

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

Prepared on August 3, 2007

ITEM NUMBER: 16

SUBJECT: **Renewal of Waste Discharge Requirements, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0048828 for the City of Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County, Order No. R3-2007-0013**

KEY INFORMATION

Location: 700 Lundy Lane, Scotts Valley  
Type of Discharge: Treated municipal wastewater  
Permitted Flow: 1.5 million gallons per day (MGD; dry weather flow design capacity)  
*Average Flow:* 0.7 MGD in June 2007  
Type of Treatment: Secondary via aerated reactors, with disinfection and dechlorination  
Disposal Method: Pacific Ocean discharge through a 12,250-foot long outfall/diffuser system  
Solid Wastes: Offsite disposal of biosolids to landfill  
Existing Orders: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2002-0016  
Reclamation: Tertiary treatment provides recycled water for landscape irrigation  
**This Action: Adopt Waste Discharge Requirements**

SUMMARY

This Staff Report summarizes changes to waste discharge requirements in the proposed Order. Attachments to the proposed Order, including the proposed Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) and the Fact Sheet (Attachment F), provide detailed information.

The City of Scotts Valley (Discharger) owns and operates a wastewater collection and treatment system. With the City of Santa Cruz, the Discharger jointly disposes of its treated wastewater to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary through an outfall-diffuser system originating at Santa Cruz's wastewater treatment plant. The Discharger reclaims substantial volumes of plant effluent to irrigate local landscaping.

The proposed Order includes waste discharge requirements from the existing Order, except changes to format and removal of several effluent limits due to reasonable potential analysis, as noted below.

CHANGES FROM THE EXISTING ORDER

**Format changes.** To standardize NPDES permitting and compliance evaluation across the State, the State Water Resources Control Board developed a new statewide template for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, to which the Regional Boards and the USEPA contributed substantially. The proposed Order is rearranged in accordance with the new template. Hence, the proposed Order includes the NPDES permit with all supporting information appended as

attachments. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F) includes information formerly provided in the Staff Report, including facility information, rationale for waste discharge requirements and the monitoring and reporting program, and so forth.

**Reasonable potential analysis (RPA).** The RPA is a statistical evaluation of effluent monitoring results to demonstrate whether a pollutant is present in the discharge at a level which poses a reasonable potential to exceed Permit limitations. The RPA found no reasonable potential for any toxic pollutant to exceed its limitation. Therefore, the proposed Order contains no effluent limitations for any of the Ocean Plan's toxic pollutants except whole effluent acute and chronic toxicity, and total chlorine residual. Staff retained effluent limitations for acute and chronic whole effluent toxicity and total chlorine residual to readily compare monitoring data and permit limitations to enable better wastewater treatment process control.

## **COMMENTS**

The Discharger pointed out minor errors, which staff addressed in the proposed Order.

## **ATTACHMENT**

1. Proposed Order No. R3-2007-0013, including the following associated attachments:

Attachment A – Definitions

Attachment B – Topographic Map

Attachment C – Wastewater Flow Schematic

Attachment D – Standard Provisions

Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2007-00134

Attachment F – Fact Sheet