

Executive Officer's Summary Report
8:30 a.m., June 10, 2010
Regional Water Quality Control Board
David C. Joseph Hearing Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, California

Item: 4

Subject: Public Hearing Order No. R1-2010-0038 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements to replace Order No. R1-2005-0009 in the matter of **Mendocino County Water Works District No. 2, Anchor Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility** NPDES No. CA0024040, WDID No. 1B83118OMEN

DISCUSSION

The Mendocino County Water Works District No. 2 (hereinafter the Discharger) is currently discharging pursuant to Order No. R1-2005-0009 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0024040. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), dated September 11, 2009, and applied to renew NPDES and waste discharge requirements to discharge secondary treated wastewater and recycled water from the Anchor Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). The application was deemed complete on November 19, 2009.

The WWTF treats domestic and commercial wastewater from the unincorporated community of Anchor Bay, which includes 66 residences, the Anchor Bay Campground, and a commercial business district. The treatment facility has a design average dry weather treatment capacity of 24,000 gallons per day (gpd), but as retained from the previous permit, the permitted discharge limit is 19,600 gpd.

Treatment processes at the Anchor Bay WWTF consist of headworks units, a 320,000 gallon aerated pond, a 300,000 gallon settling pond that is currently operated by the Discharger as an aerated pond, a chlorine contact chamber and dechlorination facilities. Treated and disinfected wastewater is distributed either to Discharge Point 001 to the Pacific Ocean, after dechlorination, or Discharge Point 002 to 3.3 acres of forest land for irrigation. Discharge Point 001 is located within a sea cave, which provides a minimum initial dilution of 35:1. Discharge to the Pacific Ocean occurs intermittently, approximately 120 times per year, primarily from October through April, for a duration of approximately 3 hours per discharge. The Discharger reports an average flow of 12,000 gallons per discharge event.

During the summer months of May through September, and periods of dry weather during other months of the year, disinfected wastewater is used to irrigate two forested irrigation zones, a primary field located in the northwest area of the plant site, and a

smaller secondary field. The maximum estimated irrigation capacity of the land disposal system is 10,000 gpd. The Discharger reports a current average daily volume of 7,600 gpd applied to both irrigation zones.

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. 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 TCDD equivalents (dioxin and furans). For pollutants with no "reasonable potential," routine effluent monitoring is specified for the five year term of the permit. Discharge specifications to protect beneficial uses of local groundwater have also been established in this permit for disposal of wastewater through the forest irrigation system.

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 March 23, 2010 and April 22, 2010. The Discharger provided written comments on the draft permit in an email on April 21, 2010, requesting minor modifications of the draft Order. The proposed Order has been modified in response to the comments received, to correct typographical and formatting errors, and to clarify monitoring requirements for the irrigation discharge (Section VI of the MRP). The Discharger's comments and staff's response are included as an attachment to this Staff Report.

**PRELIMINARY STAFF
RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Order No. R1-2010-0038 as proposed.