



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Agency Secretary

Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

July 7, 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
CLAIM NO. 7003 3110 0003 3258 4141

Mr. Keith Herren
Newhall Land
23823 Valencia Boulevard
Valencia, CA 91355

Dear Mr. Herren:

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR WELL PUMPING AND AQUIFER TESTING DISCHARGE BY LEIGHTON AND ASSOCIATES AT A NEWHALL LAND SITE LOCATED AT POTRERO CANYON, WEST OF PICO CANYON ROAD, CALIFORNIA (FILE NO. 05-093, CI NO. 8901)

We have completed our review of your application for coverage under General Waste Discharge Requirements for discharge of water produced during the well pumping and aquifer testing at the site referenced above, which is located in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, California.

Newhall Land (hereinafter Discharger) owns and operates the land where his consultant (Leighton and Associates) will conduct the well pumping and aquifer testing operation at the site located within the Potrero Canyon, west of Pico Canyon Road, California (Figure 1) (Latitude: 34°23'42", Longitude: 118°38'49").

The Discharger is proposing to discharge up to 300,000 gallons of uncontaminated groundwater from a test site, which consists of a large diameter well (Pump Well) and a cluster of six wells/peizometers (Witness Wells) arranged in concentric pattern around the Pump Well (PW-1) (Figure 2). These Witness Wells are used to monitor and measure alluvial aquifer draw down/influence from the Pump Well during the test. As a contingency, one Witness Well was developed to be capable of being used as the Pump Well in the event of a problem with well PW-1. The wells were installed in the canyon alluvium, with screened intervals from 50 to 100 feet below grade surface. The Pump Well will be pumped at a rate approximating the well recharge rate (10 to 70 gallons per minute), for three days. All water from the Pump Well will be contained in tanks and tested before is discharged through either a surface impoundment by infiltration or through land by irrigation of grazing/pasture lands within Potrero Canyon or as dust control at agriculture operations at the Newhall Land.

Prior to pumping, two or three tanks of 20,000 gallons capacity will be staged on site. If flows allow, up to 15 tanks may be used to complete the test. Water samples will be taken from these tanks for laboratory analysis in accordance with the enclosed monitoring program. The results of the laboratory tests will be compared to the groundwater data collected prior to the pump test. If the collected water quality is uncontaminated and consistent with that water

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quality before pumping, the water will be discharged to either of the above discharges proposed.

Newhall Land and Farm Company owns the property where the water will be discharged. Leighton and Associates has a general agreement for professional services and authorization with the landowner. The property is nearly flat and is currently vacant (agriculture land).

The site is located in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County and Eastern Santa Clara Basins in Castaic Valley Sub-basin area. General Waste Discharge Requirements of Order 93-010 establish limits for sulfate, chloride, and total dissolved solids (TDS) for this area. The water quality objectives are 1,000 mg/L for TDS, 350 mg/L for sulfate, 50 mg/L for chloride, and 1.0 mg/L for boron. Groundwater samples collected on October 9, 2004 from an adjacent well to the pumping and aquifer testing area at approximately 25 feet below grade which indicate the following results: 3,990 mg/L for TDS, 2,080 mg/L for sulfate, 56 mg/L for chloride, non-detected concentration of total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH), non-detected pesticides and PCBs, and non-detected volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Based on this data, the TSD, sulfate, and chloride are at levels above the Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives.

Waste Discharge Requirements (E.6.) of Board Order No 93-010 states: "Wastewater discharged to groundwater shall maintain the existing water quality, even if that existing water quality exceeds established objectives. A determination shall be made by the Executive Officer as to the applicability of water quality standards with regard to the "Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Water in California", with each discharge, on a site – specific basis". The proposal is for groundwater to be utilized in the area from which it was extracted. It will not be a threat to water quality nor will it threaten beneficial uses of the local groundwater. Subsequently, the Executive Officer has determined that the objectives for TDS, chlorides, and sulfates per Attachments "A" and "B" of Order No. 93-010 are not applicable to this proposed discharge.

Regional Board staff have reviewed the information provided and determined that the proposed meets the conditions specified in Order No. 93-010, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Specified Discharges to Groundwater in Santa Clara River and Los Angeles River Basins," adopted by this Board on January 25, 1993.

Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements consisting of Regional Board Order No. 93-010 (Series No. 021), Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-8901, and Standard Provisions Applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements. We understand that you will start your project in July 2005, and you will complete this well pumping and aquifer testing within three months. Should there be a significant delay in the project (i.e. beyond a completion date of October 30, 2005), you must reapply for WDRs.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program requires you to implement the monitoring program on the effective date of this enrollment (July 7, 2005) under Regional Board Order No. 93-010. All monitoring reports shall be sent to the Regional Board, ATTN: Information Technology Unit.

Mr. Keith Herren
Newhall Land

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July 7, 2005

When submitting monitoring and technical reports to the Regional Board per these requirements, please include a reference to "Compliance File No. CI-8901", which will assure that the reports are directed to the appropriate file and staff. Also, please do not combine other reports with your monitoring reports. Submit each type of report as a separate document.

We are sending a copy of Order No. 93-010 only to the applicant. A copy of the Order will be furnished to anyone who requests it.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Orlando H. Gonzalez at (213) 620-2267.

Sincerely,

Jonathan S. Bishop
Executive Officer

Enclosures: 1. Board Order No. 93-010
2. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-8901

cc: Mr. Sam Rojas, Newhall Land
Mr. Joseph L. Montoya, Leighton and Associates Geotechnical Investigation

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