
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

10 November 2016

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WAIVER OF REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF DISCHARGE WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION RESOLUTION R5-2013-0145-064

RUCKER LAKE DAM LOW-LEVEL OUTLET GATE REPAIR PROJECT NEVADA COUNTY

On 5 October 2016, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) application requesting coverage under Resolution No. R5-2013-0145, *Waiver of Reports of Waste Discharge and Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharge within the Central Valley Region, Resolution R5-2013-0145* (Waiver).

After review of the ROWD and supplemental material submitted by the Discharger, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the placement of dredge materials associated with this project qualifies for enrollment under this Waiver. Per the application package, there will be no discharge to surface waters, work will occur in dry conditions, and the placement of dredge material does not threaten to degrade or impair beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

Therefore, the discharge to land as described in the ROWD, qualifies for coverage under Categories 3 and 7 as described in the Waiver. You are hereby assigned R5-2013-0145-064 for the discharge to land. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

In a 1 June 2016 email, the United States Army Corps of Engineers determined that the Project activities are exempt from permitting requirements for discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, associated with maintenance activities, under Section 404(f)(1)(b) of the Clean Water Act. Therefore, 401 Water Quality Certification is not required. State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order No. 2004-0004 DWQ waives the requirement for waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for discharges that are exempt under

404(f), unless the Central Valley Water Board decides to issue individual WDRs or a conditional waiver. Based on the information provided, the Central Valley Water Board will not issue individual WDRs or a conditional waiver for the Project activities. Therefore, the requirement for WDRs is waived pursuant to Water Quality Order No. 2004-0004 DWQ.

A copy of the Waiver is enclosed. You can also find the Waiver on the Central Valley Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2013-0145_res.pdf.

The project activities shall proceed in accordance with the project description and information referenced in the ROWD. Coverage under the Waiver is no longer valid if the project as described in the ROWD is modified. Failure to comply with the terms of the Waiver could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this project is the one-time removal and upland placement of up to 50 cubic yards of accumulated dredged sediment and gravel from the Rucker Lake Dam in order to replace the dam's low-level outlet gate. The sediment will be removed from around the low-level outlet's intake structure in order to facilitate the replacement of the outlet gate.

Sediment will be removed by excavation, under dry conditions, after drawing down the reservoir to expose the bottom sediments and controlling the release from the upstream reservoir into Rucker Lake. The drawdown (i.e., dewatering) of the reservoir will occur over a period of 2-3 weeks to avoid the transport of sediment. Any remaining standing water at the gate replacement site will be removed by a combination of evaporation and pumping to adjacent upland. No return flow to the Rucker Lake reservoir or other nearby watercourse feature will occur. Dewatered sediments will be transported by truck to the Discharger's property located at a landing site on 38025 Rucker Lake Road. Following completion of the project activities, the site will be returned, to the extent possible, to the original conditions.

APPROXIMATE TIMEFRAME OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

10 November 2016 to 31 October 2017

PROJECT LOCATION:

Rucker Lake at Rucker Dam

Latitude: 39.356992°; Longitude: -120.656655°

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

The Discharger shall satisfy the following additional storm water quality conditions:

During the construction phase, the Discharger must employ strategies to minimize erosion and the introduction of pollutants into storm water runoff. These strategies must include the following:

- (a) the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan must be prepared during the Project planning and design phases and implemented, as appropriate, before construction;
- and

- (b) an effective combination of erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be implemented and adequately working prior to the rainy season and during all phases of construction.

If you have any questions regarding this Waiver, please contact Dr. Philip Giovannini at (916) 464-4812, or by email at philip.giovannini@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by Adam Laputz for

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosure: California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
Resolution No. 2013-0145, Waiver of Reports of Waste Discharge and Waste
Discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharges within the Central
Valley Region