

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
December 16, 2015

- ITEM: 6
- SUBJECT: Master Recycling Permit Reissuance: Master Recycling Permit for the Valley Center Municipal Water District, Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, San Diego County. (Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0104)(*Alex Cali*)
- PURPOSE: To consider adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0104.
- RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0104 is recommended. (Supporting Document 1).
- KEY ISSUES:
1. Adoption of the Master Recycling Permit will allow Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) to expand the recycled water production capacity of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) (Supporting Document 2) from 0.147 of 0.275 million gallons per day (mgd). The expansion increases the permitted flow rate by 87 percent.
  2. The Tentative Monitoring and Reporting Program (Supporting Document 1, Attachment D) requires the VCMWD to conduct a 12-month nitrogen study to identify target agronomic rates in the reuse area. Establishing and applying recycled water and fertilizer at agronomic rates will maximize the nitrogen uptake from plants, thereby minimizing nutrient loads to groundwater underlying the reuse area.
- PRACTICAL VISION: The Tentative Order implements Chapter 5 of the Practical Vision:<sup>1</sup> Strategy for Achieving a Sustainable Local Water Supply, because the increased design capacity of the WVRWRF and expanded reuse area (Supporting Document 3) will aid ongoing potable water conservation efforts and facilitate the goal of increasing regional uses of recycled water as envisioned by the Recycled Water Policy.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Practical Vision: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/Practical\\_Vision/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/Practical_Vision/index.shtml)

<sup>2</sup> Recycled Water Policy: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2013/rs2013\\_0003\\_a.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2013/rs2013_0003_a.pdf)

## DISCUSSION:

Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0104 supersedes Order No. 98-09 and addenda. The Tentative Order increases the permitted flow rate by 87 percent, adds requirements consistent with the Recycled Water Policy, and allows VCMWD to operate recycled water fill stations. The Tentative Order is a Master Recycling Permit and therefore allows VCMWD to add new recycled water use areas without amending the permit.

The proposed expansion of the WVRWRF will provide secondary and tertiary treatment of domestic wastewater generated in the VCMWD service area. The VCMWD will expand the service area of the WVRWRF to include the North and South Village portions of Valley Center. The VCMWD submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for the proposed expansion of recycled water production from 0.147 mgd to 0.275 mgd at the WVRWRF on May 15, 2015. The WVRWRF expansion is designed to treat an annual average flow of 0.275 mgd; however, the full permitted flow rate will not be fully realized for at least ten years.

The VCMWD is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and certified the following documents to comply with the requirements of CEQA:

1. Final Environmental Impact Report titled, South Village Water Reclamation Project, (State Clearinghouse #2007101049) certified April 7, 2008;
2. Subsequent Addenda Nos. 1 and 2 to the Final EIR certified January 20, 2011 and January 25, 2013, respectively. The two Addenda were prepared to address proposed changes in facilities, wastewater flows, and the WVRWRF service area; and
3. A Mitigated Negative Declaration titled, North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project (State Clearinghouse #2014111011) was certified January 7, 2015. The Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared to assess potential environmental impacts from wastewater flows derived from the North Village portion of the WVRWRF sewer service area.

The CEQA documents (Supporting Document 4, Attachments) conclude that the project will have a less than significant impact on water quality. The San Diego Water Board is a responsible agency under CEQA, and is relying upon this information for adoption of the Tentative Order.

During the public comment period the VCMWD submitted comments by letter dated November 9, 2015 (Supporting Document 5). This was the only comment letter received. Supporting Document 6 contains San Diego Water Board responses to those comments. Modifications made to the Tentative Order in response to comments are highlighted in underline/strikeout text in Supporting Document 7. A clean copy of the Tentative Order incorporating the modifications is included as Supporting Document No. 1.

**LEGAL CONCERNS:**

None

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

1. Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0104.
2. Regional Map.
3. WVRWRF Existing and Proposed Sewer Service Area.
4. Report of Waste Discharge.
5. VCMWD Comments received on the Tentative Order.
6. Responses to Written Comments on the Tentative Order.
7. Modifications to the Tentative Order in underline/strikeout text.
8. Public Notice for Agenda Item.

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES:**

Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0104 approves the design and operation of the WVRWRF with an expanded capacity. The Tentative Order also adds priority pollutant monitoring, and requires preparation of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan as required by the Recycled Water Policy. The Tentative Order requires VCMWD to conduct a nitrogen study to identify agronomic rates.

**COMPLIANCE RECORD:**

The WVRWRF compliance record includes effluent violations for total coliform and pH. The two other violations on record are for failing to report total suspended solids, volatile suspended solids, and effluent flow rate. The most recent effluent violation was in 2008.

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Notification of this agenda item (Supporting Document 8) was posted on the San Diego Water Board web page on October 9, 2015. This action satisfies the requirements of

Water Code, division 7 section 13167.5 for providing public notification and a 30 day period for public comment prior to the adoption of the Tentative Order.