

Executive Officer's Summary Report  
9:00 a.m., May 5, 2011  
Warfinger Building  
#1 Marina Way  
Eureka, California

Item: 4

Subject: **Public Hearing** Order No. R1-2011-0019 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements to replace Order No. R1-2006-0001 in the matter of **City of Crescent City Wastewater Treatment Facility** NPDES No. CA0022756, WDID No. 1A840006ODN

### **DISCUSSION**

The City of Crescent City (hereinafter the Discharger) is currently discharging pursuant to Order No. R1-2006-0001 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0022756. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), dated July 28, 2010, and applied to renew NPDES and waste discharge requirements to discharge secondary treated wastewater and disinfected tertiary recycled water from the Crescent City Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). The application was deemed complete on October 6, 2010.

The Discharger owns a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facility with a design average dry weather treatment capacity of 1.86 mgd for treating domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater. The collection system service area includes the City of Crescent City and the Del Norte County Service Area, which includes a total population of 15,573.

Treatment processes at the Crescent City WWTF consist of headworks, including a mechanically cleaned screen, a Parshall flume, and a wet well; primary treatment, including two grit removal tanks and two clarifiers; and secondary treatment. Secondary treatment is provided by operating rotating biological contactors and a membrane bioreactor (MBR) in parallel. Flows from the rotating biological contactors and any flow from the MBR unit that is not used for recycled water use are commingled and disinfected and dechlorinated and discharged to the Pacific Ocean through an outfall pipe terminating into a rocky slot in the surf zone adjacent to Battery Point Lighthouse. The effluent pipe has a conveyance capacity up to 13 mgd.

The Discharger has proposed to use tertiary-treated recycled water to irrigate Beach Front Park, which is located northeast of the WWTF. For the recycled water discharge, the Discharger will direct up to 1.2 mgd through the MBR unit where effluent to be recycled will be disinfected with ultraviolet light (UV) prior to discharge to the reclamation system.

This Order does not authorize the discharge of recycled water to the water reclamation system but does require that all reclaimed water produced by the Discharger be treated to meet Title 22 standards for disinfected tertiary recycled water. To beneficially reuse the reclaimed water at Beach Front Park, the Discharger must obtain coverage from the State Water Resources Control Board under the State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2009-0006 WQ (General Permit for Landscape Irrigation Uses of Municipal Recycled Water) and obtain approval for the water reclamation system by the California Department of Public Health. If coverage is not obtained, Discharger may seek an amendment of this Order in order to include this discharge, subject to notice and public hearing.

This Order contains technology-based effluent limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub>, total suspended solids, pH, turbidity, grease and oil, and settleable solids for the ocean discharge. This Order also contains water quality based effluent limitations for total coliform organisms and total chlorine residual to ensure that the ocean discharge meets water quality objectives established in the California Ocean Plan. A reasonable potential analysis was conducted for the remainder of pollutants in Table B of the Ocean Plan and showed “reasonable potential” for ammonia, copper, zinc, TCDD equivalents (dioxin and furans), bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and tetrachloroethylene. For pollutants with no “reasonable potential,” routine effluent monitoring is specified for the five year term of the permit.

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 and March 7, 2011. The Discharger provided comments on the draft permit via email on March 7, 2011, requesting minor modifications of the draft Order. Comments were also received from the California Department of Public Health recommending the addition of additional requirements for the reclaimed water discharge. The proposed Order has been modified in response to the comments received and to correct typographical and formatting errors. Comment letters and copies of staff letters in response to comments are included as an attachment to this Staff Report.

PRELIMINARY STAFF  
RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Order No. R1-2011-0019 as proposed.