

#### California Regional Water Quality Control Board

#### Los Angeles Region

Recipient of the 2001 Environmental Leadership Award from Keep California Beautiful

Linda S. Adams
Agency Secretary

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Governor

September 13, 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL No. 7002 0860 0004 5295 7236
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Martin Ray, Deputy Director Department of Utilities City of Alhambra 111 South First Street Alhambra, CA 91801

Dear Mr. Ray:

CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE UNDER GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS—CITY OF ALHAMBRA, GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT, 512 SOUTH GRANADA AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA (NPDES NO. CAG914001, CI-9037)

We have completed our review of your Notice of Intent (NOI) dated August 14, 2007, and the analytical results of representative groundwater samples submitted in order to continue enrollment under the General NPDES Permit. Discharge of groundwater generated from the above-referenced facility is currently regulated under NPDES General Permit No. CAG914001 (Order No. R4-2002-0107) adopted by this Board on May 23, 2002. The City proposes to discharge up to 3.0 million gallons per day (mgd) for a period of 3 weeks during startup to assure compliance with Department of Health Services requirements. Should the discharge extend beyond 6 months, the maximum authorized discharge shall be no more than 1 mgd.

Based on the attached Fact Sheet and other information provided, we have determined that the groundwater discharge meets the conditions to be regulated under Order No. R4-2007-0022, Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Treated Groundwater from Investigation and/or Cleanup of Volatile Organic Compounds Contaminated-Sites to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, adopted by this Board on April 5, 2007. Your existing enrollment under Order No. R4-2002-0107, which was issued to you on May 4, 2006, is superseded by this new permit.

Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements, which also serve as your NPDES permit, consisting of Order No. R4-2007-0022 and Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-9037. Prior to starting discharge, a representative sample of the effluent shall be obtained and analyzed to determine compliance with the discharge limitations. The wastewater flows into the Alhambra Wash, therefore, discharge limitations in Attachment B.7.f. are applicable to your discharge.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program requires you to implement the monitoring program on the effective date of this permit. All monitoring reports should be sent to the Regional Board, <u>ATTN: Information Technology Unit.</u> When submitting monitoring or technical reports to the

California Environmental Protection Agency

Regional Board per these requirements, please include a reference to "Compliance File No. CI-9037 NPDES No. CAG914001", which will assure that the reports are directed to the appropriate file and staff. Also, please do not combine other reports with your monitoring reports. Submit each type of report as a separate document.

In order to avoid future annual fees, please submit written notification when the project has been completed and the permit is no longer needed.

We are sending a copy of Order No. R4-2007-0022 only to the applicant. For those on the mailing list, please refer to the Board Order sent to you previously. A copy of the Order will be furnished to anyone who requests it, or it can be obtained at our web site address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/permits/general\_permits.html.

If you have any questions, please contact Gensen Kai at (213) 576-6651.

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Smith Interim Executive Officer

#### **Enclosures:**

Fact Sheet for CI-9037

Monitoring and Reporting Program for No. CI-9037

Order No. R4-2007-0022

Attachment A - Definitions

Attachment B - Receiving Water Specific Limitations

Attachment D - Federal Standard Provisions

Attachment E – Screening Levels

cc: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Clean Water Act Standards and Permits (WTR-5)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service

Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

California Department of Fish and Game, Region 5

California Department of Health Services, Environmental Branch

Los Angeles County, DPW, Environmental Programs Division

Los Angeles County, Department of Health Services

Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Jae Kim, Tetratech

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION 320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013

# FACT SHEET WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR CITY OF ALHAMBRA (GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT)

NPDES NO. CAG914001 CI-9037

FACILITY ADDRESS

512 South Granada Avenue Alhambra, CA 91801 **FACILITY MAILING ADDRESS** 

111 South First Street Alhambra, CA 91801

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

On August 14, 2007, the City of Alhambra (City) submitted a complete Notice of Intent Form to continue its enrollment under the general NPDES Permit No. CAG914001. Order No. R4-2007-0022 supersedes Order No. R4-2002-0107 and continues the City's enrollment under the general NPDES permit. The City plans to construct a treatment plant to remove nitrate and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in pumped groundwater from City Wells No. 7, 8, 11, and 12, and proposed Wells No. 17 and 18. The principle contaminants of concern in the groundwater include perchloroethylene and trichloroethylene. The proposed groundwater treatment plant will be constructed at 512 South Granada Avenue in the City of Alhambra. The City needs to discharge wastewater during the start-up of the treatment plant to comply with the Department of Health Services requirements. The groundwater will be treated, prior to discharge, with filters to remove suspended solids, activated carbon tanks to remove VOCs, and ion exchange tanks to remove nitrate (see Figure 2 for treatment scheme). The site location and the schematic of the treatment device are shown as Figure 1 and 2, respectively.

#### **VOLUME AND DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE:**

Up to 3 million gallons per day (mgd) of the treated groundwater will be discharged to Discharge Point 001 (Latitude: 34° 05' 39", Longitude: 118° 06' 47"), which flows into Alhambra Wash, a water of the United States. The City needs to discharge the groundwater at this high rate for approximately 3 weeks. Discharge above 1 mgd is permitted only for the first 6 months of operation, thereafter the maximum discharge authorized under this enrollment shall be no more than 1 mgd.

#### APPLICABLE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Based on the information provided in the NPDES Application Supplemental Requirements, the constituents listed in the Table below have been determined to show reasonable potential to exist in the discharge. The groundwater discharge flows into Alhambra Wash, a tributary of the Los Angeles River. Therefore, discharge limitations in Attachment B.7.f. are applicable to your discharge.

This Table lists the specific constituents and effluent limitations applicable to your discharge.

Constituents	Units	Discharge Limitations	
Constituents	Units	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	150	50
Turbidity	NTU	150	50
BOD₅ 20°C	mg/L	30	20
Oil and Grease	mg/L	15	10
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.3	0.1
Sulfides	mg/L	1.0	N/A
Phenols	mg/L	1.0	N/A
Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.1	N/A
TDS	mg/L	750	
Sulfate	mg/L	300	
Chloride	mg/L	180	
Nitrogen*	mg/L	8	,
Volatile Organic Compounds			
Trichloroethylene	µg/L	2.7	
Tetrachloroethylene	μg/L	0.8	

<sup>\*</sup> Nitrate-nitrogen plus nitrite-nitrogen (NO<sub>3</sub>-N + NO<sub>2</sub>-N)

#### FREQUENCY OF DISCHARGE:

The discharge of the treated groundwater will be continues during the start-up of the treatment plant operation. The City will complete the start-up discharge within 2 months.

#### **REUSE OF WATER:**

Offsite disposal of treated wastewater is not feasible due to the high cost of disposal. Discharge to the sewer is not feasible because the local POTW refuses to accept the discharge. The property and the immediate vicinity have no landscaped areas that need large amount of groundwater for irrigation. Since there are no feasible reuse options, the groundwater will be discharged to Alhambra Wash in compliance with the requirements in the attached Order.

