

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT R5-2013-0513

MANDATORY PENALTY
IN THE MATTER OF

COUNTY OF PLACER FACILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PLACER COUNTY SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 3
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
PLACER COUNTY

This Complaint is issued to the County of Placer Facility Services Department, Placer County Sewer Maintenance District No. 3 (hereafter Discharger), pursuant to California Water Code (CWC) section 13385, which authorizes the imposition of Administrative Civil Liability, and CWC section 13323, which authorizes the Executive Officer to issue this Complaint. This Complaint is based on findings that the Discharger violated provisions of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2007-0070 (NPDES No. CA0079367).

The Executive Officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board or Board) finds the following:

1. The Discharger owns and operates a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) which provides sewerage service to the Granite Bay area in Placer County. Treated domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater is discharged to Miners Ravine, a water of the United States.
2. On 22 June 2007, the Central Valley Water Board issued WDRs R5-2007-0070 to regulate discharges of waste from the wastewater treatment plant. On 22 June 2007, the Board also issued Cease and Desist Order (CDO) R5-2007-0071. CDO R5-2007-0071 provided a time schedule to comply with the final effluent limitations for nitrate by 1 June 2011.
3. On 2 February 2012, the Board rescinded CDO R5-2007-0071 and issued CDO R5-2012-0005. CDO R5-2012-0005 provided a time schedule to comply with the final effluent limitations for aluminum, copper, dibromochloromethane, and dichlorobromomethane by 31 December 2014. This Complaint considers the protection from Mandatory Minimum Penalties (MMPs) provided by CDOs R5-2007-0071 and R5-2012-0005.
4. On 27 September 2011, the Assistant Executive Officer of the Central Valley Water Board issued Administrative Civil Liability Order (ACLO) R5-2011-0593 for MMPs in the amount of \$105,000 for effluent violations from 1 August 2010 through 31 May 2011. The Discharger paid \$45,000 of the penalty and entered into an agreement to construct a Supplemental Environmental Project in the amount of \$60,000. The Discharger is proceeding with the project.

5. This Complaint addresses administrative civil liability for effluent violations that occurred during the period of 1 June 2011 through 31 October 2012. These violations are specifically identified in Attachment A to this Complaint as subject to mandatory minimum penalties. Attachment A to this Complaint is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.
6. On 23 August 2012, Central Valley Water Board staff issued the Discharger a Notice of Violation and draft Record of Violations (ROV) for effluent limitation violations. In its 7 September 2012 response, the Discharger agreed with the violations of aluminum, ammonia, biochemical oxygen demand, dibromochloromethane, and dichlorobromomethane effluent limitations. The Discharger requested application of the single operational upset defense under CWC section 13385(f)(2)(A) for violations which occurred between 29 December 2011 and 31 January 2012 and further requested relief under the third party defense described by CWC section 13385(j)(1)(C). The Discharger further stated that in late December 2011 there was an unknown factor causing the upset.
7. Water Code section 13385(f)(2)(A) states, in part, the following:
 - (2)(A) For the purposes of subdivisions (h) and (i), a single operational upset in a wastewater treatment unit that treats wastewater using a biological treatment process shall be treated as a single violation, even if the operational upset results in violations of more than one effluent limitation and the violations continue for a period of more than one day, if all of the following apply:
 - (i) The discharger demonstrates all of the following:
 - (I) The upset was not caused by wastewater treatment operator error and was not due to discharger negligence.
 - (II) But for the operational upset of the biological treatment process, the violations would not have occurred nor would they have continued for more than one day.
 - (III) The discharger carried out all reasonable and immediately feasible actions to reduce noncompliance with the applicable effluent limitations.
8. On 12 October 2012, Staff responded that violations 34-51 would be considered as a single operational upset (SOU) and therefore would not be subject to MMPs. However, upon further review of the self-monitoring data in preparation of this Complaint, Staff finds that the Discharger has not provided sufficient information demonstrating that a SOU occurred. Furthermore, in ACL Complaints R5-2009-0514 and R5-2009-0566, the Discharger has previously been assessed MMPs for twenty-one similar ammonia violations that occurred from 1 January 2008 through 31 January 2009. Based upon the review of that data, the current (and previous) ammonia violations appear to result from factors inherent to the design, construction, and normal operation of the wastewater treatment plant and therefore are not be considered an unforeseeable operational upset meeting the criteria set forth in Water Code section 13385(f)(2)(A). In summary, the Discharger has not provided sufficient evidence to meet its burden of proof demonstrating that either a single operational upset or a third party defense should apply.

9. Water Code sections 13385(h) and (i) require assessment of mandatory penalties and state, in part, the following:

Water Code section 13385(h)(1) states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, and except as provided in subdivisions (j), (k), and (l), a mandatory minimum penalty of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) shall be assessed for each serious violation.

Water Code section 13385 (h)(2) states:

For the purposes of this section, a "serious violation" means any waste discharge that violates the effluent limitations contained in the applicable waste discharge requirements for a Group II pollutant, as specified in Appendix A to Section 123.45 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, by 20 percent or more or for a Group I pollutant, as specified in Appendix A to Section 123.45 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, by 40 percent or more.

Water Code section 13385(i)(1) states

Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, and except as provided in subdivisions (j), (k), and (l), a mandatory minimum penalty of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) shall be assessed for each violation whenever the person does any of the following four or more times in any period of six consecutive months, except that the requirement to assess the mandatory minimum penalty shall not be applicable to the first three violations:

- A) Violates a waste discharge requirement effluent limitation.
- B) Fails to file a report pursuant to Section 13260.
- C) Files an incomplete report pursuant to Section 13260.
- D) Violates a toxicity effluent limitation contained in the applicable waste discharge requirements where the waste discharge requirements do not contain pollutant-specific effluent limitations for toxic pollutants.

10. Water Code section 13323 states, in part:

Any executive officer of a regional board may issue a complaint to any person on whom administrative civil liability may be imposed pursuant to this article. The complaint shall allege the act or failure to act that constitutes a violation of law, the provision authorizing civil liability to be imposed pursuant to this article, and the proposed civil liability.

11. WDRs Order R5-2007-0070 Effluent Limitations No. IV.A.1.a., states, in part:

The discharge of treated wastewater shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point D-001...:

| Parameter | Units | Effluent Limitations | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Average Monthly | Average Weekly | Maximum Daily | Instantaneous Minimum | Instantaneous Maximum |
| Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 10 | 15 | 25 | -- | -- |
| pH | s.u. | | | | 6.5 | 8.2 |
| Aluminum, Total | µg/L | 71.2 | -- | 142.9 | -- | -- |
| Ammonia, total as N | mg/L | 1.2 | -- | 3.7 | -- | -- |
| Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | -- | 0.82 | -- | -- |
| Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | -- | 1.13 | -- | -- |
| | lbs/day ¹ | 0.00140 | | 0.00283 | -- | -- |

¹ Based upon a dry weather flow of 0.3 MGD.

12. WDRs Order R5-2007-0070 Effluent Limitations No. IV.f., states, in part:

- f. Turbidity: When the receiving water flow to effluent flow ratio is less than 20-to-1, effluent turbidity shall not exceed the following when tertiary treatment, or equivalent, is required:
 - i. 2 NTU as a daily average;

- 13. According to the Discharger's self-monitoring reports, the Discharger committed sixteen (16) serious Group I violation of the above effluent limitations contained in Order R5-2007-0070 during the period beginning 1 June 2011 and ending 31 October 2012 as identified in Attachment A. These violations are defined as serious because the measured concentration of a Group I constituent exceeded maximum prescribed levels by more than 40 percent on these occasions. The mandatory minimum penalty for these serious violations is **forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000)**.
- 14. According to the Discharger's self-monitoring reports, the Discharger committed thirty-two (32) serious Group II violations of the above effluent limitations contained in Order R5-2007-0070 during the period beginning 1 June 2011 and ending 31 October 2012 as identified in Attachment A. These violations are defined as serious because measured concentrations of Group II constituents exceeded maximum prescribed levels by more than 20 percent on these occasions. The mandatory minimum penalty for these serious violations is **ninety-six thousand dollars (\$96,000)**.
- 15. According to the Discharger's self-monitoring reports, the Discharger committed sixteen (16) non-serious violations of the above effluent limitations contained in Order R5-2007-0070 during the period beginning 1 June 2011 and ending 31 October 2012 as identified in Attachment A. These non-serious violations are subject to mandatory penalties under CWC section 13385(i)(1) because these violations were preceded by three or more similar violations within a six-month period. The mandatory minimum penalty for the nine non-serious violations is **forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000)**.
- 16. The total amount of the mandatory penalties assessed for the cited effluent violations is **one hundred ninety-two thousand dollars (\$192,000)**. A detailed list of the cited effluent violations is included in Attachment A, a part of this Order. This Complaint addresses administrative civil liability for violations that are specifically identified in Attachment A as subject to minimum mandatory penalties.

