

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD - SAN DIEGO REGION
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT

FACILITY: Plano Lift Station SMWD

CIWQS#: 631542

INSPECTION DATE/Time: 03/25/10 10:30 am to 12:30

FACILITY: **Plano Lift Station sewage spill, Tijeras Creek@Antonio Parkway, Rancho Santa Margarita CA**

REPRESENTATIVE(S) PRESENT DURING INSPECTION: Christopher Means (SDRWQCB), Gerre Bedell (SMWD), Grant Sharp (Orange County)

Santa Margarita Water District

**Gerre Bedell (Operations Superintendent)
(949) 279-4867 (Cell)**

NAME OF COPERMITTEE

CONTACT NAME AND PHONE #

APPLICABLE WATER QUALITY LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

- MS4 URBAN RUNOFF REQUIREMENTS NPDES NOS. CAS0108758, CAS0108740 or CAS0108766
- GENERAL PERMIT ORDER NO. 99-08-DWQ, NPDES NO. CAS000002 – CONSTRUCTION
- GENERAL PERMIT ORDER NO. 99-06-DWQ, NPDES NO. CAS000003 - CALTRANS
- GENERAL OR INDIVIDUAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
- GENERAL OR INDIVIDUAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
- SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
- CWC SECTION 13264

INSPECTION TYPE (Check One)

- A1 "A" type compliance--Comprehensive inspection in which samples are taken. (EPA Type S)
- B1 "B" type compliance--A routine nonsampling inspection. (EPA Type C)
- 02 Noncompliance follow-up--Inspection made to verify correction of a previously identified violation.
- 03 Enforcement follow-up--Inspection made to verify that conditions of an enforcement action are being met.
- 04 Complaint--Inspection made in response to a complaint.
- 05 Pre-requirement--Inspection made to gather info. relative to preparing, modifying, or rescinding requirements.
- 06 No Exposure Certification (NEC) - verification that there is no exposure of industrial activities to storm water.
- 07 Notice of termination request for industrial facilities or construction sites - verification that the facility or construction site is not subject to permit requirements (**Type, NOT I or NOT C - circle one**).
- 08 Compliance Assistance Inspection - Outreach inspection due to discharger's request for compliance assistance.

INSPECTION FINDINGS

Were violations noted during this inspection? (Yes/No/Pending Sample Results)

I. COMPLIANCE HISTORY:

- On April 5-8,2007, SMWD spilled 392,000 gallons of sewage from the 16-inch diameter Ortega Force Main, located on Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano. The discharge entered San Juan Creek.
- On July 3-4, 2007, SMWD spilled 495,934 gallons of sewage from the 16-inch Talega Force Main located in the Rancho Mission Viejo Ecological Reserve located in San Clemente.
- As a result of these spills, on September 22, 2008 the Regional Water Board issued Complaint No. R9-2008-0057 for violations of Order Nos. 2006-0003-DWQ and R9-2007-0005.
- On December 10, 2008 the Regional Water board adopted Order No R9-2008-0159 for Administrative Civil Liability against SMWD for \$133,190.

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10:30 am**II. FINDINGS:**

- On 3/23/2010 at approximately 1750 SMWD detected a leak at a 24 inch force main near the Plano lift station on Antonio Parkway initial spill estimates were around 350,000 gallons. Discharge entered Tijeras Creek, which joins up with Arroyo Trabuco creek approximately one mile below pipe break, and flows to San Juan Creek and from there to the Pacific Ocean.
- Upon RB staff arrival at site on 03/25/10 estimates of spill volume have reached 1,000,000 gallons, the leak has not been located yet.



Crews and machinery excavating the slope of Tijeras Creek to locate the pipe break. The pipe is a 24-inch iron forcemain. The leak is thought to be under the creek bed.



Soil from creek excavation is being stored north of the excavation site.

- To prevent the discharge of sewage from the lift station onto Antonio Parkway SMWD is utilizing a fleet of tanker and vacor trucks to remove sewage from the lift station



- Orange County Health has closed beaches from the Dana Point Harbor breakwater downcoast to Doheny State beach, Capistrano County beach and all of Capistrano Bay Community Beach.

Post Construction BMPs for the Heights Subdivision

Detentio
Basin 1

Detention
Basin 3



The detention basins currently in place are shown in the pictures to the left. Per map included in the Water Quality Technical Report submitted by Bill Yen & Associates Detainment Treatment Point 1, 2, and 3 are pictured to the left.

The City explained during this site visit that the Basins were designed to handle peak flows and were not designed to be post-construction treatment control BMPs. Reports from Kristin Schwall (RB Construction Storm Water Inspector) indicate hat the basins were designed using runoff from the section of the road that

This piece of the site is located east of the entrance road. City of Poway issued a corrective work notice to the developer for incorrect installation of BMPs (e.g fiber rolls were not trenched in or staked appropriately). As a result of the corrective work notice, the developer installed the BMPs as directed by the City and installed a fiber blanket as seen in the forefront of the photo. When asked the purpose of the rock placed at the toe of the slope, the developer responded because they did not have anywhere else to put it.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

1. During the field visit, I requested a copy of the Water Quality Technical Report for the high rate media filters.
2. I informed the City and the Geoff Sherman (Excel Realty Holdings) that it is my intent to be out at the site during a rain event to check to see if the filters are working and how the runoff functions throughout the site.
3. Recommendation made via email dated 10/1/2009:

IV. SIGNATURE SECTION

Inspection Report
received by:

FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE

SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

Christopher Means
STAFF INSPECTOR

SIGNATURE

10/7/2009
INSPECTION DATE

VI. (For internal use only)

Reviewed by Supervisor: _____ Date _____

CC:
Inter-office Referral: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____

s: north watershed unit/forms/inspection form.doc (vrs. 11/22/00)

CIWQS:
Place ID: 249010