
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

14 June 2013

Jim Abercrombie, General Manager
El Dorado Irrigation District
2890 Mosquito Road
Placerville, CA 95667

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LIMITED THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2013-0073 (GENERAL ORDER); FINNON RESERVOIR WATER SUPPLEMENTATION PROJECT, EL DORADO COUNTY

Our office received a Report of Waste Discharge application on 19 April 2013 from the El Dorado Irrigation District (hereinafter Discharger), Finnon Reservoir Water Supplementation Project (hereinafter Project), for discharge of dechlorinated potable water to surface water. Based on the application packet and subsequent information submitted by the Discharger, staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Limited Threat Discharges of Treated/Untreated Groundwater from Cleanup Sites, Wastewater from Superchlorination Projects, and Other Limited Threat Wastewaters to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order). This project is hereby assigned Limited Threat General Order R5-2013-0073-031 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002. Please reference your Limited Threat General Order number, **R5-2013-0073-031**, in your correspondence and submitted documents.

The Limited Threat General Order is enclosed, and may also be viewed at the following web address:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2013-0073.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Limited Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring and reporting requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Finnon Reservoir is a small impoundment located in El Dorado County off of Rock Creek Road, approximately 5 miles northeast of Placerville, California and approximately 1 mile west of the town of Swansboro, California. Finnon Reservoir is presently owned and operated by the Mosquito Volunteer Fire District (MVFD) and is used for fire protection and recreational purposes. When full the reservoir can hold approximately 538 acre-feet. Historically, the reservoir was filled with watershed runoff plus water delivered via the Summerfield Ditch. The Discharger obtained water rights to Summerfield Ditch in 1990 and in 2004 the water rights were reassigned to Folsom Lake. Deliveries of water to Finnon Reservoir were discontinued and the ditch removed. In 2012 MVFD completed construction of a dam at Finnon Reservoir. The Discharger is contractually obligated to fill the reservoir because of water rights previously assigned to Finnon Reservoir. This project plans to use dechlorinated potable water from a nearby waterline to augment filling the reservoir.

To meet its obligation to deliver water to MVFD's Finnon Reservoir, the Discharger is releasing water from its potable water supply for approximately 4 months per year. The potable water supply will be metered and pass through a tablet feeder system to neutralize chlorine. The feeder has capacity to hold enough tablets to neutralize water releases for just over one week. The feeder will be restocked weekly during site visits. Water from the dechlorination tablet feeder will flow through approximately 300 feet of buried pipe and then approximately 600 feet of vegetated natural drainage swale to Finnon Reservoir.

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).

Screening levels for CTR constituents are found in Attachment B of the Limited Threat General Order. Review of your effluent water quality data in comparison to the CTR screening values, showed no reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to an exceedence of the CTR water quality objectives in Finnon Reservoir. However, due to the use of chlorine and the discharge flow rate of 0.44 million gallons daily, this discharge has a limited threat to water quality.

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Effluent limitations are specified in Section V. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS of the Limited Threat General Order. The following effluent limitations are applicable to this discharge and are contained in Section V. A through C of the Limited Threat General Order:

Effluent Limitations – Applicable to All Limited Threat Discharges

2. Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity. Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste for all limited threat discharges shall be no less than:

- a. 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and
- b. 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

Effluent Limitations – Limited Threat Dischargers to Specific Waterbodies

4. The pH of all limited threat discharges within the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (except Goose Creek) shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 and 8.5.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring and reporting requirements are contained in Attachment E of the Limited Threat General Order. The Discharger is required to comply with the following monitoring and reporting requirements for the effluent and receiving water as specified in Attachment E of the Limited Threat General Order.

Effluent Monitoring – The Discharger shall monitor the limited threat discharge prior to discharging to Finnon Reservoir as follows:

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Monitoring Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Flow	gpd	Estimate	1/Day	1
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 C°	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Month	1
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Day	1
Total Residual Chlorine	µg/L	Grab	1/Day	1
Acute Toxicity	% survival	Grab	1/Year	2
Chronic Toxicity	--	Grab	1/permit term	3

¹ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136

² The acute toxicity testing samples shall be analyzed using EPA-821-R-02-012, Fifth Edition. Temperature, ammonia, total residual chlorine, and pH shall be recorded at the time of sample collection. No pH adjustment may be made unless approved by the Executive Officer.

³ The presence of chronic toxicity shall be estimated as specified in Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002.

Receiving Water Monitoring – None required.

The Discharger must notify Central Valley Water Board staff 24 hours 1) before the initiation of the discharge, and 2) as soon as noncompliance is anticipated. The Discharger shall also notify Central Valley Water Board staff when the discharge ceases. Monitoring in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order shall begin upon initiation of discharge. Monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis, beginning with the Second Quarter 2013. If the discharge has not begun there is no need to monitor. However, a monitoring report must be submitted stating that there has been no discharge. Quarterly monitoring reports must be submitted until your coverage is formally terminated in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order, even if there is no discharge during the reporting quarter.

The Finnon Reservoir is not listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies. Therefore, no additional effluent limitations or monitoring requirements have been added to this Limited Threat General Order.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Central Valley Water Board shall be notified immediately if any effluent limit violation is observed during implementation of the project.

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 Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing when the discharge regulated by the Limited Threat General Order is no longer necessary. If a timely written request is not received, the Discharger will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Limited Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory

Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. In addition, late monitoring reports may be subject to MMPs. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly report monitoring period, the Discharger must still submit a quarterly monitoring report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

COMMUNICATION

All monitoring reports submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Mohammad Farhad of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit. Mr. Farhad can be reached at (916) 464-1181 or mfarhad@waterboards.ca.gov.

Questions regarding the permitting aspects of your Limited Threat General Order, and written notification for termination of coverage under the Order, shall be directed to Mr. Josh Palmer at (916) 464-4674 or jpalmer@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code Section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day.

Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality or will be provided upon request.

Original Signed by Kenneth D. Landau for

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order R5-2013-0073 (Discharger only)

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