

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region



Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor

Over 50 Years Serving San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties Recipient of the 2004 Environmental Award for Outstanding Achievement from USEPA

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October 5, 2009

In reply refer to: ahdai:240177

Mr. Dennis Lamb General Manager Vallecitos Water District 201 Vallecitos de Oro San Marcos, CA 92069-1453

Dear Mr. Lamb:

SUBJECT: MEADOWLARK WATER RECLAMATION PLANT (WRP)

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board) has reviewed the June and July 2009 monthly monitoring reports submitted by the Vallecitos Water District (District) in accordance with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2007-0018. The reports indicate that problems were occurring with the operation and monitoring equipment in June and July 2009 resulting in intermittent and short violations of minimum chlorine residual and minimum modal contact time. The reported causes for the violations included the following:

- 1. Too much chlorine injection during low influent flow.
- 2. A faulty chlorine analyzer's electronic output board.
- 3. During other maintenance or equipment adjustment activities.

It was also noted that the District violated the Discharge Specification B.1 requirement to maintain pH within 6.0-8.5 on July 14, 2009, but that there has been no subsequent violations of the pH limitation since then.

In addition, please take whatever other actions are necessary to ensure that the violations noted do not occur in the future. These violations subject the District to possible further enforcement action by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board), including administrative enforcement orders requiring the District to cease and desist from violations, or to clean up waste and abate existing or threatened conditions of pollution or nuisance; administrative assessment of civil liability in amounts of up to \$5,000 per day per violation;1 referral to the State Attorney General for injunctive relief; and referral to the District Attorney for criminal prosecution.

California Environmental Protection Agency



Mr. Lamb Meadowlark WRP

The next monitoring report to be submitted is the September 2009 monthly monitoring report due by November 1, 2009.

The heading portion of this letter includes a Regional Board code number noted after "In reply refer to." In order to assist us in the processing of your correspondence please include this code number in the heading or subject line portion of all correspondence and reports to the Regional Board pertaining to this matter. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Ms. Amanda Dai at (858) 627-3977 or at email adai@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert Marris

Robert Morris, P.E. Senior Water Resource Control Engineer Groundwater Branch

California Environmental Protection Agency

