

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 4-5, 2008

ITEM NUMBER: 12

SUBJECT: Low Threat and General Discharge Cases

DISCUSSION

**General WDRs for Small Domestic Wastewater Systems**

**Paso Robles Swim and Tennis Club, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]**

The Paso Robles Swim and Tennis Club operates a small domestic wastewater treatment and disposal system. The facility discharges less than 4,000 gallons per day of treated domestic wastewater. Treatment consists of a 4,500-gallon septic tank. Septic tank effluent is discharged to a dual leachfield system, each capable of receiving design flows.

On August 8, 2008, Water Board staff enrolled the facility under Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems" (General Requirements) adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on November 18, 1997. Only domestic wastewater treatment and disposal systems with a maximum average daily flow of 20,000 gallons or less can be regulated by these General Requirements. Also, Finding 2 of Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ states, "Discharges to land from small domestic wastewater treatment and disposal systems have certain common characteristics, such as similar constituents, concentration of constituents, disposal techniques, flow ranges and they require the same or similar treatment standards. These types of discharges are more appropriately regulated under general Waste Discharge Requirements."

The proposed discharge will comply with Water Board standards, prohibitions, and requirements to protect water quality. Staff has modified the Monitoring and Reporting Program included with Order No. 97-10-DWQ specifically for the Swim and Tennis Club's discharge. Waste discharge in compliance with the General Requirements for existing facilities is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resource Code, Section 21100 et seq.) in accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Administrative Code.

**General NPDES Permit Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality**

**La Cumbre Mutual Water Company, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County [Ryan Lodge 805/549-3506]**

Water Board staff enrolled the La Cumbre Mutual Water Company under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Low Threat Discharges to Surface Water Order No. R3-2006-0063. The Discharger's Notice of Intent, dated April 18, 2008, requested enrollment for discharges associated with drinking water supply and distribution system operations and maintenance activities. The Discharger's application included analytical results, which demonstrate that the proposed discharge will have a low threat to the receiving water.

Finding No. 3 of the General Permit authorizes discharge of other similar types of wastes that pose a low threat to water quality provided that General Permit requirements are met.

Water Board staff modified the General Permit Monitoring and Reporting Program to fit the characteristics of the discharge. Oil/grease, total suspended solids, settleable solids, acute toxicity, and total fecal coliform were removed from Section E.3, *Discharge Monitoring*, because the discharge is comprised of drinking water. The Discharger is required to submit annual reports on January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **General Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharges**

#### **Nacimiento Water Project/ConocoPhillips Petroleum Pipeline Crossing, Highway 101 Near Tassajara Creek Road, Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo County [Rich Chandler (805) 542-4627]**

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) staff received a *Report of Waste Discharge* submitted by Terra Pacific Group, Inc. on behalf of the ConocoPhillips Company (ConocoPhillips) on May 15, 2008. Based on information included with this submittal, ConocoPhillips was enrolled in Resolution R3-2008-0010, General Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharges on June 12, 2008.

The Nacimiento Water Project will likely encounter petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soil and groundwater as it installs a water supply pipeline beneath Highway 101 and Tassajara Creek. The water supply pipeline will pass through an area between Highway 101 and Tassajara Creek that is known to be impacted by a release of crude oil from a former Unocal Corporation crude oil pipeline. ConocoPhillips, as the responsible party for the petroleum hydrocarbon contamination, has agreed to operate and maintain a treatment system at the site to remove petroleum hydrocarbon constituents from any extracted groundwater. The treatment system will be composed of a 21,000 gallon storage tank, a sand filter system to remove sediment, and two to four 2,000 pound liquid-phase granular activated carbon vessels connected in series. Treated water will be stored in a second 21,000 gallon tank until analytical testing confirms that the treatment is complete. Treated water will be discharged to land onsite.

