

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION

BOARD ORDER NO. R6T-2011-0021

**RESCISSION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
IN BOARD ORDER NO. 6-88-111
WDID 6A097001800**

FOR

CITY OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE - LAKE TAHOE AIRPORT

El Dorado County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) finds:

1. Discharger and Facility Description

The City of South Lake Tahoe (hereinafter City) operates the Lake Tahoe Airport in the El Dorado County portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin. For the purpose of this Order the City is the "Discharger," and the "Facility" is defined as the Lake Tahoe Airport.

The Facility is located at 1901 Airport Road, South Lake Tahoe and is within the Upper Truckee River watershed immediately adjacent to the Upper Truckee River. The river flows parallel to the east side of the Facility and into Lake Tahoe, three miles to the north.

The Facility includes an airport runway, vehicle maintenance and de-icing facilities, an emergency electrical generator, and fuel storage areas. Through a combination of open ditches, culverts and surface sheet flow, surface runoff from the Facility that is not detained may discharge to the Upper Truckee River. Potential pollutant discharge from the facility consists of waste earthen materials, de-icing chemicals such as ethylene glycol, oil, and grease and other urban pollutants contained in storm water runoff from impervious surfaces.

2. Permit History

Storm water discharges from operations at the Facility are currently regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), Board Order No. 6-88-111, issued by the Water Board on July 14, 1988. Since the issuance of the WDRs in 1988, federal storm water regulations were developed that required the Facility to obtain coverage under the Statewide General Industrial NPDES Storm Water Permit, Water Quality Order No. 97-03-DWQ (General Industrial Permit). The Discharger has obtained

coverage under the General Industrial Permit. Thus, storm water discharges from the Facility are currently regulated under both the General Industrial Permit and individual WDRs issued by the Water Board.

Both permits require the discharger to meet discharge specifications that include effluent and receiving water limitations, and requirements to implement BMPs that reduce pollutants in storm water runoff. However, the effluent limits in the General Industrial Permit are specified as Best Management Practices, whereas the effluent limits in Board Order No. 6-88-111 are specified as numeric limitations for certain constituents. Both permits also require the discharger to conduct regular facility inspections, implement corrective actions as necessary, and collect and analyze storm water discharge samples.

Board Order No. 6-88-111 also requires the discharger to complete certain facility improvements to control erosion and sediment discharges from the facility. These include:

- a) All areas not subject to construction or which are subject to unauthorized vehicle use shall be adequately protected from disturbance or such use by installation of barriers and/or signs (Item I.C.3).
- b) All eroding slopes steeper than two horizontal to one vertical shall be mechanically stabilized by installation of riprap, gabions, or other facilities approved by the Executive Officer (Item I.C.5.)
- c) All disturbed areas shall be adequately restabilized or revegetated. Revegetated areas shall be continually maintained until vegetation becomes established (Item I.C.7).
- d) Stormwater runoff collection, pretreatment, and/or infiltration disposal facilities shall be designed, installed, and maintained to preclude a discharge of stormwater runoff for at least a 20-year, 1-hour design storm from all impervious surfaces (Item I.C.9).

The discharger submitted two reports dated May 21, 2009 and July 13, 2010 that demonstrated compliance with the facility improvements required under Board Order No. 6-88-111.

3. Comparison of BMP and Monitoring Requirements

Board Order No. 6-88-111 requires monthly sampling of both storm water runoff and receiving waters (upstream and downstream points on the Upper Truckee River). The General Industrial Permit requires storm water runoff sampling during a minimum of two storm events per year. Additionally, the General Industrial Permit requires the Discharger to develop and implement a site-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to control pollutants in storm water and non-

storm water discharges. Therefore, the General Industrial Permit provides adequate monitoring for the conditions and discharge characteristics at the Facility. The General Industrial Permit is scheduled to be updated and reissued by the State Water Resources Control Board in 2011. It is anticipated that the numeric effluent limits applicable to storm water at the site under Board Order No. 6-88-111 may be re-established by inclusion in the reissued General Industrial Permit, as applicable to enrollees in the General Industrial Permit in the Lake Tahoe hydrologic unit, consistent with the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region*.

4. Conclusions

Storm water discharges from the Facility are currently regulated under two separate permits, Board Order No. 6-88-111 and the General Industrial Permit. There is redundancy in the requirements for each permit and separate fees charged. The Discharger has provided documentation to the Water Board that the Facility is in substantial compliance with the requirements specified in Board Order No. 6-88-111. Therefore, it is in the public interest to rescind Board Order No. 6-88-111 since the Facility will continue to be appropriately regulated under the General Industrial Permit.

5. California Environmental Quality Act

Revoking this enforcement action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with section 15321, title 14, California Code of Regulations.

6. Notification of Interested Parties

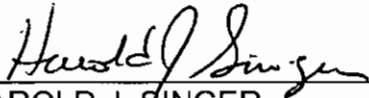
The Water Board notified the City of South Lake Tahoe and interested parties of the proposed rescission Order and a public meeting scheduled for April 13, 2011 in South Lake Tahoe for the Water Board to consider adopting the Order. Opportunity to comment was provided from January 19 through February 22, 2011.

7. Public Meeting

The Water Board held a public meeting in South Lake Tahoe on April 13, 2011, to receive testimony and comments concerning this Board Order, and has considered the comments received.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT: Board Order No. 6-88-111 is rescinded.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on April 13, 2011.



HAROLD J. SINGER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER