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Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

24 May 2018

Gregory Knapp
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3000 Executive Parkway, Suite 200
San Ramon, CA 94583

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2016-0076-01 FOR LIMITED THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATER; LEHIGH SOUTHWEST CEMENT COMPANY, CALAVERAS CEMENT PLANT PROJECT, CALAVERAS COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent on 15 December 2017 from Lehigh Southwest Cement Company (hereinafter Discharger), for discharge of treated leachate 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 to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order), Tier 2. This project is hereby assigned Limited Threat General Order R5-2016-0076-032 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002. Please reference your Limited Threat General Order number, **R5-2016-0076-032**, in your correspondence and submitted documents.

The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the Limited Threat General Order and as specified in this NOA. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the entire contents of the Limited Threat General Order. To conserve resources, the Limited Threat General Order may be viewed at the following web address: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2016-0076_mod.pdf. A copy of the Limited Threat General Order can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office weekdays between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

CALIFORNIA TOXICS RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Limited Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxics Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxics 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 and other constituents of concern are found in Attachment I of the Limited Threat General Order. Review of your influent and effluent water quality data in comparison to the screening values, showed no reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in Calaveritas Creek, which is a water of the United States. Therefore, the Calaveras Cement Plant Project qualifies for the Limited Threat General Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Calaveras Cement Plant Project (Project) is the site of a former limestone quarry, which was in operation from 1926 to 1982. Cement production ceased in 1983 and the manufacturing facilities at the Project site have been decommissioned and demolished. The closure and post-closure maintenance of the Project site is regulated by Title 27 Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2017-0077. The discharge covered under this NOA consists of treated leachate from the Number One Cement Kiln Dust Pile (CKD-1) Leachate Collection and Recovery System to Calaveritas Creek. The leachate is treated with ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis combined system prior to discharge to Calaveritas Creek through an existing outfall serving storm water from the surface of CKD-1. Waste streams from the ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis combined system, brine, and solids will be hauled for offsite disposal at an appropriate facility. The average daily discharge is projected to be approximately 4,800 gallons per day (GPD) with a maximum daily discharge of 13,500 GPD (treatment system maximum operation capacity).

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Effluent limitations are specified in Section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of the Limited Threat General Order. Based on the information provided in the NOI, effluent limitations are only required for the parameters identified in items 1 – 3, below:

1. **pH (Section V.A.1.b.ii).** 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.
2. **Whole Effluent Toxicity, Chronic (Section V.A.2.a).** There shall be no chronic toxicity in the discharge.
3. **Whole Effluent Toxicity, Acute (Section V.A.3.b).** Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste for all limited threat discharges shall be no less than:
 - i. 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and
 - ii. 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

The Receiving Water is not listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies. Therefore, no additional 303(d) based effluent limitations or monitoring requirements have been added to this Notice of Applicability.

RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

The Limited Threat General Order includes receiving surface water limitations in Section VIII.A. Based on the information provided in the NOI, only the following receiving surface water limitations are applicable to this discharge:

- Bacteria (VIII.A.2);
- Biostimulatory substances (VIII.A.3);
- Chemical constituents (VIII.A.4);
- Color (VIII.A.5);
- Dissolved oxygen (VIII.A.6.b.i);
- Floating material (VIII.A.7);
- Oil and grease (VIII.A.8);

- pH (VIII.A.9.a);
- Pesticides (VIII.A.10);
- Radioactivity (VIII.A.11);
- Suspended sediments (VIII.A.12);
- Settleable substances (VIII.A.13);
- Suspended material (VIII.A.14);
- Taste and odors (VIII.A.15);
- Temperature (VIII.A.16);
- Toxicity (VIII.A.17); and
- Turbidity (VIII.A.18.a).

MONITORING AND REPORTING

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

Monitoring Locations – The Discharger shall monitor the effluent and receiving water at the specified location as follows:

Table 1 Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
001	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to discharging to Calaveritas Creek.
--	RSW-001	Calaveritas Creek, approximately 200 feet upstream from the point of discharge.
--	RSW-002	Calaveritas Creek, approximately 200 feet downstream from the point of discharge.

Effluent Monitoring – When discharging to surface water, the Discharger shall monitor the effluent at EFF-001 in accordance with Table C-3 of the Limited Threat General Order and this NOA. The applicable monitoring requirements are as follows in Table 2:

Table 2. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Flow	MGD	Estimate	1/Day	--
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Quarter	1,2
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week	1,2
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Week	1,2
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Week	1,2
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Week	1,2
Acute Toxicity	% survival	Grab	1/5 years	2,3
Chronic Toxicity	--	Grab	1/5 years	2,3

- 1 A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.
- 2 Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.
- 3 Chronic and acute toxicity testing shall be conducted within 3 months of initiation of discharge. For acute toxicity testing, the test species shall be rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). See the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment C) for toxicity monitoring requirements.

