

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 3, 2011

Prepared on January 7, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: 11

SUBJECT: Enforcement Report

DISCUSSION

Violations Listing

Staff uses the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) to track Water Board data, including violations and enforcement actions. Attachment 1 is a CIWQS list of violations that occurred between September 1, and October 31, 2010. CIWQS has a sewer system overflow (SSO) module which provides tracking and reporting of such spills.

Summary of Enforcement Activities

The following information summarizes significant enforcement action taken by the Water Board during the period between November 1, 2010, and December 31, 2010.

Notices of Violation

Lompoc Penitentiary Wastewater Facility, Santa Barbara County
City of Santa Barbara Stormwater Management Program
Rancho La Scherpa, Santa Barbara County
Los Prietos Boys Camp, Santa Barbara County
Mission Hills CSD Wastewater Facility, Santa Barbara County
City of Hollister Stormwater Management Program, San Benito County
Former British Petroleum, Templeton, San Luis Obispo County
Paso Truck & Auto, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County

Sewage Spills Related to Recent Rains

The Central Coast area received several large rain storms in late December and early January. The following is a discussion of significant sewage spills related to the rain events. This information is taken from spill reports submitted by the dischargers. Some of the information is preliminary and may change. Water Board staff will be reviewing these incidents and may in some cases require the dischargers to propose corrective actions, upgrades, and regulatory program improvements in response to the spills. Water Board staff may also initiate enforcement actions against dischargers

South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District

About five inches of rain fell at the District's wastewater treatment facility in Oceano on December 18 and 19, 2010. Wastewater flow rates into the plant exceeded 7.4 million gallons per day (MGD); normal flows are about 2 to 3 MGD. Water in electrical conduits feeding the influent pumps caused one of the four influent pumps to short out, tripping the main breaker that feeds all four influent

pumps and other plant equipment. Staff got the emergency, diesel-powered pump going within minutes but was unable to fully open its discharge valve. The headworks was subsequently flooded to grade level. This caused sewage in the collection system to backup and out of manholes in the surrounding neighborhood.

District staff has estimated the spill volume using several methods. The estimates range from 380,000 gallons to 2.35 million gallons. Spilled sewage mixed with stormwater flooded several houses in the area and flowed eventually to Arroyo Grande Creek and the ocean.

Cambria Community Services District

On January 2, 2011, about 150,000 gallons of untreated wastewater spilled to Santa Rosa Creek and the ocean when flows overwhelmed the system and caused a pipe to fail near a pump station. A temporary pump and pipe are now diverting wastewater flows around the pump station. Excavation will be required to fix the problem.

City of San Luis Obispo

About 7500 gallons spilled from the collection system at Morro and Pismo streets to San Luis Obispo Creek on December 19, 2010, due to flows exceeding system capacity. The City was already in the process of upgrading the main in this area to a larger pipe. The City rerouted flows around the line with temporary pumps and pipes and successfully avoided additional spills in following rain events.

Cuesta College

On December 19, 2010, a large tree fell on and severed the sewer line connecting Cuesta College with the California Men's Colony wastewater treatment facility. About 50,000 gallons spilled into Chorro Creek.

Avila Beach Community Services District

About 2500 gallons of sewage spilled on December 19, 2010, due to a flooded pump station. As flood levels decreased, the mixed stormwater and sewage flowed to San Luis Obispo Creek and the ocean.

Cayucos Sanitary District

About 800 gallons of sewage spilled on December 19, 2010, due to flows exceeding capacity at a manhole in Morro Bay. Spilled sewage eventually flowed to the ocean.

City of Santa Cruz

On December 19, 2010, a power surge shut down pumps that transfer domestic wastewater to the regional treatment plant and 500 gallons of sewage drained into Monterey Bay before the pumps were reactivated.

RECOMMENDATION

This report is for Board information. The Board may provide direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Violation List
- 2) List of Abbreviations

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