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Director & State Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

August 27, 2012

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 200
Redding, CA 96002

RE: City of Mt. Shasta, NPDES No. CA0078051

Attention: Stacy Gotham
Water Resources Control Engineer

Recently, Barry Sutter and I met with Bryan Smith and you and discussed two issues regarding the tentative waste discharge requirements for the City of Mt. Shasta. First, you requested our review of your proposed effluent quality requirements for a discharge where direct body contact occurs with the effluent, and second, you asked for any concerns we may have regarding the discharge of effluent to a leachfield, which is upgradient of the source of drinking water for the City of Dunsmuir.

Under certain river flow conditions and when there is a likelihood of direct body contact with the undiluted wastewater effluent the Regional Water Quality Control Board has proposed an effluent limitation equivalent to disinfected tertiary recycled water as defined in Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 60301.230. Based on the water quality requirements for nonrestricted impoundments of recycled water where no limitations are imposed on body-contact water recreational activities, Title 22, CCR, Section 60305, we agree that this appears to be a reasonable approach.

The City of Dunsmuir has experienced degradation of its water supply from upstream activities in the past, however these activities have been immediately upstream of its spring source. The leachfield for the City of Mt. Shasta is well upstream of Dunsmuir's spring source, and therefore, its potential to influence water quality of the springs is unknown. Because of the current lack of information on the leachfield's influence on local groundwater, we strongly support the proposed groundwater monitoring program. It should provide valuable information to help protect downstream groundwater quality.

Should you have any further questions, please contact me at (530) 224-4872.

Tony Wiedemann, P.E.
Klamath District Engineer
DRINKING WATER FIELD
OPERATIONS BRANCH