

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING MAY 11, 2007

ITEM NUMBER: 12

SUBJECT: Low Threat and General Discharge Cases

DISCUSSION

**General WDRs for Discharges of Winery Waste**

Rotta Winery, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Regional Board staff enrolled Rotta Winery under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste (General WDRs) on April 3, 2007. Rotta Winery is located at 250 Winery Road, Templeton, San Luis Obispo County.

Rotta Winery plans to produce up to 20,000 cases of wine per year. Peak winery process wastewater flows are approximately 1,560 gallons per day (gpd). Wastewater will go to a septic tank and then subsurface treatment constructed wetland. Treated process water will go to a storage pond and will then be used to irrigate surrounding vineyards. Pomace will be composted at the site. The domestic wastewater discharges are separate from the winery wastewater discharges. The driller's report indicates that depth to groundwater is greater than 20 feet under the disposal site.

Enrollment under the General WDRs requires Rotta Winery to follow Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Regional Board staff will begin regular compliance inspections of Rotta Winery this fall.

**General NPDES Permit for Aquaculture**

University of California, Santa Cruz, Long Marine Laboratory [Michael Higgins 805/542-4649]

Staff proposes to enroll the new discharge from the City of Santa Cruz's pilot desalination plant under the General Permit with the existing discharge from the Laboratory. Both discharges are seawater with no added pollutants and may therefore be equally controlled by the General Permit's waste discharge requirements.

On June 1, 2006, the University of California, Santa Cruz Long Marine Laboratory (Discharger) submitted a request to amend the use description they provided in 2003 with the Notice of Intent to comply with the terms and provisions of the General NPDES Permit for Aquaculture (General Permit), Order No. R3-2002-0076. The amendment described a new discharge of reconstituted seawater, a combination of reject brine and produced freshwater from the City of Santa Cruz's pilot desalination plant. With the University's approval, the City will introduce 50 gallons-per-minute (gpm) of reconstituted seawater into the 600 gpm flow of seawater taken from the Pacific Ocean and circulated through the laboratory. The laboratory will use the combined flows in its

marine mammal pools. The discharge will be indistinguishable from the Pacific Ocean's waters, and will remain well within the limits in the General Permit.

The project, expected to last 12 months, will generate other wastewaters, which will contain low pollutant concentrations, including anti-corrosion, anti-biofouling, and anti-scaling compounds. These waste streams will discharge to holding tanks before discharging to the City's sanitary sewer for subsequent treatment at the wastewater treatment plant. Staff recommends the Board concur with the proposed enrollment

### **Cases Recommended for Closure**

7 Eleven Station #23855, 4410 Via Real, Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County [John Mijares, (805) 549-3696]

Staff recommends closure of this underground storage tank (UST) case where groundwater sample results indicated groundwater contamination remains at concentrations greater than Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) cleanup goal of 5 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) for MTBE. Other petroleum hydrocarbon constituents were either not detected or were below their respective cleanup goals. MTBE was detected in only one monitoring well at a concentration of 7  $\mu\text{g/L}$  in August 2006 when the last monitoring was conducted. Maximum MTBE concentrations declined from 3,000  $\mu\text{g/L}$  to 7  $\mu\text{g/L}$  between May 2001 and August 2006.

The responsible party detected a leak from the UST system during a dispenser upgrade in March 1998. Approximately eight tons of contaminated soil were excavated, treated, and recycled. Starting in August 1998, the responsible party installed nine groundwater monitoring wells to delineate the extent of the groundwater plume. Oxygen releasing compound was also added to the groundwater to enhance biodegradation of hydrocarbon contaminants. Because some residual soil contamination remains at concentrations above cleanup goals, Water Board staff understands that the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division will require a deed restriction on the property requiring additional soil assessment, and possible removal of contaminated soil, if the land use changes from commercial in the future.

The depth to groundwater varies from seven to 12 feet below grade. The flow direction is generally to the southwest at a gradient between 0.007 to 0.012 feet per foot. The nearest water supply well is located approximately 600 feet east of the site. Considering this distance, the flow direction, and the low concentration of MTBE, the residual contamination is not expected to impact this well.

The site lies within the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin (3-18). The "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Region" (Basin Plan) designates the Carpinteria Basins groundwater beneficial uses to be domestic and municipal supply, agricultural supply, and industrial supply. Therefore, the groundwater cleanup goal for MTBE is 5.0  $\mu\text{g/L}$ , based on the California Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.

Water Board staff and Santa Barbara County Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division staff recommend closure of this case based on the following:

1. The extent of soil and groundwater contamination have been fully characterized;

2. The concentration of 7 µg/L MTBE in one well is slightly above the cleanup goal of 5 µg/L;
3. Soil and groundwater data indicate that natural attenuation processes have significantly reduced concentrations of contaminants in soil and groundwater and that natural attenuation is expected to continue; and
4. Case closure is consistent with State Board Resolution No. 92-49, Section III.G., which allows consideration of cost effective abatement measures where attainment of reasonable objectives, less stringent than background water quality, does not unreasonably affect present or anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, and will not result in water quality less than that prescribed by the Basin Plan.

Water Board staff has evaluated remaining groundwater concentrations with respect to possible indoor air impacts, and soil concentrations with respect to direct human exposure, indoor air impacts, and potential leachability to groundwater. Comparison of these soil and groundwater concentrations with corresponding environmental screening levels for commercial land use and construction worker direct exposure scenarios indicate no significant threat to human health or the environment.

The recommended case closure is consistent with closure of similar low risk petroleum hydrocarbon cases by the Water Board in the past. Unless the Water Board objects, the Executive Officer will issue a concurrence letter to Santa Barbara County Fire Department to proceed with case closure activities including destruction of monitoring wells.