Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer Penalizes 12 Facilities for Water Quality Violations

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SACRAMENTO – The Executive Officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued $663,000 in Administrative Civil Liability Complaints, involving assessment of mandatory minimum penalties, for 12 facilities in the Central Valley because of violations to the water code.

- The city of Roseville faces $54,000 in penalties for 18 violations of its coliform effluent limit. The violations occurred between January 2009 and October 2012 at the city’s Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to Pleasant Grove Creek, which is a tributary to Pleasant Grove Creek Canal, the Natomas Cross Canal, and the Sacramento River.

- Placer County faces $111,000 in penalties for violations of its nitrate, aluminum, chloroform, coliform, total suspended solids, and mercury effluent limits. The 37 violations occurred between April 2011 and October 2012 at the county’s SMD-1 wastewater treatment plant. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to Rock Creek.

- Placer County also faces $192,000 in penalties for violations of its biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), pH, aluminum, ammonia, dibromochloromethane, dichlorobromomethane, and turbidity effluent limits. The 64 violations occurred between June 2011 and October 2012 at the county’s SMD-3 wastewater treatment plant. Treated domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater is discharged to Miners Ravine.

- The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District faces $21,000 in penalties for violations of its manganese, copper, dichlorobromomethane, chlorine, and bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate effluent limits. The seven violations occurred between May 2008 and August 2012 at its wastewater treatment plant. The WWTP discharges treated municipal wastewater to the Sacramento River.
• The city of Lodi faces $9,000 in penalties for three violations of its ammonia and coliform effluent limits at the city’s White Slough Wastewater Treatment Plant. The violations occurred between April 2009 and September 2012. Treated wastewater is discharged to Dredger Cut, which is a tributary to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

• The Linda County Water District faces $123,000 in penalties for violations of its zinc, pH, chloroform, organochlorine pesticides, dichlorobromomethane, BOD, total suspended solids, electrical conductivity, chlorine, and coliform effluent limits. The 41 violations occurred between December 2010 and August 2012 at the city’s wastewater treatment plant. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to both the Feather River and to evaporation/percolation ponds that lie within the 100-year flood plain of the Feather River.

• The city of Woodland faces $45,000 in penalties for violations of selenium, ammonia, and coliform effluent limits. The 15 violations occurred between April 2011 and June 2012 at the city’s Water Pollution Control Facility. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to Tule Canal within the Yolo Bypass.

• The city of Turlock faces $3,000 in penalties for a violation of the city’s chlorine effluent limit at its Regional Water Quality Control Facility. The violation occurred between December 2010 and August 2012. Treated domestic, commercial and industrial wastewater is discharged to Harding Drain downstream of the Turlock Irrigation District Lateral No. 5 Drain, which is a tributary to the San Joaquin River.

• The city of Davis faces $3,000 in penalties for a violation of the chlorine effluent limit at its wastewater treatment plant. The violation occurred in the period between August 2010 and September 2012. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to either the Willow Slough Bypass or the Conway Ranch Toe Drain, which are tributaries to the Yolo Bypass.

• The University of California at Davis faces $3,000 in penalties for a violation of ammonia effluent limit at its Main Wastewater Treatment Plant. The violation occurred sometime between October 2010 and August 2012. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to the South Fork of Putah Creek in Yolo County.

• The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission faces $51,000 in penalties for two chlorine effluent limit violations. The Commission failed to submit monitoring reports for the period of January 2011 through August 2012. Between December 2010 and August 2012, the discharger owned and operated a groundwater extraction system at its Pelican Crossover Project in Stanislaus County. This system was used to remove water from a construction site during the installation of new valves on the discharger’s San Joaquin Pipeline. The system discharged extracted groundwater to agricultural ditches, which are tributaries to the San Joaquin River.
The city of Placerville faces $18,000 in penalties for failure to submit monitoring reports from May 2011 through May 2012. The discharger owns and operates a potable water distribution system, and is required to submit quarterly monitoring reports. Discharges occur during well rehabilitation, tank/reservoir water removal, pipeline/tank pressure testing, distribution system flushing, and fire hydrant flushing. Potable water is discharged to Hangtown Creek and Weber Creek. The creeks are tributaries of the South Fork of the American River.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. The Board may consider the complaints at its regular public board meeting on April 11 or 12. For more information, visit: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/)

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