

73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
(760) 346-7491

Public Notice No. 7-07-25  
NPDES Permit No. CA0104493  
April 25, 2007

ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY ORDER NO. R7-2007-0055  
ISSUED TO  
CITY OF COACHELLA SANITARY DISTRICT  
FOR  
DISCHARGES OF EFFLUENT THAT EXCEED THE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS  
IN VIOLATION OF BOARD ORDER NO. R7-2005-0083  
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0104493

Coachella Sanitary District (Discharger) owns and operates a sewage collection system and wastewater treatment plant that provides service to the community of the City of Coachella in Riverside County. The wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is designed to treat municipal wastewater flows up to 2.4 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, Board Order No R7-2005-0083 and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0104493 to regulate the discharge of treated municipal wastewater from the WWTP to the Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel.

On February 13, 2006, the Assistant Executive Officer of the Regional Board issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R7-2007-0021 against the Discharger for exceedence of the effluent limits and failure to monitor as set forth in Board Order No R7-2005-0083. Pursuant to Section 13385 of the California Water Code, the complaint proposes that the Discharger pay \$132,000 in mandatory minimum penalties for the effluent violations; and \$10,000 in penalties for the monitoring violations. The total proposed penalty is \$142,000.

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13323(b), the Discharger was timely informed of its right to a public hearing on this matter within 90 days of being issued the ACL Complaint and its right to waive the hearing. The Regional Board previously scheduled a public hearing, in which this enforcement matter would be considered among other agenda items for March 21, 2007 in the La Quinta City Council Chambers. Prior to that hearing, the Discharger agreed to waive its right to the hearing. The Discharger also submitted a settlement proposal that included an agreement to implement a supplemental environmental project (SEP), consistent with Section IX of the Water Quality Enforcement Policy (Policy). The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Policy on February 19, 2002, as Resolution No. 2002-0040, was approved by the Office of Administrative Law, and became effective on July 30, 2002.

The Regional Board has scheduled its next public hearing as follows:

Date of hearing: May 16, 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.

Because the Discharger previously agreed to waive its right to a public hearing on this matter and to implement the SEP, the ACL Complaint No. R7-2007-0021 was rescinded and draft ACL Order No. R7-2007-0055 was prepared reflecting this settlement. The Regional Board may still decide to conduct a hearing on this matter, however.

The settlement of this Order will become final 30 days from the date of this Public Notice. Persons wishing to file written comments on, or objections to, the proposed ACL Order or any other aspects of this matter are required to do so within 30 days of the date of this Public 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 Order 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.