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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

9 September 2013

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LOW THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2008-0081; SHERIDAN WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; PLACER COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 19 August 2013 from Westcon Construction Corporation, a consultant for Placer County, Department of Facility Services (Discharger) for its Sheridan Water Supply Improvement Project. Based on the information in the NOI, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for *Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters* (Low Threat General Order). This project is hereby assigned Low Threat General Order **R5-2013-0074-136** and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001. Please reference unique Order **R5-2013-0074-136** in all future correspondence and documents.

The Low Threat General Order (enclosed) may be viewed at the following web address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2013-0074.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Low Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA, the Low Threat General Order, and with the information submitted by the Discharger.

CALIFORNIA TOXICS RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Low Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxics Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California, 2005*, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP).

After compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 5.3 of the SIP allows "exceptions from meeting the Priority Pollutant criteria/objectives if determined to be necessary to implement control measures..."

The Discharger is upgrading the public water system and therefore is requesting an exception from the CTR requirements under the SIP Categorical Exceptions, Item Number 2 regarding drinking water to fulfill statutory requirements under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code. The Discharger has qualified for the SIP exception in Section 5.3 and is not required to conduct Priority Pollutant (CTR constituent) sampling.

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PAMELA C. CREEDON P.E., BCCE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Dischargers authorized to discharge under this Low Threat General Order who have been granted an exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives in the SIP, must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the beneficial uses of the receiving water have been restored upon completion of the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is located at 6005 Camp Far West Road in the community of Sheridan in unincorporated western Placer County, California approximately 8 miles northwest of the city of Lincoln and 3.5 miles southwest of the city of Wheatland. The Discharger is proposing to develop a new groundwater supply well which feeds into a water storage tank that has an operational capacity of 180,000 gallons in order to meet the current California Waterworks Standards and State Fire-Flow Requirements. In order to comply with these standards, the Discharger installed a drinking water well, and is performing a pump test for 72 non-consecutive hours onto land at a flow rate of 1 million gallons per day. To prevent erosion, the Discharger plans to create an energy dissipation device that will be made up of six wooden crates that are placed on top of a sheet of plastic. The discharge hose end will be placed at the higher elevation of the plastic sheet from which the discharge water will run through the wooden crates then will flow onto a natural grass area. The water will flow through a minimum length of 200 feet of grass prior to reaching a swale adjacent to the railroad tracks. From the swale, the discharge water will flow underneath the railroad tracks and Old Highway 65 into an unnamed canal which originates from Camp Far West Reservoir. The unnamed canal is located approximately 1,500 feet away from the newly installed drinking water well.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Discharger must notify Central Valley Water Board staff 24 hours 1) before the start of each new discharge, 2) as soon as noncompliance is anticipated, and 3) when the discharge ceases.

The Discharger must submit quarterly reports, as described in Attachment E, Section X, even if there is no discharge or receiving water flow during the reporting quarter, until the Discharger formally requests that coverage under the Low Threat General Order be terminated.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until the discharge is terminated. To terminate coverage under the Low Threat General Order, the Discharger must submit written notification to the Central Valley Water Board that the discharge regulated by this Low Threat General Order has ceased and is no longer necessary. If a timely written request is not received, then the Discharger will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Low Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. Late reports may be subject to an MMP of \$3,000 for each period of 30 days late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly monitoring period, the Discharger must still submit a quarterly report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

Michelle White
Environmental Resource Specialist
Sheridan Water Supply Improvement Project

9 September 2013

COMMUNICATION

All monitoring report submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Lucio Orellana of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit. Mr. Orellana can be reached at (916) 464-4660 or Lucio.Orellana@waterboards.ca.gov.

Questions regarding the permitting aspects of this Low Threat General Order, and written notification for termination of coverage under the Low Threat General Order, shall be directed to Josh Palmer of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Permitting Unit. Mr. Palmer can be reached at (916) 464-4674 or Joshua.Palmer@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality or will be provided upon request.

Original Signed by Ken Landau for

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order R5-2013-0074 (Discharger only)

cc: Dave Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco
Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento