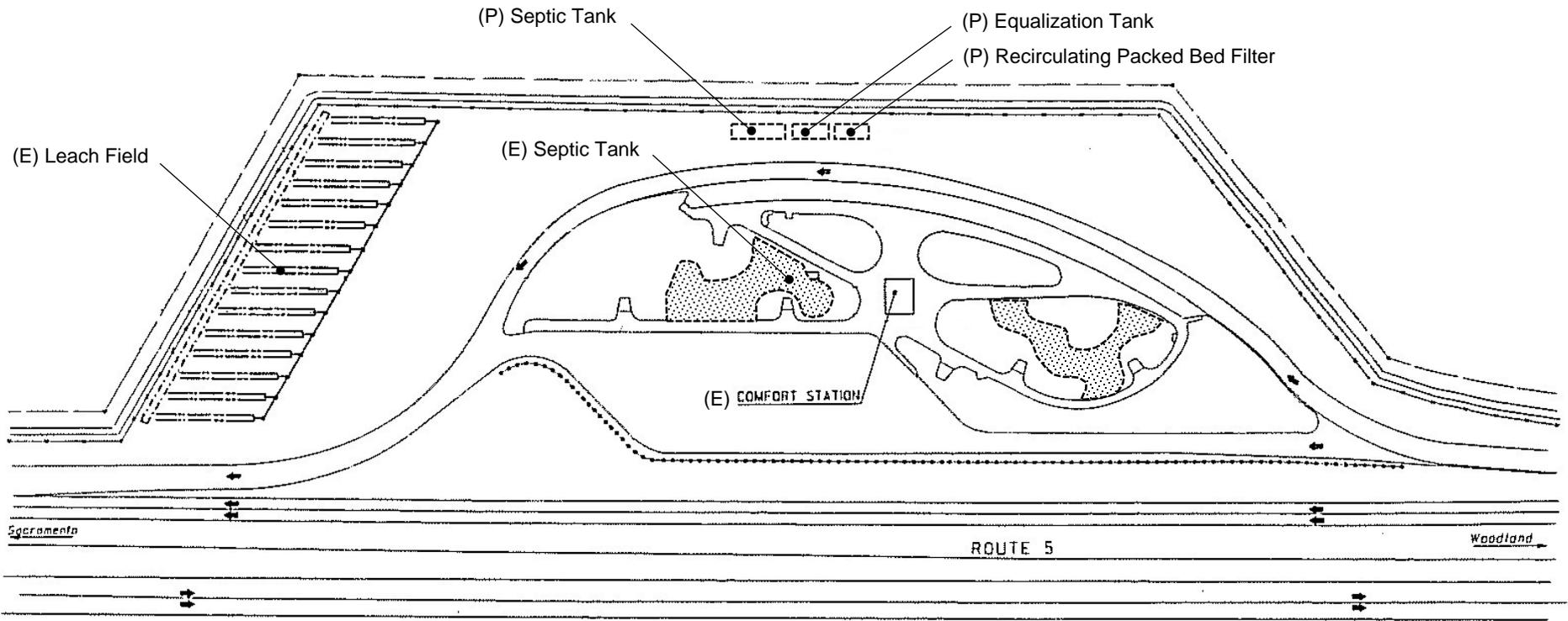
Now that the Notice of Applicability has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Guy Childs is your new point of contact for any questions about compliance with the General Order. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Guy will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Guy at (916) 464-4648 or at gchilds@waterboards.ca.gov.

- original signed by Andrew Altevogt for -

PATRICK PULUPA
Executive Officer

Enc: Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295
MRP 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295
Attachment A, Site Plan

Cc w/o Enc: Timothy O'Brien, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento
Sacramento County environmental Management Department, Mather
Amar Baidwan, Caltrans, Sacramento
Gerhard Panuschka, Caltrans, Sacramento
Guy Childs, CVRWQCB, Rancho Cordova



EXISTING SITE PLAN
NO SCALE



LEGEND:

(E) Existing

(P) Proposed

 Shallow Subsurface Drip Area

Note: All locations are approximate.

