

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 8, 2010
Prepared June 8, 2010

ITEM NUMBER: 6

SUBJECT: Low Threat and General Discharge Cases

DISCUSSION The following item serves as notification that the subject site has been enrolled under the noted General WDR or General Waiver of WDRs.

General Low Threat Permit R3-2006-0063

California Water Service Company, Salinas District, Salinas Station 68 Tank Emergency Discharge of Municipal Drinking Water to the Salinas Reclamation Ditch

[Cecile DeMartini, 805/542-4782]

Regional Board staff received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on September 16, 2009, from the California Water Service Company (Cal Waters) regarding the potential discharge of emergency overflow municipal drinking water from Salinas Station 68 tank (Cal Waters Tank 68). Cal Waters requests the addition of an emergency overflow system from the Salinas Station 68 tank to the existing General Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality, NPDES Permit No. CAG993001, Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2006-0063 (General Permit) in which Cal Waters is enrolled. Station 68 is located at 320 Martella Street, Salinas, California.

The storage tank requires the installation of an outfall to the Salinas Reclamation Ditch to manage emergency tank overflow in case of system failure and discharges associated with operations and maintenance. Based on the NOI, we understand the following:

- Salinas Station 68 will store treated municipal (drinking water) water.
- The overflow is provided for emergency use, operations, and maintenance only.
- The tank system will be constructed with level sensors to identify high and low water levels, which relay information to Cal Waters' SCADA control system.
- A screened device fitted to the end of the overflow pipeline will contain Vita-D-Chlor tablets so that any discharge would pass through the device and be dechlorinated prior to discharge.
- Analysis of water samples collected from the distribution system indicated the presence of chlorodibromomethane, a disinfection byproduct (also called dibromochloromethane). The analyses showed that the constituent was found at a concentration up to 0.74 ug/L, which exceeds the criterion of 0.401 u/L, identified in Attachment D of the General Permit (Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2006-0063).
- The disinfection byproduct, chlorodibromomethane, was not found to have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above applicable water

quality objectives in the receiving water based on the reasonable potential analysis methodology performed by Cal Waters, as specified in the State Implementation Policy (SIP).

- Cal Waters will use Best Management Practices for erosion control, including energy dissipaters, such as geotextile barriers, gravel bags or plastic tarps, at locations where the discharge enters the Salinas Reclamation Ditch.

Cal Waters agrees to comply with the terms of the General Permit, and will implement mitigation measures to avoid or reduce significant impacts, in the event that they discharge municipal supply water from this facility. Water Board staff notified Cal Waters of its enrollment in the General Low Threat Permit in a June 3, 2010, letter.