17. Issuance of this Administrative Civil Liability Complaint to enforce CWC Division 7, Chapter 5.5 is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15321(a)(2).

COUNTY OF PLACER FACILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, PLACER COUNTY SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 3, IS HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE THAT:

1. The Executive Officer of the Central Valley Water Board proposes that the Discharger be assessed an Administrative Civil Liability in the amount of **one hundred ninety-two thousand dollars (\$192,000)**.
2. A hearing on this matter will be conducted at the Central Valley Water Board meeting scheduled on **11/12 April 2013**, unless either of the following occurs by **11 February 2013**:
 - a) The Discharger waives the hearing by completing the attached form (checking off the box next to Option #1) and returning it to the Central Valley Water Board, along with payment for the proposed civil liability of **one hundred ninety-two thousand dollars (\$192,000)**; or
 - b) The Central Valley Water Board agrees to postpone any necessary hearing after the Discharger requests to engage in settlement discussions by checking off the box next to Option #2 on the attached form, and returns it to the Board along with a letter describing the issues to be discussed; or
 - c) The Central Valley Water Board agrees to postpone any necessary hearing after the Discharger requests a delay by checking off the box next to Option #3 on the attached form, and returns it to the Board along with a letter describing the issues to be discussed.
3. If a hearing on this matter is conducted, the Central Valley Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed Administrative Civil Liability, or whether to refer the matter to the Attorney General for recovery of judicial civil liability.
4. If this matter proceeds to hearing, the Executive Officer reserves the right to amend the proposed amount of civil liability to conform to the evidence presented, including but not limited to, increasing the proposed amount to account for the costs of enforcement (including staff, legal and expert witness costs) incurred after the date of the issuance of this Complaint through completion of the hearing.

Original signed by

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

11 January 2013

DATE

**WAIVER FORM
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT**

By signing this waiver, I affirm and acknowledge the following:

I am duly authorized to represent County of Placer Facility Services Department, Sewer Maintenance District No. 3 (hereafter Discharger) in connection with Administrative Civil Liability Complaint R5-2013-0513 (hereafter Complaint). I am informed that California Water Code section 13323, subdivision (b), states that, "a hearing before the regional board shall be conducted within 90 days after the party has been served. The person who has been issued a complaint may waive the right to a hearing."

(OPTION 1: Check here if the Discharger waives the hearing requirement and will pay in full.)

- a. I hereby waive any right the Discharger may have to a hearing before the Central Valley Water Board.
- b. I certify that the Discharger will remit payment for the proposed civil liability in the full amount of **one hundred ninety-two thousand dollars (\$192,000)** by check that references "ACL Complaint R5-2013-0513" made payable to the *State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account*. Payment must be received by the Central Valley Water Board by **11 February 2013**.
- c. I understand the payment of the above amount constitutes a proposed settlement of the Complaint, and that any settlement will not become final until after a 30-day public notice and comment period. Should the Central Valley Water Board receive significant new information or comments during this comment period, the Central Valley Water Board's Executive Officer may withdraw the complaint, return payment, and issue a new complaint. I also understand that approval of the settlement will result in the Discharger having waived the right to contest the allegations in the Complaint and the imposition of civil liability.
- d. I understand that payment of the above amount is not a substitute for compliance with applicable laws and that continuing violations of the type alleged in the Complaint may subject the Discharger to further enforcement, including additional civil liability.

(OPTION 2: Check here if the Discharger waives the 90-day hearing requirement in order to engage in settlement discussions.) I hereby waive any right the Discharger may have to a hearing before the Central Valley Water Board within 90 days after service of the complaint, but I reserve the ability to request a hearing in the future. I certify that the Discharger will promptly engage the Central Valley Water Board Prosecution Team in settlement discussions to attempt to resolve the outstanding violation(s). By checking this box, the Discharger requests that the Central Valley Water Board delay the hearing so that the Discharger and the Prosecution Team can discuss settlement. It remains within the discretion of the Central Valley Water Board to agree to delay the hearing. Any proposed settlement is subject to the conditions described above under "Option 1."

