

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

November 18, 2013

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND AGENCIES:

**TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS AMENDING BOARD ORDER
R6T-2004-0010 FOR THE SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
WASTEWATER RECYCLING PLANT, EL DORADO AND ALPINE COUNTY
(WDID NO. 6A095900700)**

Enclosed is a tentative Board Order for the South Tahoe Public Utility District (District). The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) is considering amending Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the District. The Facility is currently regulated under WDRs in Board Order R6T-2004-0010; the tentative Order will amend effluent requirements in the current Order.

The Water Board requests you review the Tentative Order and provide your written comments no later than **December 20, 2013**. Comments received after that date may not be considered in preparation for the final proposed Order to be presented to the Water Board for consideration at the public meeting to be held on February 12 2014, at the Water Board's Annex office located at 971 Silver Dollar Ave, Board Hearing Room, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151.

Approximately 10 to 15 days prior to each meeting, the Water Board publishes its agenda on the Internet at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/>. If you prefer to receive a hard copy of the Water Board meeting agenda, please contact Rob Tucker at (530) 542-5467.

for Alan Mills

Robert Tucker
Water Resource Control Engineer

Enclosure: 1. Response Form
2. Tentative Order

....NOTICE....

Submittal of Written Material for Regional Board Consideration

In order to ensure that the Water Board has the opportunity to fully study and consider written material, it is necessary to submit it at least ten (10) days before the meeting. This will allow distribution of material to the Board Members in advance of the meeting. Pursuant to Title 23 California Code of Regulations Section 648.4, the Water Board may refuse to admit written testimony into evidence unless the proponent can demonstrate why he or she was unable to submit the material on time or that compliance with the deadline would otherwise create a hardship. If any other party demonstrates prejudice resulting from admission of the written testimony, the Water Board may refuse to admit it.

A copy of the procedures governing Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq., and is available upon request. Hearings before the Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code Section 11500 et seq.

Complete Form and Return

TO: California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region

SUBJECT: Comments on Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for South Tahoe Public Utility District

- We concur with tentative requirements
- We concur; comments attached
- We do not concur; comments attached

(Sign)
 (Type or print name)
 (Organization)
 (Address)
 (City and State)
 (Telephone)

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

**BOARD ORDER NO. R6T-2014-(TENTATIVE)
AN ORDER AMENDING ORDER NO. R6T-2004-0010
WDID 6A095900700**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT WASTEWATER RECYCLING PLANT**

EL DORADO AND ALPINE COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) finds:

1. Discharger

The South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District (Discharger) owns and operates the South Tahoe Public Utility District Wastewater Recycling Plant, which is regulated by Water Board Order No. R6T-2004-0010, adopted on March 10, 2004.

2. Reason for Action

This Board Order is being adopted to amend Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) in Board Order No. R6T-2004-0010. The amendment will remove effluent limitations for chemical oxygen demand (COD), turbidity, and settleable solids. The Executive Officer shall follow-up this Order by amending Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. 2004-0010-A1 to eliminate associated MRP requirements.

Removal of COD Effluent Limit

In fiscal year 2011, the Discharger requested that the requirement to monitor for chemical oxygen demand (COD) sampling and analysis be dropped. The Discharger wished to reduce their sampling expenditures and minimize the production of a hazardous waste because COD analysis uses hazardous materials and produces small quantities of hazardous waste. Since the Discharger continues to conduct regular sampling of the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), which is a similar test, and the Discharger has seldom exceeded the COD or BOD, the COD sampling was eliminated previously by amending MRP No. R6T-2004-0010, as delegated to the Executive Officer. It is appropriate to follow up by removing the effluent limitation for COD from the WDRs.

Removal of Turbidity Effluent Limit

In reviewing the effluent limit for COD, staff identified that turbidity limitations appear to be an outdated requirement. Turbidity limitations originated from when the Discharger discharged into a navigable water of the United States, Indian Creek Reservoir, triggering requirements that no longer apply. The effluent requirement for turbidity is no longer necessary because the discharge is to Harvey Place Reservoir, which the Discharger constructed to store wastewater prior to discharge to irrigated lands in Alpine County (regulated under various Water Board reclamation (recycling) requirements). Removal of the settleable solids effluent limit is appropriate; the effluent limitations and associated costs of monitoring and reporting, and compliance tracking, are unjustified.

Removal of Settleable Solids Effluent Limit

Similarly, staff identified that the settleable solids effluent limit appears to be a carryover from a former WDR. It first appeared in a 1984 Board Order issued to the Discharger. Revisions the WDRs in 1990 added total suspended solids (TSS) limits, but did not remove the settleable solids limit. The TSS is commonly used instead of settleable solids as a measure of secondary wastewater treatment. The limitation for settleable solids is no longer necessary. Removal is appropriate; the effluent limitation and associated costs of monitoring and reporting, and compliance tracking, are unjustified.

3. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance

The Water Board has determined that the revocation of limitations is categorically exempt according to the California Code of Regulations (CCR) title 14, section 15321(a)(2), for actions by a regulatory agency.

4. Notification and Consideration of Comments

The Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested parties of its intent to issue amended WDRs for the discharge. A notice of the availability of a draft order was also provided by posting a copy of the tentative WDRs to the Lahontan Water Board internet website on November 19, 2013. The Water Board has considered comments provided in accordance with applicable time limits, and adopted this Order at a public meeting following opportunity to comment.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Water Code Section 13263, that Board Order No. R6T-2004-0010 must incorporate the following changes made by this amending Order No. R6T-2014-(Tentative). With reference to Order No. R6T-2004-0010, deletions are shown with strikethrough text.

Amendments

1. On page 7, the tabulation, with footnotes, under section I. Discharge Specifications, 1. Effluent Limitations, no. 1, is amended as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Mean¹</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
BOD ²	mg/l	30	45
COD ³	mg/l	60	300
Suspended Solids	mg/l	30	60
Settleable Solids	mg/l		0.1
Turbidity	NTU	10	20

Footnote 3 describes "Chemical Oxygen Demand" and is also deleted as follows:
³~~Chemical Oxygen Demand.~~

I, Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on February 12, 2014.

PATTY Z. KOUYOUMDJIAN
 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

