

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2011**  
Prepared on October 13, 2011

**ITEM NUMBER:** 16

**SUBJECT:** Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements, Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit No. CAG993002 for Discharges of Highly Treated Groundwater, Order No. R3-2011-0222

**STAFF CONTACT:** Sheila Soderberg 805/549-3592 or [ssoderberg@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ssoderberg@waterboards.ca.gov)

**KEY INFORMATION**

**Discharger:** Any person, partnership, firm, corporation, association, trust estate, or any other legal entity  
**Location:** Locations throughout the Central Coast Region  
**Type of Discharge:** Groundwater extraction and treatment operations at any active leak and spill cleanup sites  
**Waste Types:** Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Chlorinated Solvents, Perchlorate, or other chemicals  
**Permitted Flow:** Continuous discharges up to 0.2 million gallons per day (MGD) and Batch discharges up to 0.25 MGD for up to one month duration  
**Type of Treatment:** Sediment and granular activated carbon filtration system which may have bioreactors or ion exchange systems as part of the treatment train  
**Disposal Method:** Surface water discharge  
**Solid Wastes:** Not applicable  
**Existing Orders:** Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2006-0067  
**Reclamation:** Not applicable

**This Action:** Adopt Order No. R3-2011-0222

**SUMMARY**

Operators of underground storage tank (UST), dry cleaning, oil field, or other industrial operations sometimes illegally and/or inadvertently discharge petroleum or other chemicals, such as perchlorate or chlorinated solvents, to the environment. As part of an operator's cleanup efforts, the operator may perform aquifer pumping tests, dual-phase extraction or other remedial pilot tests, and excavation dewatering during the removal or installation of USTs. As part of these tests or cleanup efforts, the operator may generate wastewater. To be considered for enrollment under this Order, dischargers must highly treat the extracted groundwater at leak and spill sites to remove wastes prior to discharge to surface waters. The Fact Sheet, included as Attachment 1, is the Statement of Basis for this minor general permit.

**NO SUBSTATIVE CHANGES FROM THE EXISTING ORDER**

Central Coast Water Board staff expects that the State Water Resources Control Board will be preparing a statewide, general NPDES permit for groundwater cleanup discharges within the next two to three years. As the statewide permit will take some time to prepare, Central Coast Water Board staff proposes to reissue our general permit now, as this will allow dischargers to continue to perform groundwater cleanup in our region.

Because a statewide general permit will be comprehensive and all inclusive, Central Coast Water Board staff did not substantively revise the new Order from the previous Order the Board adopted in 2006. Central Coast Water Board staff did update Appendix D (the Priority Pollutant List) and the waste effluent table in the new Order to include changes in regulatory standards since the Order No. R3-2006-0067 was adopted. Order No. R3-2011-0222 is included as Attachment 2.

### **COMMENTS**

No written comments were received during the public comment period, which ended October 13, 2011. Central Coast Water Board staff received two phone calls from two current general permit enrollees verifying that they will not need to submit a new Notice of Intent after the Order is adopted.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt Order No. R3-2011-0222, as proposed.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

For copies, please refer to the Central Coast Water Board's internet website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board\\_info/agendas/2011/2011\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2011/2011_agendas.shtml)

1. Fact Sheet
2. Proposed Order No. R3-2011-0222, including the following attachments:
  - Attachment A – Monitoring and Reporting Program
  - Attachment B – Notice of Intent
  - Attachment C – Notice of Termination
  - Attachment D – Priority Pollutant Table
  - Attachment E – Standard Provisions