As a condition of enrollment in the Waiver, Central Coast Water Board staff requires ConocoPhillips to report discharge rate and volume, as well as post-treatment laboratory analysis for chemicals of concern, to us daily for the first three days of system operation, weekly thereafter for the first two weeks, then quarterly thereafter. Sampling, analysis, and reporting requirements were set forth in Monitoring and Reporting Program R3-2008-0056. ConocoPhillips anticipates startup of the treatment system in September 2008, and will provide Central Coast Water Board staff with 48-hour notice prior to initiation of water treatment, as well as prior to discharge of treated groundwater.

#### **Vandenberg Air Force Base (AFB), Space Launch Complex 2 (SLC-2), Santa Barbara County [Ryan Lodge 805/549-3506]**

Water Board Staff recommends enrolling SLC-2, located at Building 1627 Tangair, Vandenberg AFB, Santa Barbara County, under the General Waiver Resolution No. R3-2008-0010. Discharges associated with SLC-2 operations include treated launch deluge water, treated groundwater, and untreated groundwater mixed with stormwater. Groundwater seeps into the retention basin through cracks in the headwall of the culvert leading from the launch pad area to the retention basin. Base personnel collected three groundwater samples. One sample indicated the presence of trichloroethylene (TCE) in the groundwater at 11 micrograms per liter, while the second and third samples did not detect TCE. Groundwater enters the retention basin at a rate of

800 to 1,500 gallons per day. During normal operations the site generates approximately 40,000 gallons of deluge and post-launch wash down water per launch event. The water is treated with a mobile treatment unit consisting of multi-media, activated carbon, and resin media to remove sediment, organics, and metal contamination. Groundwater entering the retention basin is periodically pumped and treated through the mobile treatment unit. Treated water is pumped into a 200,000-gallon storage tank for use during future launch events. When the storage tank is full the excess treated water will be discharged to land under this General Waiver.

Prior to storm events, groundwater in the retention basin is pumped out and treated. During storm events the retention basin collects stormwater that mixes with groundwater, which continues to seep into the headwall and culvert associated with the basin. The mixture of groundwater and stormwater will be discharged to land in an area near the retention basin. Water Board staff find that the discharge of launch deluge water and groundwater, both treated with the SLC-2 mobile treatment unit, and groundwater mixed with stormwater, present little threat to water quality.

Water Board staff is notifying the Central Coast Water Board that the proposed discharge meets the requirements and is being enrolled under the general waiver of waste discharge requirements. The waiver expires on September 5, 2013.

### **General WDRs for Discharges from Wineries**

#### **Sunstone Vineyard & Wineries, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara County [Ryan Lodge 805/549-3506]**

Water Board staff enrolled Sunstone Winery under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste (General WDRs) on July 21, 2008. Sunstone Winery is located at 125 Refugio Rd, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara County.

Sunstone Winery expects to produce up to 18,000 cases annually. Peak process wastewater flows are approximately 300 gallons per day. Large solids will be separated through a mesh screen. Wastewater will flow to a 2,000-gallon holding tank and will then be used for dust suppression on 2.5 acres of vineyard roads. Pomace will be added to a compost heap which will be used as organic fertilizer throughout the vineyard. The domestic wastewater discharges are separate from the winery wastewater discharges. The depth to groundwater is at least 20 feet below ground surface.

Enrollment under the General WDRs requires Sunstone Winery to follow Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2008-0018. Water Board staff will begin regular compliance inspections of Sunstone Winery this fall.

#### **Grassini Winery, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara County [Ryan Lodge 805/549-3506]**

Water Board staff enrolled Grassini Winery under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste (General WDRs) on July 9, 2008. Grassini Winery is located at 1175 Alisos Rd, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara County.

Grassini Winery expects to produce up to 15,000 cases annually. Peak process wastewater flows are approximately 1,200 gallons per day. Large solids will be separated through a mesh screen. Wastewater will flow through a 2-stage bioreactor treatment process. Bioreactor effluent will be blended with potable water and used for irrigation. Pomace will be reworked into the vineyard soil. The domestic wastewater discharges are separate from the winery wastewater discharges. The depth to groundwater is over 350 feet below ground surface.

