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MATTHEW RODRIQUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

5 December 2014

Dave Scott
Environmental Health & Safety Manager
SierraPine – Ampine Division
P.O. Box 115
Martell, CA 95654

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LIMITED THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2013-0073-01; SIERRAPINE – AMPINE DIVISION, AMADOR COUNTY

Our office received a Report of Waste Discharge application on 29 March 2013 from SierraPine Limited (hereinafter Discharger) for the SierraPine – Ampine Division (Project), for discharge of treated process water and storm water to surface water. Based on the application packet and subsequent information submitted by the Discharger, staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order R5-2013-0073-01 for Limited Threat Discharges of Treated/Untreated Groundwater from Cleanup Sites, Wastewater from Superchlorination Projects, and Other Limited Threat Wastewaters to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order). The Project is hereby assigned to Limited Threat General Order R5-2013-0073-01-039 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002, and provided with CIWQS Place ID# 239636. Please reference your Limited Threat General Order number, **R5-2013-0073-01-039**, and **CIWQS ID# 239636** in your correspondence and submitted documents.

The enclosed Limited Threat General Order may also be viewed at the following web address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2013-0073-01.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Limited Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring and reporting requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order.

CALIFORNIA TOXICS RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Limited Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxics Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP). Screening levels for CTR constituents and other constituents of concern are found in Attachment B of the Limited Threat General Order. Review of your water quality data in comparison to the screening levels, showed reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to an exceedance of iron and manganese water quality objectives in Stony Creek prior to onsite treatment. However, your proposed treatment system addresses the water quality concerns by reducing iron and

manganese concentrations below water quality objectives; therefore, the Project qualifies for the Limited Threat General Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project site is located at 11300 Ridge Road in Martell, California. SierraPine – Ampine Division manufactures particleboard for distribution throughout the United States. The manufacturing process is a dry process and is fully contained; but the process wastewater from boiler blowdown, cooling tower water, turbine cooling water, equipment wash water, and when in use, biofilter blowdown, is discharged to a series of three treatment ponds. Water from the last pond is land applied using a sprinkler system, which is permitted under Order R5-2008-0167-001 for discharge to land. Water from the last pond may also be discharged to Stony Creek during significant storm events. When permitted under NPDES No. CA0004219, the last time process wastewater was deliberately discharged from the Irrigation Pond to Stony Creek, was March 2004, and in April 2011 a discharge to Stony Creek from the irrigation field catch pond occurred due to pump failure. NPDES No. CA004219 was rescinded on 5 December 2014, and therefore, the Discharger requested coverage under the Limited Threat General Order.

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Effluent limitations are specified in Section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of the Limited Threat General Order. The following effluent limitations are applicable to this discharge and are contained in Section V. A through C of the Limited Threat General Order:

A. Effluent Limitations – Applicable to All Limited Threat Discharges

1. Priority Pollutants and Constituents of Concern

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations
		Annual Average
Iron, Total Recoverable	µg/L	300
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	50

2. Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity. Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste for all limited threat discharges shall be no less than:

- a. 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and
- b. 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

B. Effluent Limitations – Limited Threat Discharge to Specific Waterbodies

4. The pH of all limited threat discharges within the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (except Goose Creek) shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 and 8.5.

Stony Creek is not listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies. Therefore, no additional 303(d) based effluent limitations or monitoring requirements will be added to this Limited Threat General Order.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Discharger must notify Central Valley Water Board staff within 24 hours of having knowledge of 1) the start of each new discharge, 2) noncompliance, and 3) when the discharge ceases.

Monitoring and reporting requirements are contained in Attachment E of the Limited Threat General Order.

The Discharger is required to comply with the following specific monitoring and reporting requirements for the effluent and receiving water in lieu of those specified in Attachment E of the Limited Threat General Order. Stony Creek originates at the same location as the Discharger's proposed discharge location to Stony Creek; therefore, upstream and downstream receiving water sampling is not representative of Stony Creek and has not been included in this NOA.