Section II.B.2 of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements section of the Limited Threat General Order requires that dischargers submit new analytical results every 5 years for pollutants specified in Table I-1 of Attachment I. The Project is considered a Tier 2 discharge. Therefore, the Discharger shall submit monitoring results by **1 May 2023** for the constituents shown in Table 3, below:

Table 3. Effluent Characterization Monitoring

Parameter ^{1,4}	Units	Sample Type	Required Analytical Test Method
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	mg/L	Grab	2
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	Grab	2
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	mg/L	Grab	1, 2
Hardness	mg/L	Grab	1, 2
pH	standard units	Grab	1, 2
Temperature	°F	Grab	1, 2
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1, 2
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	Grab	1, 2
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1, 2
Unionized Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	2
Aluminum, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	2
Iron, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	2
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	2
CTR Priority Pollutants ³	µg/L	Grab	2

1. A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.
2. Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.
3. See Attachment I, Table I-3 of the Limited Threat General Order.
4. The Discharger is not required to conduct effluent monitoring for constituents that have already been sampled in a given month, as required in Table 3, except for hardness, pH, and temperature, which shall be conducted concurrently with the effluent sampling.

Receiving Water Monitoring - When discharging to surface water, the Discharger shall monitor the receiving water at RSW-001 and RSW-002, in accordance with Table C-5 of the Limited Threat General Order and this NOA. The applicable monitoring requirements are as follows in Table 4:

Table 4. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Monitoring Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	1,2
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Month	1,2
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	1
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Month	1,2
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Month	1,2
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Month	1,2

¹ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

² A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained by the Discharger.

In conducting the receiving water sampling, a log shall be kept of the receiving water conditions throughout the reach bounded by RSW-001 and RSW-002. Attention shall be given to the presence or absence of:

- a. Floating or suspended matter
- b. Discoloration
- c. Bottom deposits
- d. Aquatic life
- e. Visible films, sheens, or coatings
- f. Fungi, slimes, or objectionable growths
- g. Potential nuisance conditions

Notes on receiving water conditions shall be summarized in the Monitoring Report.

Monitoring Report Submittals - 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 2018**. This report shall be submitted on **1 August 2018**. If monitoring samples were not obtained within 24 hours of initiation of the discharge, the Discharger must document the reasons in the corresponding Monitoring Report. If the discharge has not begun there is no need to monitor. However, a certified Monitoring Report must be submitted stating that there has been no discharge. Table 5, below, summarizes the Monitoring Report due dates required under the Limited Threat General Order. 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.

Table 5. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Quarterly Report Due Date
1/Day, 1/Week, 1/Month, 1/Quarter	24 May 2018	1 May (1 Jan – 31 Mar) 1 Aug (1 Apr – 30 Jun) 1 Nov (1 Jul – 30 Sep) 1 Feb, of following year (1 Oct – 31 Dec)

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger must notify Central Valley Water Board staff within 24 hours of having knowledge of 1) the start of each new discharge, 2) noncompliance, and 3) when the discharge ceases. 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 invoice 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 by submitting the Request for Termination of Coverage (Attachment E). 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 or discretionary penalties of up to \$1,000 per day late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly monitoring period, the Discharger must still submit a quarterly certified Monitoring Report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

COMMUNICATION

All documents, including Monitoring Reports, written notifications, and documents submitted to comply with this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order, should be submitted to the NPDES Compliance Unit, Attention: Mohammad Farhad. Mr. Farhad can be reached at (916) 464-1181 or Mohammad.Farhad@waterboards.ca.gov.

We have transitioned to a paperless office, therefore, please convert all documents to a searchable Portable Document Format (pdf) and email them to centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov. **Please include the following information in the email:** Attention: NPDES Compliance Unit; Discharger: Lehigh Southwest Cement Company; Facility: Calaveras Cement Plant Project; County: Calaveras; and the CIWQS place ID 843565 in the body of the email. Documents that are 50 megabytes or larger must be transferred to a DVD, or flash drive and mailed to our office, attention "ECM Mailroom-NPDES". Please include the attached Monitoring Report Transmittal Form as the first page of each Monitoring Report.

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 ADAM LAPUTZ FOR

Patrick Pulupa, Incoming Executive Officer for
Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer

Enclosures (2): Monitoring Report Transmittal Form (Discharger only)
Attachment A-Project Location Map

cc: David Smith, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
Afrooz Farsimadan, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento (email only)

Project Location Map – Calaveras Cement Plant Project
 Site and Discharge Location
 R5-2016-0076-032

ATTACHMENT A – PROJECT LOCATION MAP

