

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

Public Notice No. 7-08-13
NPDES Permit No. CA7000003
April 16, 2008

ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT NO. R7-2008-0031
ISSUED TO
ORMAT NEVADA, INC.
FOR DISCHARGES OF WASTEWATER
INTO BEECH DRAIN
IN VIOLATION OF BOARD ORDER NO. R7-2005-0065
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA7000003

Ormat Nevada, Inc. (hereinafter the Discharger) owns and operates a geothermal power plant facility identified as the Second Imperial Geothermal Power Plant Facility. The Discharger discharged cooling tower blowdown wastewater. The final effluent was discharged to the Beech Drain, which then conveyed the effluent to the Alamo River and then to the Salton Sea.

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 the treated wastewater to the Beech Drain. The Permit is assigned NPDES Permit No. CA7000003, Board Order No. R7-2005-0065. The discharge of wastewater from the Ormat Nevada, Inc. Second Imperial Geothermal Power Plant Facility violated the requirements prescribed in Board Order No. R7-2005-0065 for lead.

The Assistant Executive Officer of the Regional Board has issued Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R7-2008-0031 against the Discharger, alleging that it discharged wastewater that exceeded effluent limits set forth in Board Order No. R7-2005-0065.

Pursuant to Section 13385 of the California Water Code, this Complaint proposes that the Discharger pay six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in Mandatory Minimum Penalties for violations of effluent limitations specified in Board Order No. R7-2005-0065.

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: May 21, 2008
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Indio 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 thirty (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 aspect of this matter must do so within thirty (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.

For any person, who is disabled and requires special accommodations to participate in this Regional Board Meeting, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 346-7491 no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled public hearing.