The U. S. Department of Interior, National Park Service owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility in El Portal, California. Treated wastewater is discharged to the Merced River, a water of the United States. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) will consider tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for renewal of NPDES Permit No. CA0081759 to authorize continued discharge. The tentative WDRs contain new interim and final effluent limitations for California Toxic Rule constituents.

This item will be considered by the Regional Water Board at a public hearing during its meeting scheduled for:

- DATE: 24/25 April 2008
- TIME: 8:30 a.m.
- PLACE: Regional Water Quality Control Board
  11020 Sun Center Dr #200
  Rancho Cordova, CA

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Staff of Central Valley Regional Water Board
- U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Board no later than noon on 7 April 2008. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item must submit such comments in writing to the Regional Board no later than noon on 7 April 2008. Written testimony or comments submitted after noon on 7 April 2008 will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.
All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Regional Water Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

Beginning on 26 March 2008, interested parties may download the proposed WDRs from the Regional Water Board’s internet website at www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tenative_orders/. The Central Valley Water Board’s website had changed to a new format. Even though the content has not changed, some links may have changed due to this process. If you are unable to find the information you need, or if you have questions on the proposed El Portal Wastewater Treatment Facility permit renewal please contact Debra Bates at (559) 445-6281. If you do not have Internet access, these documents may be inspected and copied at the Regional Water Board’s office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, California, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by appointment.

The procedures governing Regional Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_laws/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Board’s website at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgproc or by contacting any one of the Regional Water Board’s offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

27 February 2007  LOREN J. HARLOW, Assistant Executive Officer