



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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2 December 2010

Mr. John Driscoll, City Manager  
City of Placerville  
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## NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LOW THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081; CITY OF PLACERVILLE, POTABLE WATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE PROJECT; EL DORADO COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 20 July 2009 from the City of Placerville (Discharger) for the City of Placerville, Potable Water System Maintenance Project. Based on the information in the NOI, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Low Threat General Order). This project is hereby assigned Low Threat General Order No. R5-2008-0081-042 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001. Please reference the unique Order No. R5-2008-0081-042 in all future correspondence and documents.

The Low Threat General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/general\\_orders/r5-2008-0081.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2008-0081.pdf). You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Low Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA, the Low Threat General Order, and with the information submitted by the Discharger.

### CALIFORNIA TOXIC RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Low Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxic Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP).

Section 5.3 of the SIP allows "exceptions from meeting the Priority Pollutant criteria/objectives if determined to be necessary to implement control measures..." The Discharger qualified for the SIP exception in Section 5.3 and is not required to conduct Priority Pollutant (CTR constituent) sampling. Dischargers authorized to discharge under this Low Threat General Order who have been granted an exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives in

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the SIP, must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the beneficial uses of the receiving water have been restored upon completion of the discharge.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Discharger is proposing to discharge potable water as a result of operating a drinking water system. Discharges result from well pump-to-waste, well rehabilitation, existing well redevelopment, tank/reservoir dewatering, pipeline/tank pressure testing, distribution flushing, and fire hydrant flushing from their potable water system. Discharge of superchlorinated water and construction dewatering is not covered under this Low Threat General Order.

The discharger will dechlorinated the potable water prior discharging into the local storm drains, which will flow into two creeks, the Hangtown Creek or Weber Creek both tributaries of the South Fork of the American River.

### **MONITORING AND REPORTING**

All Dischargers must notify Central Valley Water Board staff 24 hours before the start of each new discharge, as soon as noncompliance is anticipated, and when the discharge ceases.

The Discharger is required to comply with the revised Pollution Prevention and Monitoring and Reporting Plan that was submitted on 10 June 2010 and approved on 6 August 2010.

Effluent and receiving water analytical monitoring shall be conducted and the results submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis unless specified otherwise. The Discharger must submit quarterly reports, as described in Section X of the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E of the Low Threat General Order, even if there is no discharge or receiving water flow during the reporting quarter, until the Discharger formally requests that coverage under this Order be terminated.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until the discharge is terminated. To terminate coverage under the Low Threat General Order, the Dischargers must submit written notification to the Central Valley Water Board that the discharge regulated by this Low Threat General Order has ceased and is no longer necessary. If a timely written request is not received, then the Dischargers will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Failure to comply with the Low Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. Late reports may be subject to an MMP of \$3,000 for each period of 30 days late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly monitoring period, the Dischargers must still submit a quarterly report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

## COMMUNICATION

All monitoring report submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Spencer Joplin of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit. Mr. Joplin can be reached at (916) 464-4660 or [sjoplin@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sjoplin@waterboards.ca.gov).

Questions regarding the permitting aspects of this Low Threat General Order, and written notification for termination of coverage under this Order, shall be directed to Mike Negrete of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Permitting Unit. Mr. Negrete can be reached at (916) 464-4662 or [mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov).



Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2008-0081 (Discharger only)

cc: Mr. Dave Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco  
Mr. Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento