ITEM: 17

SUBJECT: SPX Corporation - Former Stockton Facility
San Joaquin County

BOARD ACTION: Consideration of Time Schedule Order

BACKGROUND: The former SPX-Marley Stockton facility has significant chromium contamination in groundwater. Polluted groundwater is extracted and treated. Order No. R5-2003-0030 authorizes the discharge of approximately 0.7 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated groundwater from the facility to the nearby Stockton Diverting Canal. The Order allows the discharge of total dissolved solids (TDS) at a monthly average of 1000 milligrams per liter (mg/l) until 1 February 2008, at which time the effluent limitation would drop to 500 mg/l.

SPX Corporation (hereafter ‘Discharger’) is now pursuing an aggressive in situ groundwater treatment program that will remove the chromium plume in approximately four years. Once the chromium plume is removed, there will be no need to extract the plume or treat and discharge wastewater. Discharge to surface waters should therefore cease.

The Discharger submitted a request to postpone the compliance date for the final effluent limitations for TDS. The Discharger’s request is based on an analysis showing that implementation of the in situ groundwater treatment program will reduce TDS mass loads by about 88 percent by reducing the wastewater discharge time from an estimated 17 years to about four years.

Implementation of full-scale in situ groundwater treatment at the former SPX-Marley Stockton facility is a new technology that was not known when the current NPDES permit was adopted. The in situ groundwater treatment program will significantly improve both groundwater and surface water quality. Requiring the Discharger to meet the final TDS limitations on 1 February 2008 will not significantly benefit water quality.

This Order extends the full compliance date for the final TDS limitation for four years, from 1 February 2008 to 1 February 2012.

Monthly average TDS concentrations in the SPX-Marley facility’s effluent discharge have averaged about 670 mg/l over
the current permit term. Analysis of effluent monitoring results indicates that the Discharger’s groundwater treatment system cannot meet the final monthly average effluent limitations of 500 mg/l. However, effluent monitoring data indicate that the groundwater treatment system can consistently meet a monthly average TDS effluent limit of 850 mg/l. This Order therefore requires the Discharger to meet an interim monthly average TDS effluent limit of 850 mg/l.

ISSUES: There have been no issues raised regarding this proposed Order.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review __________
Legal Review __________

25 January 2007 Regional Water Board Hearing

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
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