

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Michael T. Chee)  
MEETING DATE: August 8, 2007

ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: **City of Pacifica, Rockaway Beach Pump Station, San Mateo County - Hearing to Consider Imposition of Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) for Discharge of Untreated Wastewater into Waters of the State**

CHRONOLOGY: February 2003 — ACL complaint for a 1 million gallon sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) in December 2001

DISCUSSION: We issued an ACL complaint in May 2007 to Pacifica in the amount of \$190,000, which includes \$10,000 in staff costs, for a December 2005 SSO. The SSO was caused by a failure of a temporary plumbing connection at a sewage pump station that was under repair. As a result, 253,000 gallons of untreated sewage flowed through Calera Creek and its associated wetlands and into the Pacific Ocean at Rockaway Beach.

Because the SSO occurred during a storm, the untreated sewage was significantly diluted with stormwater. In addition, the City's quick response to the SSO reduced the volume of the SSO. However, because of the SSO, Rockaway Beach was closed for several days.

The City has waived its right to a hearing (Appendix B), and has proposed to implement a supplemental environmental project (SEP) costing up to \$170,000. This SEP would provide financial assistance to homeowners for replacement of broken private sewer laterals within the City. Repair of laterals will potentially reduce future SSOs because broken laterals allow stormwater and groundwater to flow into sewer lines, which can cause sewage to overflow from manholes during storms. This SEP would complement the City's current sewer laterals program, which requires the inspection and necessary repair of sewer laterals at time of home remodeling. I expect to approve this SEP after Pacifica develops acceptable details for this project.

RECOMMEN-  
DATION: No action required.

File No.: 2179.7022 (MTC)

Appendix: A. Complaint No. R2-2007-0016  
B. Signed waiver  
C. SEP Proposal