(OPTION 3: Check here if the Discharger waives the 90-day hearing requirement in order to extend the hearing date and/or hearing deadlines. Attach a separate sheet with the amount of additional time requested and the rationale.) I hereby waive any right the Discharger may have to a hearing before the Central Valley Water Board within 90 days after service of the complaint. By checking this box, the Discharger requests that the Central Valley Water Board delay the hearing and/or hearing deadlines so that the Discharger may have additional time to prepare for the hearing. It remains within the discretion of the Central Valley Water Board to approve the extension.

(Print Name and Title)

(Signature)

(Date)

**ATTACHMENT A
ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT R5-2013-0513**

**County of Placer Facility Services Department
Sewer Maintenance District No. 3
Wastewater Treatment Plant**

RECORD OF VIOLATIONS (1 June 2011 – 31 October 2012) MANDATORY PENALTIES
(Data reported under Monitoring and Reporting Program R5-2007-0070)

| | <u>Date</u> | <u>Violation Type</u> | <u>Units</u> | <u>Limit</u> | <u>Msrd</u> | <u>Period</u> | <u>Rmrks</u> | <u>CIWQS</u> |
|----|------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 22-Jun-07 | | CDO R5-2007-0071 Effective | | | | | |
| 1 | 1-Jun-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.82 | 2 | Daily Max | 2 | 905997 |
| 2 | 1-Jun-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 14.8 | Daily Max | 2 | 905999 |
| 3 | 30-Jun-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | 2 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 905996 |
| 4 | 30-Jun-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 14.8 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 905998 |
| 5 | 6-Jul-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.82 | 1.6 | Daily Max | 2 | 907982 |
| 6 | 6-Jul-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 12.3 | Daily Max | 2 | 907984 |
| 7 | 31-Jul-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | 1.6 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 907983 |
| 8 | 31-Jul-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 11.8 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 907985 |
| 9 | 3-Aug-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.82 | 1.4 | Daily Max | 2 | 910297 |
| 10 | 3-Aug-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 11.8 | Daily Max | 2 | 910302 |
| 11 | 20-Aug-11 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 15 | 19 | Weekly Ave | 4 | 910300 |
| 12 | 31-Aug-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | 1.4 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 910298 |
| 13 | 31-Aug-11 | Aluminum, Total | µg/L | 71.2 | 78.3 | Monthly Ave | 4 | 910299 |
| 14 | 31-Aug-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 11.8 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 910301 |
| 15 | 7-Sep-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 11.8 | Daily Max | 2 | 911745 |
| 16 | 7-Sep-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.82 | 1.2 | Daily Max | 2 | 911748 |
| 17 | 7-Sep-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.00283 | 0.006 | Daily Max | 2 | 911750 |
| 18 | 26-Sep-11 | pH | su | 8.2 | 8.8 | Instant Max | 4 | 911749 |
| 19 | 30-Sep-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.0014 | 0.006 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 911746 |
| 20 | 30-Sep-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 11.8 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 911747 |
| 21 | 30-Sep-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | 1.2 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 911751 |
| 22 | 5-Oct-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 6.9 | Daily Max | 2 | 913109 |
| 23 | 5-Oct-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.00283 | 0.005 | Daily Max | 2 | 913108 |
| 24 | 31-Oct-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | 0.7 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 913110 |
| 25 | 31-Oct-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 6.9 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 913107 |
| 26 | 31-Oct-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.0014 | 0.005 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 913106 |
| 27 | 2-Nov-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 9.8 | Daily Max | 2 | 915069 |
| 28 | 2-Nov-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.00283 | 0.005 | Daily Max | 2 | 915066 |
| 29 | 30-Nov-11 | Aluminum, Total | µg/L | 71.2 | 72.4 | Monthly Ave | 4 | 915068 |
| 30 | 30-Nov-11 | Dibromochloromethane | µg/L | 0.41 | 1 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 915067 |
| 31 | 30-Nov-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 9.8 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 915065 |
| 32 | 30-Nov-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.0014 | 0.005 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 915064 |
| 33 | 10-Dec-11 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 15 | 25 | Weekly Ave | 1 | 918299 |
| 34 | 29-Dec-11 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 6.1 | Daily Max | 1 | 918297 |
| 35 | 30-Dec-11 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 5.4 | Daily Max | 1 | 918295 |
| 36 | 7-Dec-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 2.6 | Daily Max | 2 | 918296 |
| 37 | 31-Dec-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 2.6 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 918300 |

