

Executive Officer's Summary Report
9:00 a.m., April 29, 2010
Ukiah Valley Conference Center
200 South School Street
Ukiah, California

Item: 3

Subject: Public Hearing Order No. R1-2010-0020 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements to replace Order No. R1-2004-0055 in the matter of **Mendocino City Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facility** NPDES No. CA0022870, WDID No. 1B83129OMEN

DISCUSSION

The Mendocino City Community Services District (hereinafter Discharger) is currently discharging under Order No. R1-2004-0055 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0022870, adopted on August 25, 2004. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated September 8, 2008, and applied for an NPDES permit renewal to discharge an average dry weather flow of up to 0.3 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated wastewater from the community's Wastewater Treatment Facility (hereinafter Facility) to the Pacific Ocean. The application was deemed complete on May 18, 2009.

The Discharger owns a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facility that serves a population of approximately 4,000 from the community of Mendocino, Russian Gulch State Park, and Headlands State Park. The treatment facility has an average dry weather design treatment capacity of 0.3 mgd and treats domestic and commercial wastewater.

Wastewater treatment processes include comminution, extended aeration activated sludge, secondary clarification, and tertiary filtration. Effluent is chlorinated, dechlorinated, and flows by gravity to a flow equalization pond. Influent flow in excess of the design flow can be routed to a 300,000 gallon overflow pond for storage until flows diminish, when the excess flow is routed back to the headworks for treatment. Effluent from the equalization pond is discharged to the Pacific Ocean at Discharge Point 001 via a 996 foot outfall designed to achieve a minimal dilution of 100:1.

During the dry weather season (generally May through October) and other periods, as needed, tertiary treated effluent is discharged to the water recycling system (Discharge Point 002), which consists of a 55,000 gallon storage tank, accompanying appurtenances, and a pop-up sprinkler system located on the Mendocino High School athletic fields. The discharge from recycled water system is regulated under Water Reclamation Requirements Order No. 97-66.

This Order contains technology-based effluent limitations for biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, pH, turbidity, grease and oil, and settleable solids for the ocean discharge (Discharge Point 001). This Order also contains water quality based effluent limitations for total coliform organisms to ensure that the ocean discharge meets water quality objectives for bacteria established in the California Ocean Plan, and for total residual chlorine to ensure that the effluent discharge to the ocean contains no measureable concentration of residual chlorine. A reasonable potential analysis was conducted for the remainder of pollutants in Table B of the Ocean Plan and showed “reasonable potential” for chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and TCDD equivalents. For pollutants with no “reasonable potential,” routine effluent monitoring is specified for the five year term of the permit. Effluent limitations and discharge specifications consistent with Title 22 water reclamation criteria have also been established in this permit for the irrigation discharge to the Mendocino High School athletic fields (Discharge Point 002).

A copy of the draft permit and/or information to access the draft on the Regional Water Board website was mailed to the Discharger and interested agencies. This item was opened for public comment between February 4, 2010 and March 5, 2010. The Discharger provided written comments on the draft permit in an email on February 12, 2010, requesting clarification of monitoring requirements and locations specified in the draft Order. The proposed Order has been modified in response to the comments received. The Discharger’s comments and staff’s response are included as an attachment to this Staff Report.

PRELIMINARY STAFF
RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Order No. R1-2010-0020 as proposed.