

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

**STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Samuel Plummer
MEETING DATE: March 12, 2025**

ITEM: 5B

**East Bay Municipal Utility District; Point Isabel, San Antonio Creek, and Oakport Wet
Weather Facilities; Richmond and Oakland; Contra Costa and Alameda Counties –
Reissuance of NPDES Permit**

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DISCUSSION:

This Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue the NPDES permit for the three East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) Wet Weather Facilities (WWFs): Point Isabel, San Antonio Creek, and Oakport. Each provides primary treatment through physical removal of solids and chemical disinfection prior to discharge. The WWFs were built to capture and treat excess untreated wastewater during peak wet-weather flows. Seven East Bay satellite collection systems (Satellites) transport wastewater to EBMUD's interceptor system for discharge from the WWFs. Inflow and infiltration within the Satellites contribute to high wastewater flows during wet weather, which in turn result in excess wastewater discharged from the WWFs. During dry weather and non-peak flows, EBMUD fully treats wastewater to secondary treatment standards at its main wastewater treatment plant. Discharges from the main plant are subject to a separate permit. The WWFs discharge, on average, less than ten times per year.

The Revised Tentative Order continues to prohibit discharges from the WWFs consistent with a 2007 State Water Board Order that the WWFs must either meet secondary treatment standards or cease discharge. In 2009, the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, and U.S. EPA sued EBMUD and the Satellites, culminating in a Consent Decree entered by the U.S. District Court on September 22, 2014. The Consent Decree requires the reduction and eventual cessation of all WWF discharges, beginning with the San Antonio WWF in 2027 and ending with the Oakport WWF in 2035, with mid-course check-ins in 2022 and 2030. The 2022 mid-course check-in results showed that EBMUD and the Satellites are on track to meet these deadlines.

To cease discharge from all three WWFs, the Consent Decree requires, among other things, that EBMUD complete the following work:

- Implement a regional private sewer lateral program,
- Develop a regional technical support program that identifies sources of high inflow and infiltration into the Satellites' collection systems,
- Conduct monitoring and modeling to demonstrate reduction and ultimate elimination of WWF discharges, and
- Treat 0.5 million gallons per day of dry weather urban runoff from Alameda County's Ettie Street pump station located adjacent to EBMUD's main wastewater treatment plant.

Items 5C through 5I on this month's Board agenda are the permit reissuances for the Satellites. Those tentative orders would continue to prohibit the Satellites from causing or contributing to WWF discharges.

We received a minor editorial comment from EBMUD on a draft order distributed for review (Appendix B). We prepared a response to this comment and modified the draft order as described in the Response to Comments (Appendix C). We expect this item to be uncontested.

APPENDICIES:

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

Appendix A

Revised Tentative Order

Appendix B

Comments

For an electronic copy of the comments, please contact Samuel Plummer via email at sam.plummer@waterboards.ca.gov or at (510) 622-2486.

Appendix C

Response to Comments