| | <u>Date</u> | <u>Violation Type</u> | <u>Units</u> | <u>Limit</u> | <u>Msrđ</u> | <u>Period</u> | <u>Rmrks</u> | <u>CIWQS</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 38 | 31-Dec-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | lbs/day | 0.0014 | 0.002 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 918302 |
| 39 | 31-Dec-11 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 10 | 11 | Monthly Ave | 4 | 918298 |
| 40 | 9-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.2 | Daily Max | 4 | 920320 |
| 41 | 11-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.1 | Daily Max | 4 | 920315 |
| 42 | 11-Jan-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 1.13 | 1.3 | Daily Max | 4 | 920319 |
| 43 | 12-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.2 | Daily Max | 4 | 920318 |
| 44 | 14-Jan-12 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 15 | 16 | Weekly Ave | 4 | 920309 |
| 45 | 16-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.2 | Daily Max | 4 | 920308 |
| 46 | 17-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 5.2 | Daily Max | 1 | 920304 |
| 47 | 18-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 6.1 | Daily Max | 1 | 920310 |
| 48 | 19-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 6.1 | Daily Max | 1 | 920316 |
| 49 | 20-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 6.3 | Daily Max | 1 | 920313 |
| 50 | 21-Jan-12 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 15 | 26 | Weekly Ave | 1 | 920307 |
| 51 | 23-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.8 | Daily Max | 4 | 920314 |
| 52 | 30-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.1 | Daily Max | 4 | 920311 |
| 53 | 31-Jan-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 1.2 | 3.8 | Monthly Ave | 1 | 920305 |
| 54 | 31-Jan-12 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 10 | 14 | Monthly Ave | 1 | 920306 |
| 55 | 31-Jan-11 | Dichlorobromomethane | µg/L | 0.56 | 1.3 | Monthly Ave | 2 | 920317 |
| 2-Feb-2012 | | | CDO R5-2012-0005 Effective | | | | | |
| 56 | 6-Feb-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.6 | Daily Max | 4 | 921570 |
| 57 | 18-Feb-12 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 15 | 21 | Weekly Ave | 1 | 921572 |
| 58 | 29-Feb-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 1.2 | 1.9 | Monthly Ave | 1 | 921571 |
| 59 | 29-Feb-12 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 10 | 14 | Monthly Ave | 1 | 921573 |
| 60 | 3-Mar-12 | Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/L | 15 | 23 | Weekly Ave | 1 | 924414 |
| 61 | 1-Aug-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.2 | Daily Max | 4 | 937061 |
| 62 | 2-Aug-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 14 | Daily Max | 1 | 937057 |
| 63 | 3-Aug-12 | Ammonia | mg/L | 3.7 | 4.7 | Daily Max | 4 | 937058 |
| 64 | 14-Aug-12 | Turbidity | NTU | 2 | 3 | Daily | 1 | 937060 |

Remarks:

1. Serious Violation: For Group I pollutants that exceed the effluent limitation by 40 percent or more.
2. Serious Violation: For Group II pollutants that exceed the effluent limitation by 20 percent or more.
3. Non-serious violation falls within the first three violations in a six-month period, thus is not subject to mandatory minimum penalties.
4. Non-serious violation subject to mandatory minimum penalties.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <u>VIOLATIONS AS OF:</u> | <u>10/31/2012</u> |
| Group I Serious Violations: | 16 |
| Group II Serious Violations: | 32 |
| Non-Serious Violations Not Subject to MMPs: | 0 |
| Non-serious Violations Subject to MMPs: | 16 |
| <u>Total Violations Subject to MMPs:</u> | <u>64</u> |

Mandatory Minimum Penalty = (48 serious Violation + 16 Non-Serious Violations) x \$3,000 = \$192,000

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

HEARING PROCEDURE
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT
R5-2013-0513

ISSUED TO
COUNTY OF PLACER FACILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 3
PLACER COUNTY

SCHEDULED FOR 11/12 APRIL 2013

PLEASE READ THIS HEARING PROCEDURE CAREFULLY. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE DEADLINES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED HEREIN MAY RESULT IN THE EXCLUSION OF YOUR DOCUMENTS AND/OR TESTIMONY.

Overview

Pursuant to Water Code section 13323, the Executive Officer has issued an Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint to County of Placer Facility Services Department, alleging violations of Water Code section 13385 for the discharge of wastewater from the Sewer Maintenance District No. 3 wastewater treatment plant that exceeded permitted effluent limitations. The ACL Complaint proposes that the Central Valley Water Board impose administrative civil liability in the amount of \$192,000. A hearing is currently scheduled to be conducted before the Board during its 11/12 April 2013 meeting.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider relevant evidence and testimony regarding the ACL Complaint. At the hearing, the Central Valley Water Board will consider whether to issue an administrative civil liability order assessing the proposed liability, or a higher or lower amount. The Board may also decline to assess any liability, or may continue the hearing to a later date. If less than a quorum of the Board is available, this matter may be conducted before a hearing panel. The public hearing will commence at 8:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter as practical, or as announced in the Board's meeting agenda. The meeting will be held at:

11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, California.

An agenda for the meeting will be issued at least ten days before the meeting and posted on the Board's web page at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings

Hearing Procedure

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with this Hearing Procedure, which has been approved by the Board Chair for the adjudication of such matters. The procedures governing adjudicatory hearings before the Central Valley Water Board may be found at California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648 et seq., and are available at

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>

Copies will be provided upon request. In accordance with section 648(d), any procedure not provided by this Hearing Procedure is deemed waived. Except as provided in section 648(b) and herein, Chapter 5 of the Administrative Procedures Act (Gov. Code, § 11500 et seq.) does not apply to this hearing.

The Discharger shall attempt to resolve objections to this Hearing Procedure with the Prosecution Team BEFORE submitting objections to the Advisory Team.

Separation of Prosecutorial and Advisory Functions

To help ensure the fairness and impartiality of this proceeding, the functions of those who will act in a prosecutorial role by presenting evidence for consideration by the Board (the "Prosecution Team") have been separated from those who will provide legal and technical advice to the Board (the "Advisory Team"). Members of the Advisory Team are: Ken Landau, Assistant Executive Officer and David Coupe, Senior Staff Counsel. Members of the Prosecution Team are: Pamela Creedon, Executive Officer; Wendy Wyels, Environmental Program Manager; Barry Hilton, Water Resources Control Engineer; and Mayumi Okamoto, staff counsel.

Any members of the Advisory Team who normally supervise any members of the Prosecution Team are not acting as their supervisors in this proceeding, and vice versa. Pamela Creedon regularly advises the Central Valley Water Board in other, unrelated matters, but is not advising the Central Valley Water Board in this proceeding. Other members of the Prosecution Team act or have acted as advisors to the Central Valley Water Board in other, unrelated matters, but they are not advising the Central Valley Water Board in this proceeding. Members of the Prosecution Team have not had any ex parte communications with the members of the Central Valley Water Board or the Advisory Team regarding this proceeding.

Hearing Participants

Participants in this proceeding are designated as either "Designated Parties" or "Interested Persons." Designated Parties may present evidence and cross-examine witnesses and are subject to cross-examination. Interested Persons may present non-evidentiary policy statements, but may not cross-examine witnesses and are not subject to cross-examination. Interested Persons generally may not present evidence (e.g., photographs, eye-witness testimony, monitoring data). At the hearing, both Designated Parties and Interested Persons may be asked to respond to clarifying questions from the Central Valley Water Board, staff, or others, at the discretion of the Board Chair.

The following participants are hereby designated as Designated Parties in this proceeding:

1. Central Valley Water Board Prosecution Team
2. County of Placer Facility Services Department

Requesting Designated Party Status

Persons who wish to participate in the hearing as a Designated Party must request designated party status by submitting a request in writing so that it is received no later than the deadline listed under "Important Deadlines" below. The request shall include an explanation of the basis for status as a Designated Party (i.e., how the issues to be addressed at the hearing affect the person, the need to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses), along with a statement explaining why the parties listed above do not adequately represent the person's interest. Any objections to these requests for designated party status must be submitted so that they are received no later than the deadline listed under "Important Deadlines" below.

Primary Contacts

Advisory Team:

Kenneth Landau

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Ex Parte Communications

Designated Parties and Interested Persons are forbidden from engaging in ex parte communications regarding this matter. An ex parte communication is a written or verbal communication related to the investigation, preparation, or prosecution of the ACL Complaint between a Designated Party or an Interested Person and a Board Member or a member of the Board's Advisory Team (see Gov. Code, § 11430.10 et seq.). However, if the communication is copied to all other persons (if written) or is made in a manner open to all other persons (if verbal), then the communication is not considered an ex parte communication. Communications regarding non-controversial procedural matters are also not considered ex parte communications and are not restricted.

