

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2017

Prepared on August 1, 2017

ITEM NUMBER: 10

SUBJECT: Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements, Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0047830 for Avila Beach Community Services District, San Luis Obispo County, Order No. R3-2017-0025

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KEY INFORMATION

Location: 2850 Avila Beach Drive, Avila Beach CA 93424
Place ID: 206888
Type of Discharge: Secondary-treated industrial wastewater
Permitted Flow: 0.2 million gallons per day (MGD) daily dry weather, as monthly average
Average Flow: 0.056 MGD
Type of Treatment: Primary treatment through settling clarifier followed by fixed film bioreactor for secondary treatment.
Disposal Method: Ocean outfall to Pacific Ocean
Solid Wastes: Offsite disposal of anaerobic digested solids
Existing Orders: Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. R3-2009-0055; Statewide General WDR for Sanitary Sewer Systems (State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ); and Order WQ 2014-0057-DWQ/NPDES General Permit No. CAS000001, General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities

This Action: Adopt Order No. R3-2017-0025

SUMMARY

This agenda item considers the reissuance of an existing NPDES permit. The Fact Sheet, Attachment F of the proposed Order, includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of the permit. Water Board staff recommends adoption of the proposed Order.

DISCUSSION

The Avila Beach Community Services District (hereinafter Discharger) is the sole owner of the Avila Beach Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereinafter Facility)

providing wastewater treatment services for the community of Avila Beach and contracted treatment services for Port San Luis Harbor District.

The Facility uses grinder pumps and primary clarifiers before gravity feeding wastewater into a sump, where it is then pumped over the fixed film bioreactor along with a percentage of recirculation water. Effluent from the fixed film reactor enters a sump that partially recirculates back to the fixed film reactor, while the remainder is pumped to two secondary sedimentation tanks. Effluent from the secondary sedimentation tanks is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite and then dechlorinated with sodium bisulfite. Effluent leaving the Facility enters the Avila Beach Community Services District's outfall, which extends approximately 2,700 feet offshore—approximately 1,000 feet beyond Avila Pier—and terminates at an depth of approximately 35 feet in the Pacific Ocean (San Luis Obispo Bay).

Changes from the Existing Order

The proposed Order is structured in accordance with the statewide NPDES permit template. The proposed Order is consistent with the previous Order with the exception of the following changes and modifications:

- Effluent limitations for copper and zinc were added based on the results of the reasonable potential analysis (Page F-26).
- Effluent limitations for arsenic, nickel, toluene, chloroform, and selenium were removed based on the results of the reasonable potential analysis (Page F-26).
- A Brine Waste Disposal Study is required should the Discharger decide to pursue such a program (page 11).
- Influent BOD and TSS monitoring increased from twice per month to once per week (Table E-2). The intent is to help capture some of the uncertainty of flow due to holiday and peak loading periods.

Compliance Summary

Avila Beach had 39 incidences of non-compliance, however many of those incidences involved multiple violations resulting from the same root cause (e.g., primary clarifier and digester taken out-of-service for maintenance on separate occasions). The majority of non-maintenance effluent violations involve peak loading periods as the Avila Beach community is a popular tourist attraction on holidays and weekends. Avila CSD has been assessing opportunities onsite, as well as regional partnerships, to allow for increased peak loading capacity. Water Board staff has been tracking those tentative plans and will be assessing if additional enforcement action, such as a time schedule order, is necessary to address peak loading issues.

COMMENTS

The Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for the discharge and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided through publication in the San Luis Obispo Tribune on June 21, 2017, posted on the Water Board's website, and posting at the facility.

The written comments were due at the Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on July 21, 2017. The Central Coast Water Board received comments from the Discharger in a letter dated July 13, 2017. The comments were as follows:

- Clarified the Discharger is the sole owner of the Facility (neither Port San Luis nor Fluid Resource Management are named Dischargers). Water Board staff has revised Table 1 and similar areas of the draft Order to be consistent.
- No objections to copper and zinc effluent limits.
- No objections to a Brine Waste Disposal Study.
- Clarification of sludge disposal location on Attachment C. Water Board staff will incorporate a revised Attachment C, once received from Discharger.
- Typo fix for Biosolids reporting (Page 14).
- Typo fix for technology-based percent removal (Page F-37).
- Clarifying pretreatment requirements still do not apply. (Page F-37). Water Board staff agrees.
- Request clarification on influent flow monitoring vs effluent flow monitoring (Table E-1). Existing order does not contain influent flow metering. Water Board staff agrees that effluent flow metering will continue in lieu of influent flow monitoring.

Water Board staff has no objections to the comments and has amended the draft Order consistent with the comments provided by the Discharger.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Order No. R3-2017-0025, as proposed.

ATTACHMENT

For copies, please refer to the Central Coast Water Board's internet website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2017/2017_agendas.shtml

1. Proposed Order No. R3-2017-0025, including the following associated attachments:

- Attachment A – Definitions
- Attachment B – Map
- Attachment C – Flow Schematic
- Attachment D – Standard Provisions
- Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP)
- Attachment F – Fact Sheet

2. Avila Beach Community Services District comment letter dated July 13, 2017