



Rm 377953 LMW

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
 Katherine Hart, Chair



Linda S. Adams
 Acting Secretary for
 Environmental Protection

1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706
 (559) 445-5116 • FAX (559) 445-5910
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
 Governor

23 May 2011

Mr. Robert W. Gilbert, Owner
 California Hot Springs Water Company
 P.O. Box 146
 California Hot Springs, CA 93207

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER NO. 97-10-DWQ, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND BY SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS, CALIFORNIA HOT SPRINGS WATER COMPANY, WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, TULARE COUNTY

The California Hot Springs Water Company, Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) currently discharges effluent from an activated sludge package plant to evaporation/percolation ponds to land. Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 86-111 currently regulates the discharge. The WDRs are obsolete, inconsistent with current plans and policies of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board), and need to be updated.

On 9 March 2011, Central Valley Water Board staff received your letter requesting coverage of the discharge under *Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (hereafter General Order).

Based on the findings of the original WDRs, recent information from self-monitoring reports and communication with you, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under *Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*. The facility is assigned Notice of Applicability No. 97-10-DWQ-R5069

The following requirements contained within the General Order apply to the subject discharge:

1. All Section A Prohibitions,
2. Section B Requirement Nos. 1.a-1.d, and 4;
3. All section C Ground Water and Surface Water Limitations;
4. Section D Provision Nos. 1.a-1.v; and
5. All attachment B, Standard Provisions and Reporting for Waste Discharge Requirements.

The following sections of Attachment A, Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. 97-10-DWQ, apply to the discharge:

1. Activated Sludge Systems Monitoring,
2. Aerated Pond Systems Monitoring, and
3. Monitoring.

LOCATION

California Hot Springs operates the WWTF just within the Sequoia National Monument, in Tulare County, about one mile northwest of Pine Flat. The facility is adjacent to Hot Springs Drive and Deer Creek in Section 31, T23S, R31E, MDB&M.

The WWTF is in the Tulare Lake Basin. The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, Second Edition* (hereafter Basin Plan), designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin.

DESCRIPTION

The WWTF treats domestic wastewater from the California Hot Springs Campground and RV Park (Campground). The Campground consists of full time and part time cabins, a seasonal campground with RV hookups of about 40 sites, a recreation building, a United States Postal Office, a garage, and a swimming pool/spa. The average daily flow during the dry season (May through October) is 883 gpd and during the wet season (November through April) is 834 gpd. The design flow for the WWTF is 15,000 gpd.

Discharge from the swimming pool and spas flows to an irrigation system. The irrigation system is not associated with the sewer system and is used to water vegetation and pasture land.

The 50-year precipitation in the area is about 24 inches per year. Pan evaporation rates of about 68 inches per year have been reported for the area.

Surface water drainage in the area is to Deer Creek. The beneficial uses of Deer Creek, a perennial stream adjacent to the WWTF, are recreation, including water contact sports, fish and wildlife enhancement, agricultural irrigation, ground water recharge, and domestic supply. The quality of Deer Creek is excellent with a specific conductance of approximately 220 umhos.

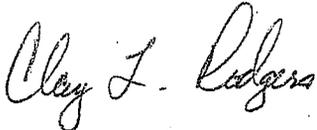
Groundwater in the area occurs in small amounts and no quality data are available. It is used for domestic supply and is assumed to be of acceptable quality for that purpose. Drilling logs of wells in the area indicate that a mixture of soil and boulders extends to a depth of about 15 feet, decomposed granite to 80 feet, and blue granite to about 300 feet. Percolation data provided by California Hot Springs show a rate of near 28 minutes per inch.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the above requirements, California Hot Springs must comply with the following:

1. Discharge of wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described above is prohibited.
2. The Waste Water Treatment Facility shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
3. There shall be no discharge to the spray field during periods of precipitation or runoff, or under saturated soil conditions.
4. California Hot Springs shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until the NOA is officially terminated.
5. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order and this letter authorizing applicability, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, could result in enforcement actions as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, please contact Dale Harvey at (559) 445-6190.



for Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ
Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 97-10-DWQ
Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements