

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region**

Order No. R1-2018-0048

**Rescission of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
Order No. R1-2012-0046**

for the

Sierra Pacific Industries Arcata Division Sawmill

**NPDES Permit No. CA0024520
WDID No. 1B830650HUM**

Humboldt County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board) finds that:

1. Sierra Pacific Industries (Permittee) was the owner and operator of the Arcata Division Sawmill (Facility). The Permittee owned and operated a large-log sawmill that manufactured framing lumber, select high grade and industrial lumber, and Douglas Fir timbers in Arcata, Humboldt County.
2. As part of the Permittee's operations at the Facility, water was applied via sprinklers to logs that were stacked to form log decks within a portion of the Facility known as the log yard, which resulted in the generation of log yard runoff. Process water runoff from the log yard drained into one of two asphalt paved collection swales and from there flowed into two sequential basins to remove floating material and provide sufficient residence time and quiescent conditions to remove suspended sediment. Process water then discharged to a freshwater wetland, a tributary to the Mad River Slough, at Discharge Point No. 001.
3. On November 11, 2010, the Permittee submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for an NPDES permit renewal. On June 7, 2012, the Regional Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR), Order No. R1-2012-0046, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0024520 for the Permittee.
4. On January 29, 2016, the Permittee provided the Regional Water Board with written notice that the Facility would be closing on April 26, 2016. Within this notice, the Permittee stated that discharge to surface waters would cease on February 15, 2016.

The Permittee requested and the Regional Water Board approved that effluent and receiving water monitoring requirements be suspended following the removal of the sprinklers and logs.

5. On August 9, 2017, the Permittee submitted a letter with its July 2017 Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) stating “due to facility’s closure and sale of the property, no sprinkler activity occurred in July of 2017”. The letter stated that log sprinkling operations ceased on February 15, 2016, and the Facility officially closed on April 22, 2016. The letter additionally stated that the property was sold and is no longer controlled by the Permittee.
6. Regional Water Board action to rescind NPDES Order No. R1-2012-0046 is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15301.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that NPDES Order No. R1-2012-0046 be rescinded.

CERTIFICATION

I, Matthias St. John, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on November 14, 2018.

Ordered by _____
Matthias St. John
Executive Officer