California Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A Santa Rosa, CA 95403

News Release

FOR RELEASE June 12, 2008 CONTACT: David Leland, (707) 576-2069

NORTH COAST REGIONAL WATER BOARD FINES THE CITY OF ARCATA \$104,000 FOR SEWAGE VIOLATIONS

<u>SANTA ROSA</u> Today, the North Coast Regional Water Board fined the City of Arcata for overflows from its sanitary sewer system, and for inadequate treatment of toxics such as copper and cyanide. The Regional Water Board imposed a penalty of \$104,000 for violations between June 22, 2004 and March 31, 2007. The order holds \$33,000 in abeyance until a lawsuit in a related order is resolved, and requires the city to pay \$20,500 to the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) by July 15, 2008. The remaining balance of \$50,500 is to be offset by a supplemental environmental project (SEP) and two upgrade projects to reduce sewer system overflows (SSOs).

The sewer system projects, are scheduled to be complete by September 30, 2008. They include reconstruction of five manholes and secondary containment for the Pickwick Apartment cleanout. These projects were chosen to satisfy discretionary penalties associated with sewer overflows and will reduce those overflows.

Upon satisfactory completion of the SEPs and sewer system upgrade projects, the balance of the penalty will be suspended and no further payment will be required.

For more information contact David Leland, (707) 576-2069 or at the above address.