

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
August 16, 2006

ITEM: 20

SUBJECT: Status Report: Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District, Order No. R9-2004-0015, Waste Discharge Requirements (Michelle Mata).

PURPOSE: Receive updated information on the on-going groundwater monitoring by the District and possible alternatives to comply with Order No. R9-2004-0015

PUBLIC NOTICE: The Agenda notice for the August 16, 2006, Regional Board meeting serves as a public notice for this item.

DISCUSSION: On June 10, 2004 this Regional Board adopted Order No. R9-2004-0015 for the treatment and disposal of sewage by means of a septic system and subsurface disposal leach field infiltration system north of Lake Cuyamaca. Installation of the disposal facilities was completed on October 18, 2004, but the District has been unable to use the disposal facilities. Based on groundwater data submitted by the District prior to initiation of the discharge, the Regional Board informed the District that it would be in violation of the discharge specifications contained in the WDRs for certain constituents.

During the Regional Board Meeting of May 11, 2005, the Regional Board received groundwater monitoring data, testimony, and comments on the status of the District's disposal facilities. The Executive Officer recommended to the Regional Board that the discharge be allowed to commence provided there is a clear trend toward compliance with the requirements for Order No. R9-2004-0015. To date, the District has been unable to demonstrate improving groundwater quality that would provide assimilative capacity in the groundwater for the proposed discharge. Since then, Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District has continued groundwater monitoring. Recent data, submitted by the District, continues to show the groundwater underlying the disposal site does not exhibit

assimilative capacity for iron, manganese and nitrate. Furthermore, there has been no consistent downward trend in the concentration of these three constituents.

On July 12 and July 21, 2006 the District and its representatives met with members of the Southern Core Regulatory Unit to discuss groundwater monitoring and possible alternatives to comply with Order No. R9-2004-0015. The District is seeking the approval of the Regional Board to use deeper compliance wells

The Regional Board has asked the District to provide a report of alternatives being considered by the District to comply with Order No. R9-2004-0015. By letter dated August 2, 2006, the District provided a status report of the project including a discussion of alternatives. These alternatives include wastewater treatment, use of deeper wells for determining compliance, and a Basin Plan Amendment.

With regards to the proposal for deeper compliance wells, the Regional Board has denied the District's initial request in a letter dated February 27, 2006 because deeper wells have not been shown to be representative of the discharge area. The Regional Board would consider approving the use of deeper compliance wells if the District can demonstrate the deeper wells would be representative of the effects of the discharge. The District would need to conduct a hydrogeologic assessment of the area including the discharge site and all other areas that may be affected by the discharge. Also, impacts from other sources must be considered when choosing a location for such a well.

**SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:**

1. Map
2. Status Report from Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District dated August 2, 2006 the Regional Board
3. Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District letter dated July 20, 2006 to the Regional Board
4. Letter dated February 27, 2006 from the Regional Board to Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District

**RECOMMENDATION(S):** This is an informal item only, no action is recommended.