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MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

11 September 2015

Daniel Sanchez, Water Quality Manager
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CERTIFIED MAIL
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ, STATEWIDE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE SEGMENT T-1080 - HYDROSTATIC TEST DISCHARGE, FRESNO COUNTY

On 23 January 2015, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a Programmatic Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* (hereafter General Order) for discharges to land of hydrostatic test water from testing of its existing natural gas transmission lines during 2015. A site specific notification for the discharge of hydrostatic test water from testing of pipeline segment T-1080 to agricultural land was submitted on 31 August 2015. Additional information to complete the NOI was submitted on 3 September 2015.

The submittals contain all the information required to evaluate applicability of the General Order; therefore, the NOI is complete. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under General Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ-0136. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

PROJECT LOCATION

The discharge of hydrostatic test water will be to agricultural land near Interstate 5 and South Lassen Avenue in Fresno County, Section 23, Township 21 South, Range 17 East MDB&M. This portion of Fresno County is within the Tulare Lake Basin.

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, Second Edition*, revised January 2004 (hereafter Basin Plan), designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PG&E will conduct hydrostatic pressure line testing of its existing natural gas pipeline. For the pressure test, pipeline segment T-1080 will be isolated and vented. The segment will then be filled with water and pressurized in accordance with industry standards. Water for the pressure test will consist of potable water from the City of Avenal. Approximately 400,000 gallons of water will be utilized for the test.

Following the pressure test, hydrostatic test water will be placed in portable storage tanks and filtered through particulate filters and activated carbon to remove any residual contaminants. To ensure compliance with the conditions in the General Order, samples of the filtered hydrostatic test water will be collected and analyzed for constituents of concern by a certified laboratory prior to discharge.

Following treatment and testing, the hydrostatic test water will be discharged to approximately 10 acres of agricultural land owned by West Hills Farms. The hydrostatic test water will be applied using the existing irrigation system or temporary gated irrigation pipe. No indication of sensitive species or active waste sites have been reported for this site. The discharge will comply with PG&E's Best Management Practices (BMPs) for non-stormwater discharges.

The General Order and this Notice of Applicability (NOA) regulate the discharge of hydrostatic test water from PG&E's Hydrostatic Test Project of Natural Gas Transmission Line Segment T-1080 to agricultural land owned by West Hills Farms in Fresno County.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Hydrostatic test waters shall be disposed of as described in the NOI and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
2. Discharge of hydrostatic test water at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI is prohibited.
3. Any wells connected to the irrigation system utilized for the discharge of hydrostatic test water will be equipped with an air gap or other backflow prevention device.
4. All technical reports required herein that involve evaluation, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, section 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
5. Analytical results shall be submitted on a semi-annual basis in accordance the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program.
6. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, and this letter authorizing applicability could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

11 September 2015

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has gone to a Paperless Office System. All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15, Place ID: 817882, Facility Name: Hydrostatic Test T-1080, Order: 2003-0003-DWQ-0136.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, please contact Katie Carpenter at (559) 445-5551 or by email at kcarpenter@waterboards.ca.gov.



for Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ

cc: Rhonda Shiffman, PG&E, (via e-mail)
Neil Gonella, West Hills Farms, L.P., Le Grand