

AGENDA ITEM:16

SUBJECT:

Following are proposed Waste Discharge Requirements Orders that prohibit discharge to surface waters. All agencies and the dischargers concur or have offered no comments. Items indicated as updates on the summary agenda make the requirements consistent with current plans and policies of the Board.

BOARD ACTION:

“Consideration of Waste Discharge Requirements”

BACKGROUND:

a. CITY OF BIGGS, CITY OF BIGGS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, BUTTE COUNTY

The City of Biggs (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the City of Biggs Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility), a publicly owned treatment works located in Butte County, California. The Facility provides sewerage services for the City of Biggs and serves approximately 600-700 households and a small commercial center. The Facility has a dry weather design flow for secondary treatment for up to 0.38 million gallons per day (MGD). Secondary-treated, disinfected wastewater from the Facility is discharged to the two unlined storage ponds and a 103-acre land application area.

Discharge from the Facility is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2012-0083 (NPDES Order CA0078930), adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 4 October 2012 and TSO R5-2017-0092 adopted 30 November 2019.

This Order replaces the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and incorporate revisions to regulations and policies adopted thereunder, for continued monitoring of the facility. Additionally, this WDR proposes the submittal of a Groundwater Limitations Compliance Assessment Plan that summarizes and evaluates water quality data collected from the Facility in efforts to evaluate compliance with the Groundwater Limitations of this Order.

The tentative Orders were issued for a 30-day public comment period on 20 December 2019 with comments due by 26 January 2020. No comments were received.

b. STANISLAUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES, CITY OF MODESTO, GEER ROAD LANDFILL, CLASS III LANDFILLS, STANISLAUS COUNTY

The Geer Road Landfill is a 168-acre, municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill located east of Modesto near the Tuolumne River. The Facility operated from 1970 to 1990

accepting primarily household, cannery, and construction and demolition (C&D) wastes. Wastes were discharged to unlined trenches and subsequently to overlying area fill cells. Two fill areas were developed separated by a central access road. In 1995, both unlined fill areas were closed with Title 27-compliant final covers.

Groundwater impacts from the landfill, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and elevated concentrations of inorganic constituents, were first discovered at the site in 1984. Both upper and lower zones of the upper aquifer underlying the site were impacted. Landfill gas (LFG) was also detected in soil south of the site. Corrective action measures historically implemented to address the release included LFG extraction at both fill areas and groundwater extraction and treatment along the southeastern perimeter of the landfill. Notwithstanding repairs and improvements, these systems did not adequately capture and remediate the release. In 2011, the Water Board adopted Cease and Desist Order (CDO) R5-2011-0021 and Revised Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) R5-2011-0022 requiring the Dischargers to define the extent of groundwater impacts and the implement necessary additional corrective action measures. Work completed under these orders included overhaul and expansion of the LFG extraction system and installation of a new, higher capacity groundwater extraction and treatment system (GWETS) the site in March 2018.

The new GWETS includes 20 groundwater extraction wells along the western (down gradient) perimeter of the landfill, a dual-train, multi-stage groundwater treatment system, and an offsite infiltration gallery for the discharge of treated groundwater from the GWETS permitted under separate, non-Title 27 general order.

These revised WDRs reclassify the two unlined fill areas at the site as separate Class III landfill units based on their final covers (which constitute their principle containment systems under Title 27) and prescribe postclosure maintenance and corrective action monitoring requirements for these units. Various technical reports are also required under the revised WDRs, including, but not limited to, work plans for evaluation and repair of the final covers, as necessary; updated operation and maintenance (O&M) plans for landfill corrective action facilities; and an updated postclosure maintenance plan (PCMP). The revised WDRs also require the Dischargers to provide corrective action financial assurance cost estimates and funding to the Central Valley Water Board given that the facility pre-dates CalRecycle requirements for such funding

The monitoring and reporting program (MRP) under the revised WDRs require semiannual monitoring for specified ("short list") VOCs and dissolved inorganics, annual monitoring for general minerals, and five-year monitoring for all landfill constituents of concern. An updated Water Quality Protection Standard Report is also required to be submitted for approval, including a plan for separate groundwater monitoring of each landfill unit absent a demonstration as to the adequacy of sharing monitoring per Title 27 regulations approved by the Executive Officer.

