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# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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7 November 2008

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## **NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081 (GENERAL ORDER); DEWATERING AND OTHER LOW THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS; HETCH HETCHY AQUEDUCT VALVE, CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 15 September 2008 from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Hetch Hetchy Water and Power (Discharger) for various dewatering and other low threat discharges to surface water (Project). Based on the information in the submittal, we have determined that the Project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (General Order No. R5-2008-0081). This Project is hereby assigned General Order No. R5-2008-0081-012 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001.

The General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/general\\_orders/r5-2008-0081.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2008-0081.pdf). You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order and with the information submitted in the NOI.

### **CALIFORNIA TOXIC RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING**

This General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxic 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 are found in Attachment B of the General Order.

Review of your water quality data in reference to the CTR screening values showed no reasonable potential to impact the receiving waters. Therefore, no additional effluent limitations or additional monitoring requirements will be required for this project.

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project involves discharges resulting from various storage reservoirs and the pipelines that pose little or no threat to water quality. The duration of the proposed discharges are less than four months and have a total flow of less than 0.25 MGD. Discharges that are covered by this General Order include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Water storage tank annual inspection and maintenance;
- b. Water storage tank pressure testing;
- c. Pumps, Valves, and Pipeline testing;
- d. Surge shaft, blow-off valve and sand trap testing.

The discharges will be treated water originating from the following six reservoirs: Hetch Hetchy, Lake Eleanor, Cherry, Early Intake, Priest, and Moccasin. The primary receiving waters for discharges covered under this Order are the Tuolumne River and the Stanislaus River, both of which ultimately flow to the San Joaquin River. Prior to discharge, the discharge water will be dechlorinated and adjusted for pH.

This project was previously covered under WDID No. 5B50NP00011 for dewatering of the pipeline for maintenance purposes.

## **REPORTING**

Quarterly Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board office (Attention: NPDES Program) by the first day of the second month following each calendar quarter. Reporting requirements are found in Attachment E of the General Order.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

The Discharger will be required to follow their Pollution Prevention and Monitoring and Reporting Plan. Effluent and receiving water monitoring of the subject discharges shall be conducted and submitted to the Regional Water Board, quarterly, until completion of the project. The Regional Water Board shall be notified immediately if any violation, nuisance, or detriment to the receiving water is observed during implementation of the project.

Failure to comply with the Effluent Limitations and Receiving Water Monitoring requirements in the General Order could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. 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 Notice of Applicability is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing when the discharges are no longer necessary, so we may terminate applicability of this General Order and avoid additional unnecessary billing.

Violations of the effluent limitations contained in this Order may be subject to a \$3,000 Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) per violation for serious or chronic violations if certain conditions are met [Water Code Section 13385(h) and (i)]. In addition, an effluent monitoring report received more than 30 days after its due date is subject to a \$3,000 MMP. An additional \$3,000 MMP is mandated for each additional 30 days a report is late. If you have no discharge, you must still submit a report indicating that no discharge occurred, or you may be subject to the MMP.

If you have any question or comments regarding your General Order coverage, please contact David Kirn of our office at (916) 464-4761 or at [dwkirn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:dwkirn@waterboards.ca.gov).

Original signed by  
PAMELA C. CREEDON  
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2008-0081 (Discharger only)

cc: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento