

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
(December 12, 2007)

- ITEM: 7
- SUBJECT: New Waste Discharge Requirements: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Tecate Truck Inspection Station. The San Diego Regional Board will consider adoption of a tentative Order which would establish waste discharge requirements for the discharge of up to 550 gallons per day of waste from a conventional septic tank and leach field at the Tecate Truck Inspection Station, San Diego County. (Tentative Order No. R9-2007-0148) (Michelle Mata).
- PURPOSE: To adopt waste discharge requirements for the subsurface discharge of domestic wastewater and sump wastewater generated at the truck inspection bays from the Tecate Truck Inspection Station by means of a conventional septic tank and leach field system.
- PUBLIC NOTICE: The Agenda notice for the December 12, 2007 Regional Board meeting serves as a public notice for this item. The draft tentative Order was made available to the discharger on October 29, 2007 and also made available to the public via the Regional Board web page on October 31, 2007.
- DISCUSSION: The California Department of Transportation owns and operates the Tecate Truck Inspection Station (Facility) located near the intersection of Highway 188 and Thing Road in San Diego County near the town of Tecate. The Facility's main purpose is for the inspection of commercial trucks entering the United States from Mexico.
- A crew of 7 employees will be present on-site at the Facility for one eight hour shift from Monday through Friday. It is anticipated that 80 trucks per day will pass through the Facility. Approximately 500 gallons per day of domestic sewage from the Facilities restrooms and sinks will be discharged to the septic tank/leach field system.
- An additional 50 gallons per day of sump wastewater is

anticipated from the washing of the truck inspection bays and occasional rainfall. The sump wastewater is treated via a 1,000 gallon 3-cell clarifier and granulated activated carbon filter. Projected, combined, flows are expected to be 550 gallons per day.

The USEPA's Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program prohibits the discharge of automotive wastes to shallow injection wells such as leachfields. After submittal of UIC inventory information by Caltrans, USEPA Region IX determined that the disposal of sump wastewater can be classified as an industrial drainage well and not prohibited under UIC regulations, provided that the Facility complies with the Regional Board's regulations and monitoring of the inspection bay sump wastes is conducted. It is necessary to ensure that inorganic and organic chemicals associated with vehicles are not being discharged with the sump wastewater to the leachfield in order to protect beneficial uses of the groundwater in the Campo Hydrologic Area HA (911.80).

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 provides for a sole source aquifer program. Under this program, US EPA may designate an aquifer as a sole source if it provides more than half of the drinking water for a given area, and no other affordable sources of drinking water exist. The Tecate Truck Inspection Facility is located above the Campo/Cottonwood Creek aquifer, which has been designated as a sole source aquifer by US EPA.

If adopted, the tentative Order No. R9-2007-0148 would establish WDRs for the subsurface discharge of the combined domestic wastewater and pretreated inspection bay sump wastewater from the Facility. The WDRs include discharge specifications and a monitoring and reporting program for the effluent discharged to the leachfield, for the sump wastewater prior to discharge to the septic tank, and for groundwater in the vicinity of the leachfield. The WDRs contained in the tentative Order are based principally on the Basin Plan for the discharge of treated wastewater to land that could have an adverse impact to underlying groundwater.

The Regional Board has received comments from Caltrans. A written Responses to Comments document and an Errata sheet will be included in the Supplemental Agenda Package.

KEY ISSUE: The discharge has a potential to impact the Campo Sole Source Aquifer.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Map
2. Transmittal letter for Tentative Order No. R9-2007-0148.
3. Tentative Order No. R9-2007-0148.
4. Comment letter from Caltrans dated November 27, 2007.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES: N/A

COMPLIANCE RECORD: N/A

RECOMMENDATION(S): Adoption of Tentative Order No. 2007-0148 is recommended.