



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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11 May 2009

Michael R. Finnegan
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LIMITED THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0082 (GENERAL ORDER); MORMON ISLAND AUXILIARY DAM DEWATERING PUMP TEST PROJECT, SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) dated 8 October 2008 and the supplementary information dated 5 March 2009 from the US Bureau of Reclamation (Discharger) for discharge of groundwater at the foundation of Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam. Based on the information submitted, we have determined that the proposed discharge meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Limited Threat Discharges (General Order No. R5-2008-0082). This project is hereby assigned General Order No. R5-2008-0082-0012 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002.

The Limited Threat General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2008-0082.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Limited Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA, the Limited Threat General Order, and with the information submitted by the Discharger.

CALIFORNIA TOXIC RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Limited Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), Policy for Implementation of Toxic Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP).

According to the Clean Water Act Section 303(d), receiving water (American River South Fork) is impaired for mercury. One time monitoring of the discharge for mercury is required upon initial discharge. Method detection limits shall be below the corresponding screening level in Attachment B of the Limited Threat General Order. If the lowest minimum level (ML) published in Appendix 4 of the SIP is not below the screening level, the detection limit shall be the lowest ML.

California Environmental Protection Agency



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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Discharger's project area is located south-east of Folsom Lake between the downstream toe of Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam (MIAD) and Green Valley Road. The project includes drilling, installing and developing 4 to 8 pump wells and 10 to 24 observation wells to establish data for design of a dewatering program for future construction at the site. The amount of water to be produced by the wells is initially expected to be about 1500 gallons per minute and will quickly reduce once the water level is drawn down. Water produced by the wells will be conveyed via polyvinyl chloride pipe to a plastic lined retention pond where any suspended particles will settle out prior to the water exiting the pond. Water from the pond will then flow via a plastic lined ditch to the Mormon Island Wetland Preserve located at the downstream toe of MIAD. The wetland preserve is tributary to the American River, a water of the United States.

Best Management Practices are used to keep fines and suspended solids from entering the wetlands. This will be accomplished through a retention pond, which has a design capacity to hold 24-hours of peak production water.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Discharger is required to comply with all the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the Limited Threat General Order. This includes notifying Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) staff 24 hours before the start of each new discharge, notification of noncompliance or anticipated noncompliance, and quarterly reporting of monitoring results. In addition to these monitoring requirements, and in accordance with Section IV.A.2 of Attachment E of the General Order, the discharge from the retention pond must be field analyzed daily for total Arsenic using EPA's arsenic test kit and weekly using EPA Method 6020. If elevated levels of Arsenic are detected above 8 µg/l, resampling of the discharge must occur every hour. Hourly sampling may cease when total arsenic concentrations drop below 8 µg/l or if the discharge is ceased. Additionally, if total arsenic levels are detected at or above 10 µg/l, pumping shall be stopped and the discharge to the wetland preserve shall cease.

Effluent and receiving water monitoring shall be conducted and submitted to the Regional Water Board on a quarterly basis. Quarterly reports must be submitted even if there is no discharge or receiving water flow during the reporting quarter, until Regional Water Board staff formally terminate your coverage under the Limited Threat General Order. The monitoring and reporting requirements are found in Attachment E of the Limited Threat General Order. Please reference your unique order number, R5-2008-0082-0012, in all your correspondence and submitted documents.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger will be required to implement its Pollution Prevention and Monitoring and Reporting Plan, if applicable. Discharge of material other than what is described in the application is prohibited.

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Board) shall be submitted until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by this Limited Threat General Order is no longer

necessary, so we may terminate applicability of this Limited Threat General Order and avoid additional unnecessary billing.

Failure to comply with the Limited Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Some late reporting and effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation [California Water Code Section 13385(h) and (i)]. If you have no discharge during a quarterly monitoring period, you must still submit a report indicating that no discharge occurred, or you may be subject to MMPs.

All monitoring reports submittals, discharge notifications, and any questions regarding compliance or enforcement, shall be to Ann Hopkinson, who may be reached at (916) 464-4825 or at ahopkinson@waterboards.ca.gov. If you have any questions regarding the permitting aspects of your Limited Threat General Order coverage, please contact Anand Mamidi of our office at (916) 464-4853 or at amamidi@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed By Kenneth D. Landau for
PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2008-0082 (Discharger only)

cc: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco
Mr. Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento

bcc: Ann Hopkinson, Regional Water Board, Sacramento