

ITEM: 27

SUBJECT: El Dorado Irrigation District,  
El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant, El Dorado County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of an Order Amending Time Schedule Order R5-2010-0030*

BACKGROUND: The El Dorado Irrigation District (Discharger) owns and operates the El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is permitted to discharge up to 4.0 million gallons per day of tertiary-treated wastewater to Carson Creek, a tributary to Deer Creek and the Cosumnes River. On 22 June 2007, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2007-0069 (NPDES Permit). The NPDES Permit, in part, contains final effluent limitations for aluminum based on the chronic toxicity National Ambient Water Quality Criteria of 87 ug/L. The final aluminum effluent limitations became effective on 19 May 2012, essentially granting the Discharger a 5 year compliance schedule in the permit.

During the current NPDES permit term, in November 2009, the Discharger requested that site-specific receiving water information be used during the development of the subsequent NPDES permit renewal, showing that the chronic toxicity aluminum criteria of 87 ug/L is not applicable to the receiving waters for this discharge. If the chronic criterion of 87 ug/L is found not to be applicable, the Discharger will be able to comply with revised limitations based on acute toxicity and human health.

On 18 March 2010, the Central Valley Water Board adopted a new Time Schedule Order (TSO) R5-2010-0030 providing compliance schedules for the Discharger to comply with final effluent limitations in the NPDES Permit other than aluminum; The adopted TSO granted a time schedule for compliance with copper, zinc, bis (2-ethyhexyl) phthalate, persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides, dibromochloromethane, dichlorobromomethane, total trihalomethanes, and cyanide final effluent limits.

Aluminum was not included in the March 2010 TSO because it was originally projected that the subsequent NPDES renewal considering revision of the final aluminum effluent limitations would be considered by the Board prior to May 2012. However, additional time is needed for the Central Valley Water Board to consider new aluminum effluent limitations. Therefore the proposed Order amends TSO R5-2010-0030 to provide a compliance schedule until 30 April 2013 for the Discharger to either comply with the existing final effluent limitations for aluminum in the NPDES Permit or with site-specific aluminum effluent limitations in a subsequent NPDES Permit renewal.

A Notice of Public Hearing was sent to the discharger and interested parties on 27 July 2012 with a 30-day comment period. No comments were received.

ISSUES: None.

Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review \_\_\_\_\_

4/5 October 2012 Board Meeting

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