

ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: Valley Water Management Company, Race Track Hill Facility and Fee 34 Facility, Edison Oil Field

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of an Order Amending Water Code Section 13301 Order (Cease and Desist Order) No. R5-2015-0093*

BACKGROUND: Valley Water Management Company (VWMC) owns and operates two petroleum production wastewater disposal facilities under the names of “Fee 34 Facility” and “Race Track Hill Facility” in the Edison Oil Field in Kern County. Each facility is regulated by an individual order for disposal operations. Since the two facilities are parts of a single wastewater processing and disposal operation, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2015-0093 (CDO). The CDO requires that VWMC conduct a hydrogeological impact investigation at each facility and obtain revised waste discharge requirements or cease the discharge of produced wastewater by 1 January 2018 to the Race Track Hill Facility.

The proposed amendment to the CDO would permit the continued discharge of oil field produced wastewater to the Race Track Hill Facility until 1 July 2019. This amendment is being considered by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board to provide the necessary time for small operators in the Edison Oil Field to implement alternative disposal methods that will reduce and eventually eliminate the discharge of produced wastewater to the Race Track Hill Facility.

ISSUES: A Notice of Public Hearing was sent to VWMC and interested parties on 20 October 2017 for a 30-day comment period. Public comments were due on 20 November 2017 by 5:00 PM. The tentative Order includes an Attachment A that incorporates the proposed changes to the CDO. Specific changes in Attachment A are underline for additions and strikeout for deletions.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board adopt the proposed amendment for Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2015-0093.

Mgmt. Review __WDH__
Legal Review __SY__

7/8 December 2017
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