Local surface drainage is to the Tuolumne River about 250 feet south of the site. The Tuolumne River is tributary to the San Joaquin River, which empties into the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

Comments on the tentative WDRs were received the Dischargers on 10 January 2020. Staff responded to those comments and Staff made appropriate edits to the WDRs. Staff is not aware of any unresolved issues associated with these WDRs.

**c. HARRIS FARMS, INC. dba HARRIS RANCH,
HARRIS RANCH INN AND RESTAURANT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT,
FRESNO COUNTY**

Harris Ranch (Discharger) owns and operates the Harris Ranch Inn and Restaurant which is a resort facility with a 123-room hotel, four restaurants, two service stations, a country store and a convenience store with meat market and bakery serving the traveling public en route between the Bay Area and Southern California on Interstate 5. The resort facility has been in operation for several decades, originally as a simple roadside rest area. The wastewater treatment facility discharges domestic waste and industrial waste from the multiple kitchens. Peak average daily flow is 150,000 gallons. The treatment system consists of twin aeration ponds and several large percolation/evaporation ponds.

The Discharger has requested the existing WDRs be updated because the facility is operating under WDRs written in 1985, and their WWTF has changed appreciably since then. The Discharger is especially interested in a current revision to include a proposed addition of two secondary aeration ponds on an existing pond footprint, along with increased influent flow limits.

There are no issues associated with the requested changes. No comments were submitted by the Discharger and we are not aware of any unresolved issues.

**d. TRC COMPANIES INC. AND GBF HOLDINGS LLC, CONTRA COSTA SANITARY
LANDFILL, CLASS III LANDFILL, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

The Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill (CCSL) is an approximately 82-acre Class III closed landfill Facility located near the intersection of Somersville Road and James Donlon Boulevard in Contra Costa County, California. The CCSL overlies two former waste disposal sites called the Pittsburg and GBF landfills. The Pittsburg landfill covered 24 acres on the west side of the property and permitted to accept Group II and III materials only, under a land use permit issued in 1958. However, some hazardous materials (including 20,000 pounds of M-2 Incendiary oil Thickener" containing magnesium paste, gasoline and isobutyl methacrylate) were deposited on the site in 1975. The Pittsburg Disposal Service Inc. and others operated this landfill for the City of Pittsburg from 1946 until 1987.

In 1987, the two landfills were consolidated, and solid waste of the Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill expanded over the top of Pittsburg landfill. From 1987 to January 2001 both sites were owned and operated by Contra Costa Waste Services as

Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill a single, contiguous landfill (see Attachment B of the WDRs, Site Plan, which is incorporated herein and made part of this Order). The Facility stopped receiving waste on March 31, 1992 and in 1993, Contra Costa Waste Service began to place a cover on the landfill. In January 2001, ownership of the Facility was transferred to GBF Holdings LLC a subsidiary of TRC Companies Inc. (Discharger). The Facility received final cover complying with Title 27 in 2002.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), elevated concentrations of metals and elevated inorganic water quality parameters have been detected in downgradient monitor wells since monitoring began in 1986. The groundwater plume has migrated at least 2500 ft downgradient of the former landfill. Groundwater cleanup actions at this Facility are ongoing under a California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Consent Order for Remedial Action.

The DTSC is the lead agency for groundwater remediation at the site. Post-closure maintenance of the Facility is regulated by the WDRs issued by the Central Valley Water Board

These revised WDRs implement post-closure maintenance and corrective action requirements for the landfill. Revisions include a summary of work conducted since the existing WDRs were adopted in 2003, updated financial assurances, and an expanded groundwater monitoring network and analytical suite to bring the facility into compliance with Title 27.

Comments on the tentative WDRs were received from the DTSC on 2 January 2020 and the Dischargers on 10 January 2020. Staff responded to those comments and Staff made appropriate edits to the WDRs. Staff is not aware of any unresolved issues associated with these WDRs.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the Waste Discharge Requirements, orders

REVIEWS:

Management Review:	Various
Legal Review:	DL
Date:	20 February 2020
Board Meeting Street Address:	11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Board Meeting City, State, Zip:	Rancho Cordova, CA 95670