

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
June 13, 2012

- ITEM: 5
- SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Amendment: City of Oceanside Brine Discharge from the Mission Basin Desalting Facility to the Oceanside Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042) (*Joann Lim*).
- PURPOSE: To amend Order No. R9-2011-0016, NPDES Permit No. CA0107433 with the adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042.
- RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042 is recommended.
- KEY ISSUES:* The modification to the monitoring and reporting requirements would result in an increase in the monitoring frequency for turbidity. The Tentative Order may be processed as a minor permit modification under section 122.63(b), title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 122.63(b)).
- DISCUSSION: The City of Oceanside (City) currently discharges up to 22.6 million gallons per day of secondary treated effluent and waste brine into the Pacific Ocean through the Oceanside Ocean Outfall pursuant to Order No. R9-2011-0016 (Order) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0107433.
- In January 2011, the San Diego Water Board adopted Time Schedule Order No. R9-2011-0017, requiring the City to achieve compliance with the final effluent limitations for turbidity in the discharge from the Mission Basin Desalting Facility (MBDF). Compliance with these effluent limitations are currently determined using a 24-hour composite sampler, as required by the Order. On January 11, 2012, the City submitted a technical report that attributes the conversion of dissolved ferric iron to suspended ferrous iron in the stored 24-composite samples as the likely cause of the elevated turbidity concentrations. The City requested a modification of the sampling technique required in the Order

from a 24-hour composite sampler to a continuous turbidimeter. The City noted that the results from a continuous turbidimeter will better represent turbidity levels throughout the 24-hour period.

The continuous turbidimeter is an acceptable methodology, frequently used in monitoring reclaimed water under Title 22, Article 6, Section 60321(b) of the California Code of Regulations and is also an acceptable technique for monitoring turbidity in NPDES Permits under 40 CFR 136, *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants Under the Clean Water Act*.

With the modification of the sampling technique, it is expected that the City will achieve full compliance with the turbidity effluent limitations for the MBDF contained in the Order.

The Tentative Order (Supporting Document No. 2) modifies Order No. R9-2011-0016 as requested by the City in their January 11, 2012 report. There were no comments received on the Tentative Order.

An errata to the Tentative Order has been prepared to clarify compliance with the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for turbidity using a continuous turbidimeter (Supporting Document No. 3). The continuous turbidimeter automatically records the turbidity level at least once per hour. If the turbidity level exceeds the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation one or more times within a calendar day, the City will be in violation of the turbidity instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for that calendar day (i.e., one violation for that calendar day). The City is aware of this modification and has no objections.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Location Map
2. Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042
3. Errata Sheet to Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042

PUBLIC NOTICE:

On March 16, 2012, copies of the Tentative Order were sent (via email) to the Discharger and to all known interested persons and posted on the San Diego Water Board's website.