Hearing Time Limits

To ensure that all participants have an opportunity to participate in the hearing, the following time limits shall apply: each Designated Party shall have a combined 30 minutes to present evidence (including evidence presented by witnesses called by the Designated Party), to cross-examine witnesses (if warranted), and to provide a closing statement. Each Interested Person shall have 3 minutes to present a non-evidentiary policy statement. Participants with similar interests or comments are requested to make joint presentations, and participants are requested to avoid redundant comments. Participants who would like additional time must submit their request to the Advisory Team so that it is received no later than the deadline listed under "Important Deadlines" below. Additional time may be

provided at the discretion of the Advisory Team (prior to the hearing) or the Board Chair (at the hearing) upon a showing that additional time is necessary. Such showing shall explain what testimony, comments, or legal argument requires extra time, and why it could not have been provided in writing by the applicable deadline.

A timer will be used, but will not run during Board questions or the responses to such questions, or during discussions of procedural issues.

Submission of Evidence and Policy Statements

The Prosecution Team and all other Designated Parties (including the Discharger) must submit the following information in advance of the hearing:

1. All evidence (other than witness testimony to be presented orally at the hearing) that the Designated Party would like the Central Valley Water Board to consider. Evidence and exhibits already in the public files of the Central Valley Board may be submitted by reference, as long as the exhibits and their location are clearly identified in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.3. Board members will not generally receive copies of materials incorporated by reference unless copies are provided, and the referenced materials are generally not posted on the Board's website.
2. All legal and technical arguments or analysis.
3. The name of each witness, if any, whom the Designated Party intends to call at the hearing, the subject of each witness' proposed testimony, and the estimated time required by each witness to present direct testimony.
4. The qualifications of each expert witness, if any.

Prosecution Team: The Prosecution Team's information must include the legal and factual basis for its claims against each Discharger; a list of all evidence on which the Prosecution Team relies, which must include, at a minimum, all documents cited in the ACL Complaint, Staff Report, or other material submitted by the Prosecution Team; and the witness information required under items 3-4 for all witnesses, including Board staff.

Designated Parties (including the Discharger): All Designated Parties shall submit comments regarding the ACL Complaint along with any additional supporting evidence not cited by the Central Valley Water Board's Prosecution Team no later than the deadline listed under "Important Deadlines" below.

Rebuttal: Any Designated Party that would like to submit evidence, legal analysis, or policy statements to rebut information previously submitted by other Designated Parties shall submit this rebuttal information so that it is received no later than the deadline listed under "Important Deadlines" below. "Rebuttal" means evidence, analysis or comments offered to disprove or contradict other submissions. Rebuttal shall be limited to the scope of the materials previously submitted. Rebuttal information that is not responsive to information previously submitted may be excluded.

Copies: Board members will receive copies of all submitted materials. The Board Members' hard copies will be printed in black and white on 8.5"x11" paper from the Designated Parties' electronic copies. Designated Parties who are concerned about print quality or the size of all or part of their written materials should provide an extra nine paper copies for the Board Members. For voluminous submissions, Board Members may receive copies in electronic format only. Electronic copies will also be posted on the Board's website. Parties without access to computer equipment are strongly encouraged to have their materials scanned at a copy or mailing center. The Board will not reject materials solely for failure to provide electronic copies.

Other Matters: The Prosecution Team will prepare a summary agenda sheet (Summary Sheet) and will respond to all significant comments. The Summary Sheet and the responses shall clearly state that

they were prepared by the Prosecution Team. The Summary Sheet and the responses will be posted online, as will revisions to the proposed Order.

Interested Persons: Interested Persons who would like to submit written non-evidentiary policy statements are encouraged to submit them to the Advisory Team as early as possible, but they must be received by the deadline listed under “Important Deadlines” to be included in the Board’s agenda package. Interested Persons do not need to submit written comments in order to speak at the hearing.

Prohibition on Surprise Evidence: In accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4, the Central Valley Water Board endeavors to avoid surprise testimony or evidence. Absent a showing of good cause and lack of prejudice to the parties, the Board Chair may exclude evidence and testimony that is not submitted in accordance with this Hearing Procedure. Excluded evidence and testimony will *not* be considered by the Central Valley Water Board and will not be included in the administrative record for this proceeding.

