

**27-28 APRIL 2023 BOARD MEETING
CONTESTED AGENDA ITEM**

AGENDA ITEM: 12

SUBJECT:

CITY OF MT. SHASTA AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE, CITY OF MT. SHASTA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, SISKIYOU COUNTY

BOARD ACTION:

Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal (NPDES No. CA0078051).

BACKGROUND:

The City of Mt. Shasta (Discharger) owns and operates the City of Mt. Shasta Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility). The Discharger provides sewerage service for the City of Mt. Shasta, CA and serves a population of approximately 3,223. The Facility provides treatment for an average dry weather flow of 0.8 million gallons per day of domestic wastewater. The Facility discharges treated wastewater to three separate discharge locations: 1) the Sacramento River (surface water), 2) a leach field on property owned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, (land disposal) and 3) to the Mt. Shasta Resort Golf Course for irrigation (recycled water). Discharge to the Sacramento River from 15 June through 14 September is prohibited.

The current treatment systems at the Facility include influent screening, unlined oxidation lagoons for biological treatment, a dissolved air flotation thickener, filtration, and chlorination/dechlorination. Treated effluent is discharged to the Sacramento River through a submerged, multiport diffuser. The Facility is currently undergoing extensive upgrades that are expected to be complete in Spring 2023 to address multiple compliance schedules for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), pH, total coliform, ammonia, copper, and zinc. Once complete and operational, the new treatment systems include mechanical screening, a grit chamber, activated sludge for nitrification and denitrification, clarification, filtration, and ultraviolet disinfection. The tentative Order includes construction, operation, and maintenance specifications for both the “existing” and “upgraded” Facility.

The proposed Order would renew the Discharger’s NPDES permit. The proposed Order contains effluent limitations for BOD, TSS, pH, chlorine, total coliform, ammonia, nitrate plus nitrite, copper, zinc, acute toxicity, and chronic toxicity. Effluent limitations for bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and settleable solids were removed from the previous permit because the discharge no longer exhibits reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the applicable water quality objective.

The proposed Order also contains land discharge specifications and recycling specifications when discharging to the leach field and to the golf course. The Discharger is expected to be able to immediately comply with the renewed NPDES permit. The tentative Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 6 February 2023 with comments due by 8 March 2023. Comments were received from Ms. Jo Anne Kipps on 8 March 2023. A Response to Comments document is included in the agenda package that summarizes the written comments followed by responses by Central Valley Water Board staff. Changes have been made to the proposed Order based on the comments received. In addition, the tentative Order contained Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity requirements as per the State Water Resources Control Board's Statewide Toxicity Provisions. Staff was recently informed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that the Statewide Toxicity Provisions will not be approved (and therefore will not take effect) prior to the Central Valley Water Board's April 2023 Board meeting. Accordingly, the tentative Order has been revised to remove the Toxicity Provisions requirements and include aquatic toxicity requirements based on the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective and the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (2005).

ISSUES:

This item is currently contested.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the proposed Order.

REVIEWS:

Management Review:	
Legal Review:	

BOARD MEETING LOCATION:

Kern County Board of Supervisors Chambers
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Hybrid Internet Zoom Meeting