

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER R5-2014-0165

AMENDING
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2008-0167
FOR
SIERRAPINE LIMITED
SIERRAPINE – AMPINE DIVISION
AMADOR COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereafter Central Valley Water Board), finds that:

1. SierraPine Limited (hereafter Discharger) owns and operates SierraPine – Ampine Division (Facility), a particle board manufacturing facility. Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2008-0167, NPDES Permit No. CA0004219, permits the Facility to discharge up to 0.047 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated wastewater to Stony Creek. The Facility produces up to 0.010 mgd of wastewater that includes boiler blowdown, cooling tower water, turbine cooling water, equipment and facility wash waters, and when operational, the biofilter blowdown; the wastewaters are comingled in a pond with up to 0.037 mgd of stormwater prior to discharging. The Discharger's particleboard manufacturing process is a dry process, and no wastewater is generated from the particleboard manufacturing process.
2. The wastewater treatment system consists of a series of unlined ponds that have an approximate total capacity of 7 million gallons (MG). The wastewater is directed from the Facility, via a combination of overland flow and a concrete ditch, to an unlined catch basin. From the unlined catch basin, flow is directed through an unlined ditch to the Settling Pond, and then through an unlined drainage ditch to the Irrigation Pond. From the Irrigation Pond, water is pumped to a spray irrigation field. The spray irrigation field is bermed to collect any overland runoff which is then directed to an irrigation field catch basin. The irrigation field catch basin is emptied by rerouting the water back to the Irrigation Pond. Treated wastewater can also be redirected from the Irrigation Pond to an unlined ditch that eventually discharges to Stony Creek. However discharge of wastewater to Stony Creek from the Irrigation Pond has not occurred since March 2004. (A discharge to Stony Creek from the irrigation field catch pond occurred in April 2011 due to pump failure.)
3. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD), dated 29 March 2013, to renew the NPDES Permit No. CA0004219 and update waste discharge requirements. On 13 December 2013 Staff conducted a site visit to inspect current site conditions and to discuss issues related to the NPDES permit reissuance. Staff determined that the discharges to the ponds and irrigation field is more appropriately permitted through waste

discharge requirements to land, and therefore, this Order amends Order R5-2008-0167 to remove NPDES requirements. However, because the treated wastewater has the potential to discharge to Stony Creek, the Discharger will also seek coverage under the general order for *Limited Threat Discharges of Treated/Untreated Groundwater from Cleanup Sites, Wastewater from Superchlorination Projects, and Other Limited Threat Wastewaters to Surface Water* (Order R5-2013-0073, NPDES No. CAG995002).

4. On 5 December 2014, in Rancho Cordova, California, after due notice to the Discharger and all other affected persons, the Central Valley Water Board conducted a public hearing at which evidence was received to consider this Order under the California Water Code.
5. Issuance of this Order is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section § 21000 et seq.)("CEQA") pursuant to Water Code section 13389, since the adoption or modification of a NPDES permit for an existing source is statutorily exempt. (*Pacific Water Conditioning Ass'n, Inc. v. City Council of City of Riverside* (1977) 73 Cal.App.3d 546, 555-556.) Issuance of this Order is also exempt from CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15321, subdivision (a)(2).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2008-0167 is amended to rescind NPDES Permit No. CA0004219 and to modify corresponding monitoring and reporting requirements as shown in underline/strikeout format in Attachment 1 of this Order.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday (including mandatory furlough days), the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality or will be provided upon request

I, Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 5 December 2014.

Original signed by

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

Attachment 1: Amended Order R5-2008-0167 track changes
Attachment 2: Amended Order R5-2008-0167 clean copy