

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region

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



Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor

9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego, California 92123-4353 (858) 467-2952 • Fax (858) 571-6972 http:// www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego

September 9, 2010

In reply refer to: 255218:oosibodu

Mr. Andrew J. Howard Utilities Manager City of San Clemente, Utilities Division 380 Avenida Pico, Bldg. N San Clemente, CA 92672

Dear Mr. Howard:

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF MONITORING REPORTS FOR THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE WATER RECLAMATION PLANT

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) has reviewed the September 2009-July 2010 monthly monitoring reports; the July-September 2009, October-December 2009, January-March 2010, and April-June 2010 quarterly recycled water user's summary reports; the January-June 2010 semiannual monitoring report, and the January-December 2009 annual monitoring report submitted by the City of San Clemente (City) in accordance with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 2003-0123.

The following violations of Order No. R9-2003-0123 were identified in the submitted reports:

- The median effluent concentrations for total coliform were reported as 6, 8, 8, and 8 Most Probable Number per 100 milliliter (MPN/100 mL) on May 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19, 2010 respectively. Discharge Specification B.2 of Order No. R9-2000-0123 states that the median effluent concentration for total coliform measured in the last 7 days shall not exceed 2.2 MPN/100 mL. The City, however, reported that sand filters at the San Clemente Water Reclamation Facility have been chemically cleaned to correct the violations.
- The effluent pH values were reported as 3.07, 5.47, 5.95, and 5.64 on April 2, 9, 15, and 16, 2010 respectively. Discharge Specification B.1 of Order No. R9-2003-0123 specifies that the effluent pH shall be between 6.0-9.0 at all times. The City reported that low pH values may have been due to a faulty pH probe which has since been replaced.

California Environmental Protection Agency



Mr. Howard

Please be aware these violations subject the City to possible further enforcement action by the San Diego Water Board, including administrative enforcement orders requiring the City 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.

In addition the San Diego Water Board has the following comments regarding the submitted reports:

- Effluent concentrations for several chemical constituents were reported as non-detect in the January-December 2009 annual report. Please specify the minimum detection limit for all constituents reported as non-detect in future monitoring reports.
- 2. The next report required to be submitted is the August 2010 monthly monitoring report which is due by October 1, 2010.

In the subject line of any response, please include the requested "in reply refer to:" information located in the heading of this letter. For questions pertaining to the subject matter, please contact Mr. Fisayo Osibodu at (858)-637-5594 or at oosibodu@waterboards.ca.gov.

Respectfully,

Robert Marris

Robert W. Morris, P.E Senior WRC Engineer Cleanup and Land Discharge Branch

Regulatory Measure ID: 375814 Violation ID: 1) 880568, 880570, 880571, 880572, 880573

2) 880574, 880575, 880576, 880577

¹ Under authority of California Water Code section 13350.

California Environmental Protection Agency