CALIFORNIA
Water Boards

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIQUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

June 28, 2018

Mr. Thomas A. Di Ciolli
Plant Manager
NRG California South LP
393 North Harbor Blvd.
Oxnard, CA 93035

Dear Mr. Di Ciolli:

TENTATIVE TERMINATION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT FOR NRG CALIFORNIA SOUTH LP MANDALAY GENERATING STATION, OXNARD, CA. (NPDES NO. CA0001180, CI NO. 2093)

The NRG California South LP (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Mandalay Generating Station (hereinafter Facility), a steam-electric generating facility. The Facility is located at 393 North Harbor Boulevard, Oxnard, California. The Facility consists of three electric generating units (Units 1, 2, and 3) with a total combined generating capacity of approximately 560 megawatts (MW). Units 1 and 2 are steam-electric generating units which use once-through cooling water and each has a rated power generation capacity of 215 MW. Unit 3 is a 130 MW simple-cycle combustion turbine unit which does not utilize once-through cooling water. The Facility was permitted to discharge up to 255.3 million gallons per day (MGD) of combined wastewater consisting of once-through cooling water, internal process wastewaters, and storm water into the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States through Discharge Point 001. The discharge is regulated under waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. R4-2015-0201, adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) on October 8, 2015, and it is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2020. Order No. R4-2015-0201 also serves as a permit under the NPDES (NPDES No. CA0001180) Program.

In a letter dated June 5, 2018, the Discharger requested the Regional Water Board to discontinue coverage under the NPDES permit program because the facility operations and discharges to surface waters have ceased on March 29, 2018. Mandalay Generating Station is deactivated, and NRG California South LP has no future plans to operate Units 1-3.

On June 25, 2018, Regional Water Board staff conducted a site visit and verified that the Facility operations and discharges of wastewater to surface water have ceased. The once-through cooling (OTC) circulating system, including the ocean water cooling pumps and the associated conduits/piping has been disconnected and its ends terminated (plugged), so that it eliminates the withdrawal of ocean water from the canal and the discharge of once-through cooling water and in-plant wastewater to the outfall. The Facility no longer discharges any wastewater to surface water.

Therefore, the NPDES permit (Order No. R4-2015-0201) regulating the discharge is no longer needed.

In accordance with administrative procedures, this Regional Water Board at a public hearing to be held on September 13, 2018, at 9:00 A.M., at Ventura County Government Center Hearing Room, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, will consider the enclosed tentative Order which will terminate the requirements in Order No. R4-2015-0201 and comments submitted in writing regarding any and all portions thereof. The Board will hear any testimony pertinent to this matter. It is expected that the Board will take action at the hearing; however, as testimony indicates, the Board, at its discretion, may order further investigation.

Written comments regarding this tentative Order must be received at the Regional Water Board office by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **August 10, 2018,** in order to be evaluated by Board staff and included in the Board's agenda folder. Timely submittal of written comments is encouraged to ensure that all comments are accurately and fully included in the administrative record, that Board staff is able to provide timely review, and that Regional Board members have sufficient time to give full consideration to the comments and issues raised. The Regional Water Board chair may exclude from the record written materials received after this date. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23 § 648.4.)

Should any future activities at the subject Facility result in discharges of any wastewater to surface waters, you are required to file a Report of Waste Discharge with this Regional Water Board and secure a permit prior to discharge.

If you have any questions, please contact Rosario Aston at (213) 576-6653.

Sincerely,

Cris Morris for

Cassandra D. Owens, Chief
Industrial Permitting Unit (NPDES)

Enclosures:

cc: See Mailing List

MAILING LIST (VIA EMAIL ONLY}

Mr. David Smith, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Ms. Robyn Stuber, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Permits Branch (WTR-5)
Ms. Becky Mitschele, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Mr. Kenneth Wong, U.S Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Bryant Chesney, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr. Jeff Phillips, Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mr. William Paznokas, Department of Fish and Game, Region 5
Mr. Tim Smith, Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works, Waste Management Division
Ms. Marylou Taylor, California Energy Commission
Ms. Sutida Bergguist, State Water Resources Control Board, Drinking Water Division
Ms. Teresa, Henry, California Coastal Commission, South Coast Region
Mr. Theodore Johnson, Water Replenishment District of Southern California
Mr. Angelo Bellomo, Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health
Mr. Gerhardt Hubner, County of Ventura, Flood Control District
Ventura Port District Harbor Patrol
Ms. Elena Brokaw, City of San Buenaventura
City of San Buenaventura, Parks and Recreation
Sierra Club, Southern Coastal Coordinator
Mr. Mati Waiya, Ventura CoastKeeper
Mr. Jason Weiner, Wishtoyo Foundation and its Ventura Coastkeeper Program
Mr. Al Wagner, California Coastal Commission, South Coast Region
Friends of the Ventura River
Mr. Paul Jenkin, Surfrider Foundation, Ventura County Chapter
Ms. Jessica Altstatt, Santa Barbara Channel Keeper
Ms. Betsy Weber, Environmental Defense Center
Mr. Greg Nyhoff, City of Oxnard
Mr. Damon Wing, Ventura County
Mr. Daniel Cooper, Lawyers for Clean Water
Ms. Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay
Ms. Melissa Kelly, Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Ms. Corinne Bell, Natural Resources Defense Council
Ms. Joan Mathews, Natural Resources Defense Council
Mr. James Ashby, PG Environmental
Ms. Sarah Torres, PG Environmental
Mr. William Probasco, NRG California South, LP
Ms. Julie Babcock, NRG California South, LP
Mr. George Piantka, NRG California South, LP
Mr. Scott Warnock, NRG California South LP, Ormond Beach Generating Station