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Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 346-7491

Public Notice No. 7-10-32
NPDES Permit No. CA0105007
August 19, 2010

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R7-2010-0046
IN THE MATTER OF
CITY OF WESTMORLAND, OWNER/OPERATOR
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT,
FOR
DISCHARGES OF EFFLUENT COPPER OF BOARD ORDER NO. R7-2007-0034
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0105007
City of Westmorland – Imperial County

The City of Westmorland (hereinafter Discharger) owns and operates a municipal wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) that provides sewerage services to its residents. The WWTP has a total design capacity of 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD). The Discharger's WWTP is a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) that discharges its effluent to two, two-acre unlined wetland ponds. Effluent from the two wetlands is joined into a single pipe that discharges to Trifolium Drain No. 6, which discharges into the New River and eventually into the Salton Sea. Trifolium Drain No. 6, the New River, and the Salton Sea are waters of the United States.

On August 3, 2010, Regional Board staff received a letter dated August 3, 2010 from the Discharger. The letter stated in part: "As a result of [the City of Westmorland's] recent failure to comply with the monthly average effluent requirements for Copper during the month of May 2010, the City of Westmorland would like to request the issuance of a Cease and Desist Order for [its WWTP] from the Regional Water Quality Control Board."

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13301, tentative Cease and Desist Order No. R7-2010-0046 is proposed to be issued by the Regional Board to set forth actions that the Discharger shall take to correct or prevent discharges of waste that are in violation of Board Order No. R7-2007-0034 with respect to the effluent discharge limitation for copper.

A public hearing on this matter will be held as follows:

Date: September 16, 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: City of La Quinta
City Hall Council Chambers
78-495 Calle Tampico
La Quinta, CA 92253

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

Persons wishing to file written comments on, or objections to, the tentative Cease and Desist Order are requested 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 tentative Cease and Desist Order may be obtained from the Regional Board Office. Please contact Doug Wylie at (760) 346-6585 for any questions regarding this matter. Please bring this notice to the attention of anyone you think would be interested in this matter.

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