



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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16 February 2010

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## **NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LOW THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081; SACRAMENTO AREA FLOOD CONTROL AGENCY (SAFCA) NATOMAS LEVEE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

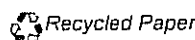
Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 11 December 2009 from AECOM, consultant for the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) and Reclamation District 1000 for SAFCA's Natomas Levee Improvement Project. Based on the information in the NOI, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Low Threat General Order). This project is hereby assigned Low Threat General Order No. R5-2008-0081-057 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001. Please reference the unique Order No. R5-2008-0081-057 in all future correspondence and documents.

The Low Threat 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 Low Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring requirements. The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA, the Low Threat General Order, and with the information submitted by the Dischargers.

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

The Low Threat 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).

***California Environmental Protection Agency***



Section 5.3 of the SIP allows "exceptions from meeting the Priority Pollutant criteria/objectives if determined to be necessary to implement control measures..." The Dischargers qualified for the SIP exception in Section 5.3 and are not required to conduct Priority Pollutant (CTR constituent) sampling. The Dischargers authorized to discharge under this Low Threat General Order who have been granted an exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives in the SIP, must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the beneficial uses of the receiving water have been restored upon completion of the discharge.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Reclamation District 1000 and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (Dischargers), are proposing to discharge groundwater into surface waters from dewatering activities associated with the Natomas Levee Improvements Project. The Dischargers propose to construct 48 wells to a depth of 20-30 feet for the relocation of Reclamation District 1000 Pumping Plant No. 2, which will now be located north of the Sacramento International Airport. The proposed excavation area encompasses 2.6 acres and would extend to 30 feet below the ground surface at the western end of the excavation pit and 20 feet below ground surface at the eastern end. The excavation pit is located on the east side of Garden Highway.

Groundwater will be pumped continuously for 6 to 9 weeks. It is estimated that 20 million gallons daily will be pumped initially for the first 10 days, then when sufficient drawdown occurs, the flows are expected to decline to a level of approximately 5.8 million gallons daily.

The groundwater will be treated for sediment removal through a Baker Tank as necessary to comply with the Low Threat General Order No. R5-2008-0081 and discharged directly into the North Drainage Canal a tributary of the Sacramento River.

The project proposes to begin on 17 February 2010.

### **MONITORING AND REPORTING**

All Dischargers must notify Central Valley Water Board staff 24 hours before the start of each new discharge, as soon as noncompliance is anticipated, and when the discharge ceases.

Effluent and receiving water analytical monitoring shall be conducted and the results submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis unless specified otherwise. The Dischargers must submit quarterly reports, as described in Attachment E, Section X, even if there is no discharge or receiving water flow during the reporting quarter, until the Dischargers formally requests that coverage under this Order be terminated.

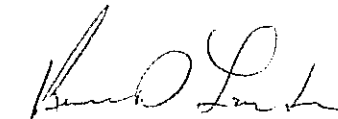
### **GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be due and payable until the discharge is terminated. The Dischargers must notify the Central Valley Water Board in writing if the discharge regulated by this Low Threat General Order is no longer necessary, so we may terminate applicability of this Low Threat General Order and avoid additional and unnecessary billing.

## ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Low Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Late reporting and effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation [California Water Code Section 13385(h) and (i)]. If there is no discharge during a quarterly monitoring period, a report indicating that no discharge occurred must be submitted to avoid the monetary penalties.

All monitoring report submittals, notification of the beginning and end of discharge, and questions regarding compliance and enforcement shall be directed to Spencer Joplin at (916) 464-4660 or [sjoplin@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sjoplin@waterboards.ca.gov). Questions regarding the permitting aspects of this Low Threat General Order, and requests for termination of coverage under this Order, may be directed to Michael Negrete at (916) 464-4662 or [mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov).



Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

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

cc: Mr. Dave Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco  
Mr. Phil Isorena, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento  
Mr. Ted Daum, AECOM, 2022 "J" Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.