

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Gayleen Perreira)
MEETING DATE: February 8, 2006

ITEM: 5A

SUBJECT: PACIFIC GAS & ELECTIC COMPANY, PG&E SHELL POND,
BAY POINT, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY-Reissuance of
NPDES Permit

CHRONOLOGY: May 1999-NPDES Permit Reissued

DISCUSSION: The Board issued PG&E a NPDES permit in 1999 to circulate water from an adjacent slough through Shell's former 72-acre wastewater pond for discharge to Suisun Bay. The purpose of the pond circulation is to reduce salinity levels, and, therefore, improve water quality with the ultimate objective of enhancing terrestrial and aquatic life habitat, as part of a Corrective Measure Study Plan, approved by the Department of Toxic Substances Control.

The attached Tentative Order (Appendix A) reissues the permit for PG&E Shell Pond. It contains water quality-based effluent limitations based on the California Toxics Rule, State Implementation Policy, and Basin Plan.

There are two points of note with this Tentative Order:

1. It would be the second permit to follow a statewide template in our region.
2. It resolves a problem in the current permit related to a restricted time period when discharge is allowed. The intent of this was to protect a drinking water intake 1.5 miles away. The Tentative Order maintains this protection but with a more flexible approach acceptable to the water district and PG&E.

PG&E and the Contra Costa Water District commented on the Tentative Order (Appendix B). Staff responded to these comments (Appendix C), modified the Tentative Order as appropriate, and believes that all issues have been resolved.

RECOMMEND-
ATION:

File Number:

Appendices:

Adoption of the Tentative Order

2119.1030

A. Tentative Order

B. Correspondence

C. Response to Comments

