

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 11, 2008  
Prepared June 5, 2008

ITEM NUMBER: 17

SUBJECT: **Approval of Revisions to the City of Salinas Stormwater Management Program and Status of Public Involvement Activities**

**SUMMARY**

The Central Coast Water Board approved the City of Salinas Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) with a list of 53 required revisions on February 8, 2008. The Water Board's Resolution R3-2008-0012, with the list of required revisions, is included as **Attachment 1**. The Water Board directed staff to review the required revisions, allow the public to review the required revisions, and to make a recommendation to the Water Board whether or not to approve the revisions in order to finalize the SWMP.

The Water Board also requested a report on how Salinas involved the public in its SWMP revisions.

The Water Board also requested staff report back on how Salinas is implementing new stormwater development standards. That matter is addressed in a separate item on this agenda.

**DISCUSSION**

Revisions to the SWMP

In response to the Water Board's required revisions in Resolution R3-2008-0012, Salinas submitted a revised SWMP to Water Board staff on April 7, 2008. Water Board staff reviewed the revised SWMP and found that Salinas incorporated all required revisions except two, consistent with staff expectations and acceptable for staff to recommend to the Executive Officer and the Water Board to approve in order to finalize the SWMP. The two missing revisions were Required Revision 2.i and 2.j (see **Attachment 1**). Water Board pointed out the missing revisions in an email to Salinas on May 1, 2008. Salinas added the missing revisions and resubmitted the SWMP on May 8, 2008. This latest revised SWMP contains all of the Water Board's required revisions, consistent with staff expectations and acceptable for staff to recommend to the Executive Officer and the Water Board to approve in order to finalize the SWMP.

Salinas posted a complete copy of its latest SWMP, including these two revisions, on its website at: <http://www.ci.salinas.ca.us/>. The two revisions, one to Element 4 and the

other to Element 5, may be found on pages 4-33, 4-34 and 5-18, respectively. The revisions are highlighted in yellow for ease of reference.

### Public Involvement

Salinas' stormwater permit and SWMP require Salinas to encourage the public to get involved in development and implementation of the SWMP. After Salinas revised its SWMP and submitted it to Water Board staff on April 7, 2008, Salinas posted the revised SWMP on its website and sent an email to all known interested persons to notify them the SWMP revisions were available for comment for 30 days. This email is included as **Attachment 2**. One interested person, Steve Shimek of Monterey Coastkeeper, submitted a comment letter to Salinas on May 7, 2008. Mr. Shimek's letter is included as **Attachment 3**. Salinas is preparing a response to Mr. Shimek's letter, but the response is not available to date. Staff will send you the response in a separate mailing prior to your meeting.

After Water Board staff identified the two missing revisions and Salinas revised the SWMP, Salinas posted the latest revised SWMP on its website and notified all known interested persons of its availability, in an email dated May 21, 2008. This email is included as **Attachment 4**.

As a result of the Water Board's required revisions, the SWMP now includes a best management practice (BMP) which requires Salinas to notify the public at least 10 days prior to adoption of any changes to its SWMP.<sup>1</sup> Although this BMP was only recently added as a result of the Water Board's required revisions, the City followed the BMP in making the Water Board's required revisions.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Salinas has incorporated all the Water Board's required revisions into its SWMP and complied with its permit and SWMP requirements to encourage public involvement in its SWMP revisions. Staff recommends the Board approve the revisions and find the SWMP final.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution R3-2008-0012, with List of Water Board required revisions to Salinas SWMP
2. April 7, 2008 email from Salinas to interested persons
3. May 7, 2008 comment letter by Steve Shimek
4. May 21, 2008 email from Salinas to interested persons

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<sup>1</sup> BMP 6.18 requires Salinas to "Provide, at least, 10 days public review for storm water or riparian protection related ordinances, standards, and modifications to the SWMP. The City will provide notice of the availability of such documents by posting on the internet and by direct notice to those persons who have requested notification. Notice of availability will occur at least 10-days prior to the meeting at which the document is presented for adoption or for approval, including instructions as to the City's expectations for public comments. The City will respond to all substantive public comments in a timely manner in writing."