



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



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

Dan Skopec
Acting Agency Secretary

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013
Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles>

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

May 24, 2006

Riel Johnson, Director of Operations
Newhall County Water District
23780 N. Pine Street
Santa Clarita, CA 91322

Dear Mr. Johnson:

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIED DISCHARGES TO GROUNDWATER – NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT – CASTAIC WELL NO. 7, CASTAIC, CALIFORNIA (Order No. 93-010, CI-9095, Series No. 024, File No. 06-098)

On January 6, 2006 we received a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) submitted by the Newhall County Water District (hereafter Discharger) for discharge of water produced during the installation and development of water supply well Castaic No. 7 at the subject location. The Discharger furnishes potable water to approximately 30,000 persons in the Santa Clarita Valley. The Discharger plans to drill and develop well Castaic No. 7 at its facilities upon enrollment of the construction and development project under Regional Board Order No. 93-010. Water from the development of the Castaic No. 7 well will be discharged to a large unlined percolation pond to be constructed on the Discharger's property. The dimensions of the percolation pond are approximately 300 feet by 100 feet by 7 feet deep. The capacity of the percolation pond is 1.57 million gallons. Discharge activities associated with installing and developing well Castaic No. 7 will be intermittent and will last three to five months, depending on how quickly the well can be developed. Discharge will vary up to maximum daily discharge of 1,500,000 gallons. Total discharges will not exceed 7 million gallons of water.

The site is located within the Eastern Hydrologic Subarea of the Upper Santa Clara River Hydrologic Area overlying the local alluvial aquifer system. The Castaic Valley Alluvial Aquifer system is generally contained within the Castaic Creek Valley. The proposed well Castaic No. 7 is in the vicinity of existing operating wells in the Castaic Valley Alluvial Aquifer operated by the Discharger. Native soils underlying the site consist of Quaternary-age alluvial deposits that extend to a depth of approximately 110 to 140 feet below ground surface. Based on the water level measurements in the adjacent production wells the depth to groundwater ranges between approximately 25 to 60 feet below ground surface. Groundwater of the Castaic Valley Alluvial Aquifer generally contains elevated concentrations of total dissolved solids (TDS), calcium and sulfate. *The Water Quality Control Plan for Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties* (Basin Plan) adopted on June 13, 1994 established limits for these constituents for this area. The water quality objectives are 900 mg/L for TDS, 300 mg/L for sulfate, 150 mg/L for chloride, and 1.0 mg/L for boron. Groundwater samples collected from water supply well Castaic No. 2 indicate that groundwater discharged during well development will meet the prescribed water quality in the basin plan and there are no exceedances of Title 22 primary MCLs.

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Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

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.

Regional Board staff have reviewed the information provided and determined that the proposed discharge 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 Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 93-010, Monitoring and Reporting Program CI No. 9095. and Standard Provisions. The Monitoring and Reporting Program requires you to implement the monitoring program on the date you receive this Order. All monitoring reports should be sent to the Regional Board, ATTN: information Technology Unit. When submitting monitoring and technical reports to the Regional Board per these requirements, please include a reference to "Compliance File No. CI-9095, 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.

Please note that well construction may be subject to the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Environmental Health Division, Water and Sewerage Programs. Any wastewater except the water produced during well construction shall not be discharged into the percolation pond. In addition, adequate facilities shall be provided to divert any stormwater away from the pond area. The water level in the pond shall be maintained at a level to ensure that rainfall and stormwater will not cause overtopping. In order to avoid future annual fees, please submit a termination certification when the project has been completed and the permit is no longer needed.

If you have any questions please contact Enrique Casas at (213) 620-2299.

Sincerely,

Jonathan S. Bishop
Executive Officer

Enclosures

1. Regional Board Order No. 93-010
2. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-9095
3. Standard Provisions applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements

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