ITEM: 6


PURPOSE: To consider adopting Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0097, amending Order No. R9-2012-0006. (See Supporting Document No. 1)

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0097 is recommended.

KEY ISSUES: The Tentative Order proposes to make the following modifications to Order No. R9-2012-0006:
   1. Include a once per permit cycle screening of a sensitive toxicity test species for annual monitoring;
   2. Allow the discharge of blowdown water from evaporative cooling towers;
   3. Increase the maximum discharge flow rate from 70,000 gallons per day (GPD) to 100,000 GPD; and
   4. Increase all mass-based effluent limitations and performance goals based on the increased flow rate.

PRACTICAL VISION: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, such as Order No. R9-2012-0006, are the chief regulatory approach for controlling point source pollutant discharges to surface waters for the protection of human health and the environment. Consistent with the mission of the Strategy for Healthy Waters chapter of the Practical Vision, modification of Order No. R9-2012-0006
is proposed to ensure that the Order reflects changed operational conditions and integrates all applicable technology-based and water quality-based standards to optimize protection of water quality and beneficial uses in ocean waters.

DISCUSSION:

On February 8, 2012, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2012-0006, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) No. CA0109258, establishing waste discharge requirements for Liquid Stone Holdings, LLC (Discharger) to discharge up to 0.07 million gallons per day (MGD) of reverse osmosis brine wastewater from the Stone Brewing Co. (Facility) to the City of Escondido’s Industrial Brine Collection System. The Facility is located at 1999 Citracado Parkway, Escondido, CA 92029, San Diego County. (See Supporting Document No. 2)

On April 29, 2014, the Discharger requested the San Diego Water Board amend Order No. R9-2012-0006 to allow the discharge of blowdown water from evaporative cooling towers, to increase the maximum discharge from 0.07 MGD to 0.10 MGD, and to reduce the toxicity monitoring from three species to one species annually, consistent with appendix III, section 7 of the 2012 Ocean Plan.

The San Diego Water Board performed a new Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA) for constituents that had a higher concentration in the 2014 amendment application than in the Report of Waste Discharge for issuance of the permit in 2012. Based on the results of the new RPA, no changes are proposed to the concentration-based effluent limitations and performance goals found in Order No. R9-2012-0006. However, if adopted, the Tentative Order will make the following modifications to Order No. R9-2012-0006:

- Allow the discharge of blowdown water from evaporative cooling towers;
- Increase the maximum discharge from 0.07 MGD to 0.10 MGD;
• Reduce the toxicity monitoring from three species to one species annually, consistent with appendix III, section 7 of the 2012 Ocean Plan; and
• Revise the mass-based effluent limitations and performance goals to reflect the increased flow rate.

The only comment letter received regarding this item was from the Discharger requesting a few minor corrections. (See Supporting Document No. 3) A Response To Comments document has been included as Supporting Document No. 4.

The comment letter, Response to Comments document, and Revised Tentative Order were sent on November 25, 2014 to all interested parties and posted on the San Diego Water Board website.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:
1. Revised Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0094
2. Location Map
3. Comment Letter from the Discharger
4. Response to Comments

PUBLIC NOTICE: On October 6, 2014, the Tentative Order was sent to the Discharger and all known interested parties. The Tentative Order was also posted on the San Diego Water Board website. Notice was also provided in the Meeting Notice and Agenda for the December 11, 2014 Board meeting.