The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, is proposing Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Chevron USA, Inc. to regulate the discharge of oilfield wastewater to eight unlined surface impoundments on the Section 29 Chevron fee property in the Lost Hills Oil Field. The property consists of approximately 636 acres in Section 29, T26S, R21E, MDB&M. The high salinity of the wastewater presents a threat to waters of the State. Therefore, the proposed WDRs will require Chevron USA, Inc. to cease the discharge of wastewater to the impoundments and close them in accordance with a specified time schedule.

A formal public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Regional Board meeting, which is scheduled for:

DATES: Thursday, 15 September 2005 or Friday, 16 September 2005
TIME: 8:30 am
PLACE: 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
        Rancho Cordova, CA

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

• Staff of Central Valley Regional Board
• Chevron USA, Inc.

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Regional Board no later than 8 September 2005. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item must submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Regional Board no later than 1 September 2005. Written
testimony, evidence, or comments submitted after 1 September 2005 will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Regional Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Regional Board Chair.

Anyone having questions on the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements should contact Douglas Wachtell at (559) 445-5114. Interested parties may download the proposed Order and related documents from the Regional Board’s Internet website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/tentative/.

If you do not have Internet access, these documents may be inspected and copied at the Regional Board’s office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by appointment.

The procedures governing Regional Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and is available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_laws/index.html. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Board’s website at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/board_meetings/mtgprocd.html or by contacting any one of the Regional Board’s offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Lonnie M. Wass, Supervising Water Resources Control Engineer

6/22/05