Presentations: Power Point and other visual presentations may be used at the hearing, but their content shall not exceed the scope of other submitted written material. These presentations must be provided to the Advisory Team at or before the hearing both in hard copy and in electronic format so that they may be included in the administrative record.

Witnesses: All witnesses who have submitted written testimony shall appear at the hearing to affirm that the testimony is true and correct, and shall be available for cross-examination.

Evidentiary Documents and File

The ACL Complaint and related evidentiary documents are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Central Valley Water Board office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. This file shall be considered part of the official administrative record for this hearing. Other submittals received for this proceeding will be added to this file and will become a part of the administrative record absent a contrary ruling by the Central Valley Water Board’s Chair. Many of these documents are also posted on-line at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml

Although the web page is updated regularly, to assure access to the latest information, you may contact Wendy Wyels (contact information above) for assistance obtaining copies.

Questions

Questions concerning this proceeding may be addressed to the Advisory Team attorney (contact information above).

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

All required submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the respective due date.

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| 11 January 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prosecution Team issues ACL Complaint, Hearing Procedure, and other related materials. |
| 22 January 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Objections due on Hearing Procedure. ▪ Deadline to request “Designated Party” status. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copies to:</u> All other Designated Parties, All known Interested Persons, Prosecution Team Attorney, Advisory Team Attorney</p> <p><u>Electronic and Hard Copies to:</u> Prosecution Team Primary Contact, Advisory Team Primary Contact</p> |
| 25 January 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deadline to submit opposition to requests for Designated Party status. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copies to:</u> All other Designated Parties, All known Interested Persons, Prosecution Team Attorney, Advisory Team Attorney</p> <p><u>Electronic and Hard Copies to:</u> Prosecution Team Primary Contact, Advisory Team Primary Contact</p> |
| 11 February 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discharger’s deadline to submit <i>90-Day Hearing Waiver Form</i>. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copy to:</u> Prosecution Team Primary Contact</p> |
| 14 February 2013* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advisory Team issues decision on requests for designated party status. ▪ Advisory Team issues decision on Hearing Procedure objections. |
| 22 February 2013* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prosecution Team’s deadline for submission of information required under “Submission of Evidence and Policy Statements,” above. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copies to:</u> All other Designated Parties, All known Interested Persons</p> <p><u>Electronic and Hard Copies to:</u> Advisory Team Primary Contact, Advisory Team Attorney</p> |
| 14 March 2013* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remaining Designated Parties’ (including the Discharger’s) deadline to submit all information required under “Submission of Evidence and Policy Statements” above. This includes all written comments regarding the ACL Complaint. ▪ Interested Persons’ comments are due. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copies to:</u> All other Designated Parties, All known Interested Persons, Prosecution Team Attorney, Advisory Team Attorney</p> <p><u>Electronic and Hard Copies to:</u> Prosecution Team Primary Contact, Advisory Team Primary Contact</p> |
| 21 March 2013* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All Designated Parties shall submit any rebuttal evidence, any rebuttal to legal arguments and/or policy statements, and all evidentiary objections. ▪ Deadline to submit requests for additional time. ▪ If rebuttal evidence is submitted, all requests for additional time (to respond to the rebuttal at the hearing) must be made within 3 working days of <i>this</i> deadline. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copies to:</u> All other Designated Parties, All known Interested Persons, Prosecution Team Attorney, Advisory Team Attorney</p> <p><u>Electronic and Hard Copies to:</u> Prosecution Team Primary Contact, Advisory Team Primary Contact</p> |
| 26 March 2013* [†] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prosecution Team submits Summary Sheet and responses to comments. <p><u>Electronic or Hard Copies to:</u> All other Designated Parties, All known Interested Persons</p> <p><u>Electronic and Hard Copies to:</u> Advisory Team Primary Contact, Advisory Team Attorney</p> |
| 11/12 April 2013* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hearing |

* Dischargers have the right to a hearing before the Board within 90 days of receiving the Complaint, but this right can be waived (to facilitate settlement discussions, for example). By submitting the waiver form, the Discharger is not waiving the right to a hearing; unless a settlement is reached, the Board will hold a hearing prior to imposing civil liability. However, if the Board accepts the waiver, all deadlines marked with an “*” will be revised if a settlement cannot be reached.

[†] This deadline is set based on the date that the Board compiles the Board Members’ agenda packages. Any material received after this deadline will not be included in the Board Members’ agenda packages.