

Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region
Executive Officer's Summary Report
October 15, 2020

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2020-0024 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Lewiston Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facility, WDID No. 1A83052OTRI (Roy O'Connor)

BOARD ACTION: The Board will consider adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2020-0024 (Proposed Order).

BACKGROUND: The Proposed Order addresses the consolidation of three outdated wastewater treatment facilities that served buildings which were constructed in the 1950's to house workers for the construction of Lewiston and Trinity Dams. The three consolidated facilities are the former Lewiston Valley Water Company (LVWC), the former Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company (LPMWC) and the Trinity Dam Mobile Home Park (TDMHP). All three facilities have exceeded their service lives, which has resulted in marginally treated wastewater, spills, excessive infiltration/inflow, nitrate loading to groundwater and other permit violations. The project will consolidate wastewater flow and provide upgraded wastewater treatment for this small severely disadvantaged community. The project was funded by a 15.6-million-dollar Clean Water State Revolving Funding Small Community Wastewater Planning Grant for consolidation of the former LVWC, former LPMWC and the TDMHP.

The Lewiston Community Services District (Discharger) acquired and operates the former LVWC facility (WDR Order No. 97-11) and the former LPMWC facility (WDR Order No. 83-52). The TDMHP remains in private ownership. The Discharger is installing new collection system piping, laterals and pump station, upgrading the existing leach field and will be consolidating wastewater flow from the three facilities for treatment at a new wastewater treatment facility at the former LPMWC site, now known as the Lewiston Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility). The new Facility, anticipated to be operational in December 2020, will serve approximately 253 residential and commercial connections within the community of Lewiston and has a design population of 649 people. The Facility is located on Lewiston Road at Viola Lane in Lewiston, Trinity County.

The Proposed Order authorizes a waste discharge of 40,000 gallons per day (gpd), average dry weather flow and 160,000 gpd peak wet weather flow. Additionally, for their sewer collection system the Discharger is subject to requirements of State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems.

The Facility will consist of an updated Imhoff tank for primary treatment, AeroMod activated sludge secondary treatment, effluent filtration, and chlorine disinfection. Treated wastewater will be discharged to leach field beds located adjacent to the Trinity River. The new Facility is designed to produce a high-quality effluent to meet stricter effluent limitations and provide for nitrate removal and a reduction in disinfection

byproducts to protect groundwater quality. A modern Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system will be installed to control the treatment systems.

DISCUSSION: The Proposed Order will have stricter discharge limitations, stricter discharge prohibitions and stricter effluent flow monitoring than the previous Order No. 83-52 and Order No. 97-11. The Proposed Order requires monthly effluent monitoring and reporting, and annual reporting summarizing the Discharger's effluent monitoring results, solids handling activities, permit compliance status, and source control activities for the previous year. The Proposed Order requires groundwater monitoring and a special study to evaluate the potential impacts to surface waters and groundwater to ensure protection of the beneficial uses of groundwater and the Trinity River. Additionally, the Proposed Order requires a disaster preparedness assessment report and action plan to ensure that Facility operations are not disrupted, compliance with conditions of this Order are achieved, and receiving waters are not adversely impacted by permitted and unpermitted discharges during natural disasters.

A copy of the draft Order was posted on the Regional Water Board website and was available for public comment from July 9, 2020, through August 9, 2020. The Discharger submitted timely comments on the draft Order. On August 4, 2020, Regional Water Board staff met with the Discharger's engineer to discuss their comment letter.

Comments received that resulted in a substantive change to the Proposed Order include the addition of an option to submit a Facility startup operations plan for Executive Officer approval. An approved startup operations plan would provide the Discharger an initial grace period for meeting effluent limitations, which is not to exceed 90 days for biological treatment units and 30 days for any other treatment unit.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Order No. R1-2020-0024, as proposed.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Proposed Order R1-2020-0024
2. Comments Provided on Order R1-2020-0024
3. Staff Response to Written Comments
4. Notice of Public Hearing