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Palm Desert, CA 92260
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Public Notice No. 7-06-24
NPDES Permit No. CA7000004
November 17, 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT NO. R7-2006-0084
ISSUED TO
IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT, GRASS CARP HATCHERY
FOR
DISCHARGES OF EFFLUENT THAT EXCEED THE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS
IN VIOLATION OF BOARD ORDER NO. R7-2005-0016
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA7000004

Imperial Irrigation District (Discharger) owns and operates a grass carp hatchery in the city of El Centro in Imperial County. The hatchery is designed to treat irrigation wastewater flows of up to 2.0 million gallons per day. On June 29, 2005, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements, and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit to regulate the discharge of treated wastewater from the Discharger to the Central Main Drain No. 5. The Permit is assigned NPDES Permit No. CA7000004, Board Order No. R7-2005-0016.

The Assistant Executive Officer of the Regional Board has issued Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R7-2006-0084 against the Discharger, alleging that it discharged wastewater that exceeded effluent limits and failed to monitor as set forth in Board Order No R7-2005-0016. Pursuant to Section 13385 of the California Water Code, this complaint proposes that the discharger paid thirty three thousand dollars (\$33,000) in mandatory minimum penalties for violations of specified effluent limitations and monitoring requirements. The Discharger may propose to spend an equivalent amount toward the implementation of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) that is consistent with Section 13385 of the Water Quality Enforcement Policy (Policy). The Policy was adopted by the State Water Resources Control on February 19, 2002 as Resolution No. 2002-0040, which was approved by the Office of Administrative Law, and became effective on July 30, 2002.

Unless the Discharger agrees to waive its right to a public hearing on this matter, as provided by California Water Code Section 13323(b), the Regional Board will proceed with the public hearing as follows:

Date of hearing: January 17, 2007
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: La Quinta City Council Chambers

During the hearing, the public and any other person interested in this matter can provide the Regional Board with comments on this matter.

If the Discharger waives its right to the hearing and pays the administrative civil liability in full, the Regional Board may still decide to conduct a hearing on this matter. The settlement of this Complaint will become final 30 days from the date of this Public Notice. Persons wishing to file written comments on, or objections to, the proposed Administrative Civil Liability Complaint or any other aspects of this matter are required to do so within 30 days of the date of this Notice so that the Regional Board may consider the comments.

Comments must be mailed to the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the Regional Board Office. Please contact Doug Wylie at (760) 346-6585 for any questions regarding this matter.

Any person who is disabled and requires special accommodations to participate in this Regional Meeting, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 no later than 10 days before the scheduled public hearing.