Monitoring Locations – The Discharger shall monitor the effluent when discharging to Stony Creek at the specified location as follows:

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
001	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to discharging to Stony Creek.

Effluent Monitoring – The Discharger shall monitor the effluent when discharging to Stony Creek at EFF-001 as follows:

Table E-2. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Flow	MGD	Estimate	1/Week	2,3
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Week	2,3
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L	Grab	1/Year	2,3
Iron, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/Month	2
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/Month	2
Acute Toxicity	% survival	Grab	1/Project Term ¹	
Chronic Toxicity	—	Grab	1/Project Term ¹	

¹ Sample to be collected from EFF-001 within 6 months of the initial discharge to surface water and for acute toxicity the test species shall be fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).
² Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.
³ A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

Receiving Water Monitoring – Not required.

Monitoring Report Submittals

Monitoring in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order shall begin upon initiation of discharge. Monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis, beginning with the Fourth Quarter 2014. This report shall be submitted on 1 February 2015. If the discharge has not begun there is no need to monitor. However, a monitoring report must be submitted stating that there has been no discharge. Quarterly monitoring reports must be submitted until your coverage is formally terminated in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order, even if there is no discharge during the reporting quarter.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Central Valley Water Board shall be notified immediately if any effluent limit violation is observed during implementation of the project.

Discharge of material other than what is described in the application is prohibited. The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing when the discharge regulated by the Limited Threat General Order is no longer necessary. If a timely written request is not received, the Discharger will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Limited Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. In addition, late monitoring reports may be subject to MMPs or discretionary penalties of up to \$1,000 per day late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly report monitoring period, the Discharger must still submit a quarterly monitoring report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

COMMUNICATION

All monitoring report submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Mohammad Farhad of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit. Mr. Farhad can be reached at (916) 464-1181 or Mohammad.Farhad@waterboards.ca.gov.

All documents, including monitoring reports, response to inspections, written notifications, and documents submitted to comply with this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order, should be submitted to the NPDES Compliance unit. We are transitioning to a paperless office, therefore, please convert all documents to a searchable Portable Document Format (pdf) and email them to centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov. Please also include the Discharger name, facility name, county, and CIWQS Place ID# 239636 in the body of the email. Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to our office, attention "ECM Mailroom-NPDES".

Please include the attached monitoring report submittal form as the first page of each monitoring report.

Dave Scott
Environmental Health & Safety Manager, SierraPine – Ampine Division
SierraPine – Ampine Division Process and Storm Water Discharge

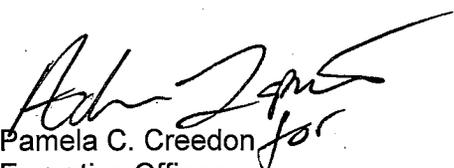
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Questions regarding the permitting aspects of this Low Threat General Order, and written notification for termination of coverage under the Low Threat General Order, shall be directed to Josh Palmer of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Permitting Unit. Mr. Palmer can be reached at (916) 464-4674 or Joshua.Palmer@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day.

Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality or will be provided upon request.


Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures: General Order R5-2013-0073-01 (Discharger only)
Monitoring Report Transmittal Form (Discharger only)

cc: David Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco
Peter Kozelka, USEPA, Region IX, San Francisco (via email only)
Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento (email only)
Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento
Department of Health Services, Environmental Management Branch, Sacramento
Michael Israel, Amador County Env. Health Division, Jackson
Steve Macaulay, California Urban Water Agencies, Sacramento
Megan Anderson, Environmental Advocates, San Francisco
Bill Jennings, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Stockton
Ric Murphy, Deltakeeper Chapter of Baykeeper, Stockton
Sutter Creek Land Owner LLC, San Francisco
Tony Jaegel, Sierra Pacific Industries, Redding