DRAWING REFERENCE:
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

SITE PLAN
ELKHORN SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA
SACRAMENTO COUNTY

NOT TO SCALE

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ELKHORN SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA
SACRAMENTO COUNTY

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The California Department of Transportation (Discharger) shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revision is issued by the Executive Officer.

Water Code section 13267 states, in part:

“In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports.”

Water Code section 13268 states, in part:

“(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of section 13399.2, or falsifying any information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.”

The Discharger operates the wastewater treatment and disposal system that is subject to the Notice of Applicability (NOA) of Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295 (General Order). The reports are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order. Pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The time, date, and location of each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. All analyses shall be performed in accordance with the Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements dated 1 March 1991 (Standard Provisions).

Field test instruments (such as those used to measure pH, electrical conductivity, dissolved oxygen, wind speed, and precipitation) may be used provided that:

1. The operator is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
2. The instruments are field calibrated at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
3. The instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are submitted as described in the "Reporting" section of the MRP.

Laboratory analytical procedures shall comply with the methods and holding times specified in the following (as applicable to the medium to be analyzed):

- *Methods for Organic Chemical Analysis of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater* (EPA);
- *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste* (EPA);
- *Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes* (EPA);
- *Methods for Determination of Inorganic Substances in Environmental Samples* (EPA);
- *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater* (APHA/AWWA/WEF); and
- *Soil, Plant and Water Reference Methods for the Western Region* (WREP 125).

Approved editions shall be those that are approved for use by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the California Department of Public Health's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP). The Discharger may propose alternative methods for approval by the Executive Officer. Where technically feasible, laboratory reporting limits shall be lower than concentrations that implement applicable water quality objectives/limits for the constituents to be analyzed.

A glossary of terms used in this MRP is included on the last page.

SEPTIC TANK INSPECTION AND MONITORING

Monitoring of the septic tank shall include the following:

Parameter	Units	Type of Measurement	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow Rate ¹	gpd	Metered	Continuous	Quarterly
¹ As measured by a flow meter or estimated based on potable water supply meter reading or other approved method. At a minimum, the total flow shall be measured monthly to calculate the average daily flow for the month.				

Septic tanks shall be inspected and/or pumped at least as frequently as described below. Inspections of sludge and scum depth are not required if the tanks are pumped at least annually.

Parameter	Units	Type of Measurement	Inspection Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Sludge depth and scum thickness in each tank	Feet	Staff Gauge	Annually	Annually
Distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually	Annually
Distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually	Annually

The septic tank shall be pumped when any one of the following conditions exists or may exist before the next inspection:

- a. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one-third of the tank depth; or
- b. The bottom of the scum layer is within three inches of the outlet device; or
- c. The top of the sludge layer is within eight inches of the outlet device.

Records shall be stored onsite and available for review during inspections and shall include the name/contact information for the hauling company, the amount of waste transported, the date removed from the facility, the disposal facility name and address, and all analytical data required by the entity accepting the waste. These records shall be submitted as part of the annual monitoring report.

EFFLUENT MONITORING

Effluent samples shall be taken at an area that represents the effluent quality distributed to the Disposal area. At a minimum, effluent monitoring shall consist of the following:

Constituent/Parameter	Units	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow to Land Application Area ¹	gpd	Meter	Monthly	Quarterly
Flow to Leach Field ¹	gpd	Meter	Monthly	Quarterly
BOD	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
¹ As measured by a flow meter or estimated based on potable water supply meter reading or other approved method. At a minimum, the total flow shall be measured monthly to calculate the average daily flow for the month.				

