

Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report
June 15, 2023

ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2023-0010 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the County of Sonoma Annapolis Solid Waste Disposal Site, WDID No. 1B78064OSON (Terri Cia)

BOARD ACTION: The Board will consider adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2023-0010 (Proposed Order).

BACKGROUND: The Proposed Order updates and replaces Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 96-44.

DISCUSSION: The Sonoma County Annapolis Solid Waste Disposal Site is a closed and capped Class III municipal landfill located at 33549 Annapolis Road, approximately 3 miles south of the town of Annapolis in northern coastal Sonoma County. The facility operates under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. 96-44 issued to Discharger, County of Sonoma, through its Department of Transportation and Public Works. Following construction closure of the landfill in 1996, site operations were converted to a transfer station with continued integrated waste and recycling services for the greater coastal communities of Annapolis, Stewarts Point, Sea Ranch, and rural northern Sonoma County. Outhaul of all municipal wastes from the Annapolis facility is directed to the Sonoma County Central Solid Waste Disposal Site in Petaluma which functions as the sole regional refuse disposal facility within Sonoma County and is separately regulated under waste discharge requirements, Order No. R1-2022-0010.

The Annapolis Solid Waste Disposal Site began operations in 1970 as a small rural landfill facility deep within the timber lands of northern Sonoma County. The facility was constructed as an unlined site on roughly 9 acres of a 40-acre permitted boundary. Groundwater investigations initiated in the early 1990s confirm groundwater contamination that has been attributed to both landfill gas and leachate sources from the landfilled waste and in proximity to the landfill perimeter. Constituents of concern include volatile organic compounds (VOC's) and general water quality parameters (including increased alkalinity). In accordance with Order No. 96-44, groundwater, landfill leachate, and landfill gas have been sampled and reported on a quarterly basis.

Since construction of the landfill cap and installation of engineering controls, landfill gas methane impacts have largely resolved while some groundwater impacts of general

water quality parameters, including alkalinity, remain. Surface water drainage from the site is controlled via a sedimentation pond with discharge to a tributary of the Wheatfield Fork of the Gualala River.

The proposed Order revisions serve to renew and update current operations, post closure landfill maintenance, and groundwater protection requirements required by Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations for this site.

Key Issues:

- The revised Order is updated to require onsite management of landslide spoils and slide debris generated from county road maintenance operations and transported to the site. This management includes stockpiling/storage, maintenance, grading and stabilizing spoils within the former borrow area for use in future projects.
- Leachate collection and storage facilities improvements have been made onsite and this is reflected within the revised Order.
- Post closure maintenance requirements require differential settlement monitoring for the cap in accordance with Title 27, California Code of Regulations. If waste settlement creates a condition of ponded water, regrading of the cap may be warranted to bring the surface back for positive drainage.

Summary of other Changes:

- The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) is updated to address post closure corrective action groundwater and landfill gas monitoring requirements.
- Routine financial assurance requirements are adjusted to reflect current operations and account for inflation increases as per annual Cal Recycle published rates.
- Standard language updates are included.

A copy of the draft Order was posted on the Regional Water Board website and was available for public comment from February 7, 2023, through March 24, 2023. The Discharger provided timely comments on the draft Order. All Discharger comments have been addressed. No other comments were received.

An explanation of the comments and staff responses are provided in the attached Response to Comments document. Staff anticipates that the Proposed Order will be uncontested.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Order No. R1-2023-0010, as proposed.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Proposed Order R1-2023-0010 and Proposed MRP R1-2023-0010
2. Staff Responses to Comments
3. Notice of Public Hearing

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