



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Katherine Hart, Chair



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Arnold
Schwarzenegger
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21 June 2010

Mr. Alex Miller
Gill Ranch Storage, LLC
220 NW Second Ave, 11th Floor
Portland, OR 97209

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER NO. 2003-0003-DWQ, STATEWIDE GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGE TO LAND WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY, GILL RANCH STORAGE, LLC, GILL RANCH GAS STORAGE PROJECT, FRESNO AND MADERA COUNTIES

Gill Ranch Storage, LLC (Discharger) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI), dated 4 June 2010, for coverage of hydrostatic testing waters from a primary gas pipeline under Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* (hereafter General Order). The NOI included a site map, CEQA documentation, a Discharger Monitoring Plan, and a \$1,226 filing fee. The NOI contains all the information required to evaluate applicability of the General Order; therefore, the NOI is complete.

Based on the information provided in the NOI, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. You are hereby covered under General Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ.

PROJECT LOCATION

The pipeline subject to hydrostatic testing is located in both Fresno and Madera Counties. Fresno County is within the Tulare Lake Basin, and Madera County is within the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins.

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin*, Second Edition and the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins*, Fourth Edition (hereafter Basin Plans), designate beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Gill Ranch Gas Storage Project consists of connecting the Gill Ranch Storage Field to PG&E's Line 401 by installing approximately 27 miles of 30-inch diameter pipeline. The Discharger will perform hydrostatic testing of the gas pipeline and discharge the wastewater to approximately 18.37 acres of land.

The California Public Utilities Commission adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH No. 2009071057) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and filed a Notice of Determination on 29 October 2009.

This Notice of Applicability (NOA) regulates the discharge of hydrostatic testing waters from the Gill Ranch Gas Storage Project.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Discharge of wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI is prohibited.
2. The hydrostatic testing waters shall be disposed of as described in the NOI and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
3. All technical reports required herein that involve evaluation, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, section 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
4. The Discharger shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until the NOA is officially terminated.
5. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order and this letter authorizing applicability, including its supplemental monitoring and reporting requirements, could result in enforcement actions as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA or associated fees, please contact Denise Soria at (559) 444-2488 or by email at dsoria@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by: Clay L. Rodgers for

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Water Quality Order No. 2003-0003-DWQ

cc: Fresno County Public Works and Planning Department, Fresno
Madera County Planning Department, Madera
Timothy Thompson, Entrix, Santa Barbara