

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2010

Prepared on November 9, 2010

ITEM NUMBER: 11

SUBJECT: Reissuance of Waste Discharge Requirements, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0005274 for Granite Rock Company, Inc. Arthur Wilson Quarry, San Benito County, Order No. R3-2010-0025

KEY INFORMATION

Discharger: Granite Rock Company, Inc.
Facility Name: Arthur R. Wilson Quarry
Facility Address: End of Quarry Road
Aromas, CA 95004
San Benito County

Type of Waste: Quarry material washwater, treated water from Fines Plant, make-up well water, and storm water

Treatment: Quarry Storage Reservoir (storage and settling basin), Fines Plant (polymer-assisted removal of fine-grained material), Soda Lake (storage and settling basin)

Disposal: Overflow from Quarry Storage Reservoir to Pajaro River

Capacity: 200,000,000 gallons storage in Quarry Storage Reservoir, approximately 7,800 gallons per minute to Fines Plant or to Soda Lake

Permitted Flow: 9.0 million gallons per day (MGD)

Existing Order: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2005-0044, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0005274

This Action: Adopt Waste Discharge Requirements

SUMMARY

The proposed Order is presented in the state-wide format for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. This standardized format presents the proposed Order with all supporting information appended as associated attachments. This format was developed through a state-wide effort between the State Board, Regional Boards, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to standardize NPDES permitting and compliance evaluation. The facility information and permit

evaluation discussion normally contained within the staff report are presented in the Fact Sheet, which is Attachment F to the proposed Order.

PURPOSE OF THE ORDER

The purpose of the proposed Order No. R3-2010-0025 is to update and reissue Order No. R3-2005-0044, NPDES Permit No. CA0005274.

The existing permit expired on July 2, 2010. However, Water Board staff provided the Discharger an administrative extension on June 1, 2010.

CHANGES WITHIN THE PROPOSED ORDER

Changes in proposed Order No. R3-2010-0025 from the existing Order No. R3-2005-0044 are summarized below. Typographical errors and minor changes that do not alter the intent of the Order are not discussed below. For a complete discussion of the rationale for these changes, refer to the Fact Sheet portion of the permit (Attachment F).

Summary of New Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) at Discharge Point 001

Constituent	Units	Effluent Limits	
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	1,000	--
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	0.050	0.10
Selenium, Total Recoverable	µg/L	10	20
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	4.3	8.5
Aluminum, Total Recoverable	µg/L	1,000	5,000
Iron, Total Recoverable	µg/L	1,000	--
Suspended Sediments	mg/L	[1]	[1]

^[1] The discharge of suspended settlement shall not exceed the following limits:

- For a discharge duration of 1 day (24 hours) or less, the suspended sediments concentration (SSC) cannot exceed 1,807 mg/L.
- For a discharge duration of 2 days (48 hours), the SSC cannot exceed 665 mg/L for both days.
- For a discharge duration of 2 to 14 days (48 to 336 hours), the SSC cannot exceed 244 mg/L for each day.
- For a discharge duration of 14 to 49 days (336 to 1,176 hours), the SSC cannot exceed 90 mg/L for each day.

In 2005, the Central Coast Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R5-2005-0132, establishing TMDLs and implementation plans for suspended solids in the Upper Pajaro River and Llagas Creek. Consistent with the TMDL, we are proposing effluent limitations implementing the TMDL for the Facility that reflect the maximum allowable suspended solids concentrations (SSC) over varying durations (exposure periods).

CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO WRITTEN COMMENTS

Granite Rock Arthur Wilson Quarry, Santa Cruz County, and Monterey County Water Resources Agency representatives submitted comments during the public comment period. Water Board staff provides excerpts of these comments along with Water Board staff's comments and responses in Attachment F. The Water Board did not receive any other comments regarding Order No. R3-2010-0025. Water Board staff modified the draft order based on comments received from interested parties as noted below:

- Modified Table E.3 in Attachment E, Section V to reflect a 96-hour test for acute toxicity.
- Water Board staff eliminated effluent limits for constituents not detected in the provided wastewater analysis (Section IV.A Tables 6 and 7). Additional monitoring of the stormwater was added into the MRP (Attachment E, Section IV.A.1) in order to assess stormwater runoff characteristics from the Lower Hole, which has not been previously monitored and is occasionally mixed in with the Quarry Storage Reservoir water.

Water Board staff provides a copy of the original comment letters from Granite Rock Arthur Wilson Quarry, Santa Cruz County, and Monterey County Water Resources Agency representatives in Attachment G.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Order R3-2010-0025 as proposed.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Waste Discharge Requirements, NPDES Order No. R3-2010-0025 and the following associated attachments:
 - Attachment A – Definitions
 - Attachment B – Map
 - Attachment C – Flow Schematic
 - Attachment D – Standard Provisions
 - Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program
 - Attachment F – Fact Sheet
 - Attachment G – Public Comment Correspondence