SUBSURFACE DRIP IRRIGATION AREA MONITORING

Subsurface disposal areas may be configured many different ways (e.g. traditional leach field, pressure-dosed, drip system, mound/at grade, gravel less, etc.). Monitoring shall be sufficient to determine if wastewater is evenly applied, the disposal area is not saturated, burrowing animals and/or deep rooted plants are not present, and odors are not present. Inspection of dosing pump controllers, automatic distribution valves, etc. is required to maintain optimum treatment in the disposal area (and any sand or media filter if present). Monitoring shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Constituent	Inspection Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Pump Controllers, Automatic Valves, etc.	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nuisance Odor Condition	Quarterly	Quarterly
Saturated Soil Conditions	Quarterly	Quarterly
Plant Growth	Quarterly	Quarterly
Vectors or Animal Burrowing	Quarterly	Quarterly
Seepage Pit Condition	Quarterly	Quarterly

REPORTING

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents less than 50MB should be emailed to:

centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to the following address:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
 ECM Mailroom
 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
 Rancho Cordova, California 95670

To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any correspondence used to transmit documents to this office:

ELKHORN SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA, Sacramento County		
Program: Non-15 Compliance	Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5295	CIWQS Place ID: 222624

In reporting monitoring data, the Dischargers shall arrange the data in tabular form using the format provided in the example tables, which are part of this MRP, or in another approved format so that the date, sample type (e.g., biosolids, soil, etc.), and reported analytical result for each sample are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to clearly

illustrate compliance with waste discharge requirements and spatial or temporal trends, as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be reported in the next scheduled monitoring report.

As required by the California Business and Professions Code sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1, all Groundwater Monitoring Reports shall be prepared under the direct supervision of a Registered Engineer or Geologist and signed and stamped by the registered professional.

A. Quarterly Monitoring Reports

Quarterly Reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on the **first day of the second month after the quarter ends** (e.g. the January-March Quarterly Report is due by 1 May). The reports shall bear the certification and signature of the Discharger's authorized representative. At a minimum, the quarterly reports shall include:

1. Results of all required monitoring.
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the discharge specifications, applicable effluent limits, disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements. (Data shall be presented in tabular format).
3. If requested by staff, copies of laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).

B. Annual Report

The Annual Report shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by **1 February** each year. The annual report shall include the following:

1. Tabular and graphical summaries of all data collected during the year.
2. An evaluation of the performance of the wastewater treatment system, including discussion of capacity issues, nuisance conditions, system problems, and a forecast of the flows anticipated in the next year.
3. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.
4. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
5. A summary of information on the disposal of septic and sludge monitoring.
6. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring.

A letter transmitting the self-monitoring reports shall accompany each report. The letter shall clearly indicate the submitting Discharger's name, facility or site name, county, monitoring period, and type of report (i.e., monthly, quarterly, or annual). The letter shall include a discussion of any requirement violations during the reporting period and actions taken or

GLOSSARY

BOD ₅	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand
CaCO ₃	Calcium carbonate
DO	Dissolved oxygen
EC	Electrical conductivity at 25° C
FDS	Fixed dissolved solids
NTU	Nephelometric turbidity unit
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TSS	Total suspended solids
Continuous	The specified parameter shall be measured by a meter continuously.
24-hr Composite	Samples shall be a flow-proportioned composite consisting of at least eight aliquots over a 24-hour period.
Daily	Every day except weekends or holidays.
Twice Weekly	Twice per week on non-consecutive days.
Weekly	Once per week.
Twice Monthly	Twice per month during non-consecutive weeks.
Monthly	Once per calendar month.
Bimonthly	Once every two calendar months (i.e., six times per year) during non-consecutive months.
Quarterly	Once per calendar quarter.
Semiannually	Once every six calendar months (i.e., two times per year) during non-consecutive quarters.
Annually	Once per year.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
mL/L	Milliliters [of solids] per liter
µg/L	Micrograms per liter
µmhos/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
gpd	Gallons per day
mgd	Million gallons per day
MPN/100 mL	Most probable number [of organisms] per 100 milliliters
MTF	Multiple tube fermentation