

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Gayleen Perreira)
MEETING DATE: August 9, 2006

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: VALLEJO SANITATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
(Vallejo), WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, VALLEJO,
SOLANO COUNTY - Reissuance of NPDES Permit

CHRONOLOGY: April 2000 - Permit Reissued
February 2003 – Permit Amended to Incorporate Vallejo’s
Sanitary Sewer Overflow Elimination Program

DISCUSSION: The Vallejo treatment plant services about 177,000 people within the City of Vallejo and the former Mare Island Naval Facility. During dry weather, the plant discharges secondarily treated wastewater to Carquinez Strait. During wet weather, the plant may discharge up to 60 million gallons per day (mgd) to Carquinez Strait and Mare Island Strait. In wet weather, flows up to 30 mgd are fully treated, but flows above 30 mgd receive only primary sedimentation, and then are mixed with the fully treated wastewater. This combined flow is referred to as a bypass, or blending.

The attached Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) reissues the NPDES permit for Vallejo. It contains water quality-based effluent limitations based on the California Toxics Rule, State Implementation Policy (SIP), and Basin Plan.

We received comments from Vallejo, US EPA, and San Francisco Baykeeper (Appendix B). We resolved most of the comments and have made modifications to the Tentative Order as appropriate. Many of the comments are nearly identical to those made in EBDA’s Tentative Order (Item 8). In this case, the most significant issue concerns bypass. US EPA and the Baykeeper both expressed concerns that bypasses are not consistent with federal regulations, and not protective of public health. In response to US EPA Comment 1, we clarified that Vallejo has documented under certain high flow events that bypasses are unavoidable, and, therefore, may blend consistent with federal regulations. In response to the Baykeeper, we clarified that during blending events, Vallejo must still comply with all effluent

limitations, including those that protect public health. We believe our responses bring resolution to these issues.

RECOMMEND-
ATION:

Adoption of the Revised Tentative Order

File Number:

2129.2012 (GP)

Appendices:

- A. Revised Tentative Order
- B. Correspondence
- C. Response to Comments