

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 4-5, 2008

Prepared on August 1, 2008

ITEM NUMBER: 18

SUBJECT: **Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Engineered Onsite Disposal System, De Luz Residence, 350 Via Los Tulares Road, Carmel Valley, Monterey County, Resolution No. R3-2008-0049**

KEY INFORMATION

Location: 350 Via Los Tulares Road, Carmel Valley, Monterey County
Lot Size & Type: Approximately 2.58 acre; Residential
Type of Discharge: Treated domestic wastewater
Type of Treatment: Secondary via package filtration system with ultraviolet disinfection
Disposal Method: Shallow pressurized trench leachfields
Design Flow: 900 gallons per day (gpd) - average and 1,800 gpd - peak daily
Land Owner/Discharger: Jan De Luz
Local Oversight Agency: Monterey County Department of Health
This Action: Adopt Resolution No. R3-2008-0049 for Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements

SUMMARY

The proposed Resolution (Attachment 1) is a Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for an engineered (or advanced treatment) onsite domestic wastewater and disposal system for a residential lot located in Carmel Valley. The subject site is being redeveloped following destruction of the former residential dwelling by fire. Site conditions generally consist of steep slopes covered in dense chaparral brush underlain by well draining soils. Groundwater is encountered beneath the subject site at approximately 120 feet below ground surface. The subject property drains to and encompasses a seasonal unnamed drainage tributary to the Carmel River. The onsite wastewater system for the former residence consisted of a conventional septic tank that reportedly discharged directly to the unnamed drainage channel.

An engineered system is being proposed to replace the existing system and overcome slope constraints which make siting a conventional onsite wastewater treatment and disposal system on the subject property very difficult. The proposed system consists of an advanced treatment system with ultraviolet disinfection and shallow pressurized disposal trenches. The engineered system and variance from Basin Plan site suitability recommended criteria regarding steep slopes as outlined in the findings of the proposed Resolution require a Basin Plan exemption. Staff reviewed the Discharger's application and approved the Basin Plan exemption in a letter dated June 20, 2008 (Attachment 2). A waiver of waste discharge requirements is also required along with the Basin Plan exemption. The June 20, 2008 letter also serves as the public notification for the proposed Resolution.

The subject property and proposed system design meet or exceed all other applicable Basin Plan criteria for siting a conventional "septic system" with the exception of site suitability criteria for slopes and setbacks from slopes as discussed in the findings of the proposed Resolution. A geotechnical investigation report [slope stability assessment] was submitted as part of the application to specifically address this issue.

If the proposed onsite disposal system is properly operated and maintained in accordance with Monterey County ordinances and permit conditions and the conditions of this Resolution, a waiver of waste discharge requirements is in the public interest and is consistent with applicable water quality control plans, including the Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Region.

Conditions of the proposed Resolution are primarily based on the Basin Plan and nonstandard Monterey County permit conditions attached to the proposed Resolution. The nonstandard County permit conditions consist of operations and maintenance contract and deed notification requirements for the advanced treatment system.

The findings of the proposed Resolution contain more detailed information regarding the proposed project.

COMMENTS & CHANGES

No comments were received as of August 1, 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution R3-2008-0049 as proposed.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Waiver No. R3-2008-0049 and associated Exhibits
2. January 20, 2008, Regional Water Quality Control Board letter regarding: 350 Via Los Tulares Road, Carmel Valley (APN: 197-132-006), Monterey County; Proposed Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Alternative Wastewater Disposal System (Resolution R3-2008-0049)