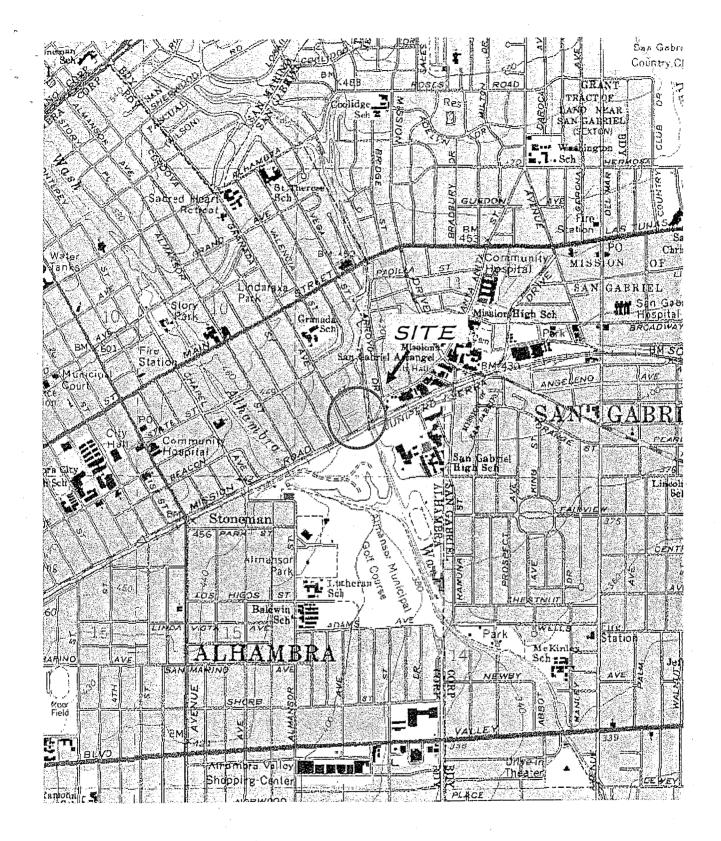
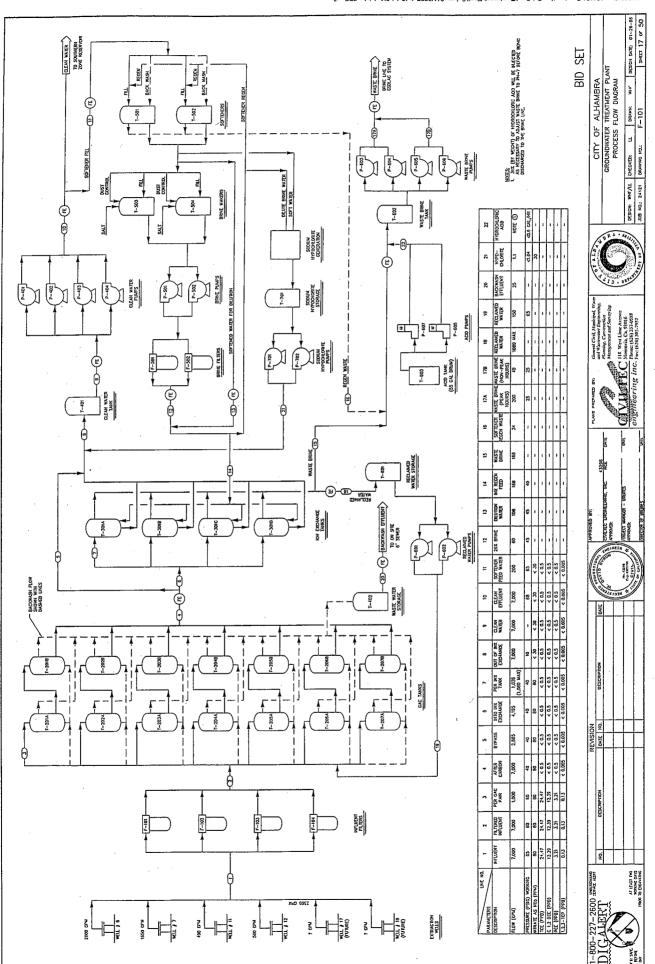


Figure 1. Site Location



Flure a. Treatment Governs

### STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION

#### MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. CI-9037 FOR CITY OF ALHAMBRA

(GENERAL NPDES PERMIT NO. CAG914001, SERIES NO. 068)

Enrollment to Order No. R4-2007-0022 shall become effective	September 13, 2007
Monitoring and Reporting Program shall become effective	September 13, 2007

Ordered By:

Deborah J. Smith

Interim Executive Officer

Date:

September 13, 2007