

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
JANUARY 6, 2009**

**ITEM 7**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE UP TO \$1,937,571 IN GRANT FUNDING FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO COUNTY OF PLACER SPECIAL DISTRICTS- SHERIDAN (DISTRICT) FOR THE SHERIDAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (WWTF) PROJECT (PROJECT)

**DISCUSSION**

The District is located approximately 20 miles northwest of Auburn in western Placer County. The WWTF is located in Sheridan along the eastside of Highway 65, approximately 17 miles north of Interstate 80 and 2 miles south of the Yuba-Placer County Line. Due to its small size, United States Census data is not available for the community of Sheridan. Based on data from a survey completed by Placer County in 2002, the estimated Median Household Income (MHI) of Sheridan is \$29,800 per year.

Placer County owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system, which provides service to the small community of Sheridan. The District's WWTF consists of one aeration pond, a polishing pond, a seasonal storage reservoir, and a second seasonal storage pond. The WWTF is designed to process 0.06 million gallons per day (MGD). It operates under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order [No. R5-2002-0208](#)/National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0079341. The treated wastewater is generally disposed of by irrigation of pasture, both on the WWTF site and on an adjacent private parcel. However, during periods of high flow, a portion of the effluent is discharged to Yankee Slough, a tributary to the Bear River.

The District's pond system is not designed to nitrify and/or denitrify, and as a result, any discharges to Yankee Slough contain ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate plus nitrite concentrations that exceed effluent limitations. As a result of such discharges, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) issued Cease and Desist Order (CDO) [No. R5-2002-0209](#) on December 6, 2002. The CDO also mentions effluent samples showing concentrations of aluminum above the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) in February of 1999 and April of 2001, and explains that source control measures may be necessary to comply with the effluent limitations for aluminum.

The primary purpose of the proposed Project is to eliminate discharges to surface water. The seasonal storage pond was recently constructed to increase storage capacity to contain 100-year flood flow; however, to ensure adequate disposal capacity for 100-year flood flows and eliminate surface water discharges, additional land and irrigation facilities are also necessary.

The proposed Project consists of:

- Converting the WWTP to a high-rate aerated pond system;
- Installing hydraulic upgrades to maintain the required minimum two feet of freeboard during peak flows; and
- Expanding the sprayfield area.

The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of Water Code §13442, which provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order monies to be paid from the CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste in order “to assist in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on waters of the State.”

The District’s Project is listed in fundable Class B of the Small Community Wastewater Grant (SCWG) Program’s Competitive Project List (CPL), adopted on September 4, 2007, but funds are not available at this time. The *Preliminary Engineering Report*, dated November 2007, and supporting documentation have been submitted and comply with the *SCWG Program Guidelines* (Guidelines), amended May 22, 2007. A draft revenue program was approved by the Division of Financial Assistance (Division) on December 27, 2007.

The estimated Project cost is \$2.4 million. The District has already received \$62,429 in planning grant funds from the SCWG Program for the Project. Per the Guidelines, the maximum grant amount per community is \$2 million. Therefore, the District would be eligible for up to \$1,937,571 for the design and construction phases of the Project under the SCWG Program.

## **POLICY ISSUE**

Should the State Water Board:

- 1) Approve up to \$1,937,571 in funding from the CAA for the District’s Project?
- 2) Require that funding approvals, contracting, and disbursement of CAA funds to the District be conducted in accordance with the Guidelines?
- 3) Require that the District demonstrate financial capability to fund the remainder of Project costs before Final Plans and Specifications Approval is issued?
- 4) Withdraw any unexpended funds if the District does not issue the Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) with construction of the Project to the contractor within 18 months of the date of adoption of the Resolution?
- 5) Revert any funds that have not been expended to the CAA, as of January 6, 2013, unless the Deputy Director of the Division authorizes an extension?

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Approving \$1,937,571 for the Project will leave an uncommitted balance of \$9,161,209 in the CAA.

## **REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

Yes. The proposed Project will assist the community in achieving compliance with Central Valley Regional Water Board requirements, CDO No. R5-2002-0209, and local water quality objectives.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

The State Water Board should:

- 1) Approve up to \$1,937,571 in funding from the CAA for the District's Project;
- 2) Require that funding approvals, contracting, and disbursement of CAA funds to the District be conducted in accordance with the Guidelines;
- 3) Require that the District demonstrate financial capability to fund the remainder of Project costs before Final Plans and Specifications Approval;
- 4) Withdraw any unexpended funds if the District does not issue the NTP with construction of the Project to the contractor within 18-months of the adoption of the Resolution; and
- 5) Revert any funds that have not been expended to the CAA, as of January 6, 2013, unless the Deputy Director of the Division authorizes an extension.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Priority 1 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to protect and restore surface water quality. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective 1.3 to take appropriate enforcement actions and innovative approaches as needed to protect and restore all surface waters.

# DRAFT

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2009-

APPROVE UP TO \$1,937,571 IN GRANT FUNDING FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO THE COUNTY OF PLACER SPECIAL DISTRICTS-SHERIDAN (DISTRICT) FOR THE SHERIDAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (WWTF) PROJECT (PROJECT)

### WHEREAS:

1. The District provides wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal for the small, disadvantaged community of Sheridan;
2. Treated effluent is generally disposed of by irrigation of pasture; however, during periods of high flow, a portion of the effluent is discharged to Yankee Slough, a tributary to the Bear River;
3. The District's pond system is not designed to nitrify and/or denitrify, and as a result, any discharges to Yankee Slough contain ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate concentrations that exceed effluent limitations;
4. On December 6, 2002, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) issued Cease and Desist Order (CDO) [No. R5-2002-0209](#);
5. The proposed Project consists of: 1) converting the District's treatment facility to a high-rate aerated pond system; 2) installing hydraulic upgrades to maintain the minimum two feet of required freeboard during peak flows; and 3) expanding the spray field area to eliminate surface water discharges;
6. The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of Water Code §13442, which provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order monies to be paid from the CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste in order "to assist in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on waters of the State";
7. The estimated Project cost is \$2.4 million;
8. The District's Project is listed in fundable Class B of the Small Community Wastewater Grant (SCWG) Program's Competitive Project List (CPL), adopted September 4, 2007; however, funds are not available at this time;
9. The Preliminary Engineering Report, dated November 2007, and supporting documentation have been submitted and comply with the *SCWG Program Guidelines* (Guidelines), amended May 22, 2007; and
10. A draft revenue program was approved by the Division of Financial Assistance (Division) on December 27, 2007.

# DRAFT

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves up to \$1,937,571 in funding from the CAA for the District's Project;
2. Requires that funding approvals, contracting, and disbursement of CAA funds to the District be conducted in accordance with the Guidelines;
3. Requires that the District demonstrate financial capability to fund the remainder of Project costs before Final Plans and Specifications Approval;
4. Will withdraw any unexpended funds if the District does not issue the Notice-To-Proceed (NTP) with construction of the Project to the contractor within 18-months of the adoption of the Resolution; and
5. Will revert any funds that have not been expended to the CAA, as of January 6, 2013, unless the Deputy Director of the Division authorizes an extension.

## CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Board held on January 6, 2009.

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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board