Enrollment under the General WDRs requires Grassini Winery to follow Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2008-0018. Water Board staff will begin regular compliance inspections of Grassini Winery this fall.

**Small Winery Waivers, [David LaCaro, 805/549-3892]**

The Regional Board adopted Order No. R-3-2008-0018 *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste* (General Winery WDR) on February 8, 2008. The General Winery WDR includes a general waiver component which authorizes the Executive Officer to enroll small wineries that pose little or no threat to water quality. The General Winery WDR defines a "small winery" as one crushing less than or equal to 160 tons of grapes per year, or producing less than or equal to 10,000 cases or 26,000 gallons of wine per year. In general, small wineries generate 200 to 300 gallons per day (long-term average) of process wastewater, most of which originates from equipment (tanks, barrels, floors, etc.) cleaning. Waiver enrollments expire five years from the date of the General Winery WDR adoption or whenever the winery no longer meets the definition of small, whichever is sooner.

The following table identifies wineries enrolled in the small winery waiver between April 5, and August 1, 2008.

Facility Name	Facility Location	Production and Discharge Description	Date Waiver Enrollment	Regional Board Staff Contact
Cal Poly Pilot Winery	California Polytechnic State University	The winery proposes to produce 500 cases. Wastewater will be collected in a 1,500 gallon tank then discharged to three 100-foot leach lines. Solids collected by the floor screens will be composted off-site.	May 20, 2008	David LaCaro (805-549-3892)
Jason-Stephens Winery	11775 Watsonville Road, Morgan Hill, CA 95037	The winery will produce less than 5,000 cases per year. Wastewater flowrate during the crush season will equal about 500 gallons per day.	June 12, 2008	Mike Higgins (805-542-4649)
Carina Cellars	3525 Adelaida Rd. Paso Robles, CA 93446	The winery proposes to produce 5,000 cases per year. Process wastewater (max flowrate: crush/non-crush 500 gallons per day) will be collected in a 1,500-gallon tank with risers, and then applied to the vineyard rows. Restroom wastewater will be collected in a 800-gallon tank with risers and an effluent filter and then discharged to two 23'x3' leach lines.	June 17, 2008	Tom Kukol (805-549-3689)

Facility Name	Facility Location	Production and Discharge Description	Date of Waiver Enrollment	Regional Board Staff Contact
Harmony Cellars	3255 Harmony Valley Rd., Harmony, CA 93435	The winery proposes to produce 10,000 cases per year. Wastewater will be collected in two 1,500-gallon septic tanks, sent to a retention pond (162 days), and re-used as vineyard dust abatement and landscape.	June 18, 2008	Tom Kukol (805-549-3689)
Sarzotti Winery	5302 El Pomar Drive, Templeton, CA 93465	The winery proposes to produce 3,000 cases per year. Domestic wastewater will go through a separate system. Process wastewater (max flowrate: crush 250 gallons per day, non-crush 120 G/day) will be collected in a clarification tank and septic tank, and re-used as dust abatement and sent to a leachfield.	June 18, 2008	Tom Kukol (805-549-3689)
Ambyth Estate	510 Sequoia Lane Templeton, CA 93465	The winery proposes to produce 5,000 cases per year. Domestic WW will go through a separate system. Process WW (max flowrate: crush/non-crush: 500 G/day) will be collected in a septic tank (solids separated) and re-used as dust abatement.	June 19, 2008	Tom Kukol (805-549-3689)
B & E Vineyard	10,000 Creston Rd, Paso Robles, CA 93446	The winery proposes to produce 2,500 cases per year. Process ww will be collected in a 200-gallon settling tank, then sent to a 1500-gallon holding tank, and then to be re-used on a 99-acre area as vineyard dust abatement.	June 26, 2008	Tom Kukol (805-549-3689)
James Judd & Sons Winery	Paso Robles 93446	The winery proposes to produce 5,000 cases per year. Process ww will be collected in a 1,500-gallon septic tank during 3 days before using the treated ww as vineyard dust abatement on a 40-acre area.	July 29, 2008	Tom Kukol (805-549-3689)