



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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13 May 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL

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Mr. Mychael Cardenas, General Manager  
Rio Linda/ Elverta Community Water District  
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## **NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LOW THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0081; RIO LINDA, ELVERTA COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT WATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE PROJECT; SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 9 September 2010 from Affinity Engineering Inc., consultants for Rio Linda, Elverta Community Water District (Discharger) for the Rio Linda, Elverta Community Water District Water System Maintenance 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. R5-2008-0081-081 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995001. Please reference the unique Order No. R5-2008-0081-081 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).

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 Discharger qualified for

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the SIP exception in Section 5.3 and is not required to conduct Priority Pollutant (CTR constituent) sampling as under the SIP Categorical Exceptions, under item number 2, regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code. The Discharger cited Sections 116350-116405 and 131200 of the California Health and Safety Code that require water utilities to perform various duties in order to protect the integrity of the water system and public health.

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 Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District supplies drinking water to residential and commercial users in Rio Linda and Elverta communities. The District has eleven groundwater wells, one treated water storage reservoir, eleven hydropneumatic tanks, 543 fire hydrants with 37 blow offs and 78 miles of distribution system piping.

The District proposes to discharge from all of its water supply system components into surface waters during routine maintenance of the distribution system. Specific discharge requirements will require particular treatment system to be used prior to discharge into surface waters. For example, settling tanks will be used to control turbidity; silt sacks, gravel bags and straw waddles will be used in ditches and open fields; and potable water will be dechlorinated prior to discharging into surface waters. Treated water will enter into Dry Creek, a tributary of the Sacramento River, via local storm drain systems.

### **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. This is a water supply project with numerous discharge points. Therefore, the Discharger submitted a Pollution Prevention and Monitoring and Reporting Program (PPMRP) with the NOI. The PPMRP submitted by the Discharger complies with Attachment H and with Sections I, IX, and X of Attachment E of the Low Threat General Order, and was approved on 20 April 2011.

Effluent and receiving water analytical monitoring shall be conducted as described in the approved PPMRP and the results submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis unless specified otherwise. The Discharger 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 Discharger 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 submitted until the discharge is terminated. To terminate coverage under the Low Threat General Order, the Dischargers must submit written

notification to the Central Valley Water Board that the discharge regulated by this Low Threat General Order has ceased and is no longer necessary. If a timely written request is not received, then the Dischargers will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Failure to comply with the Low 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. Late reports may be subject to an MMP of \$3,000 for each period of 30 days late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly monitoring period, the Dischargers must still submit a quarterly 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 Spencer Joplin of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit. Mr. Joplin can be reached 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 written notification for termination of coverage under this Order, shall be directed to Mike Negrete of the Central Valley Water Board's NPDES Permitting Unit. Mr. Negrete can be reached at (916) 464-4662 or [mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mnegrete@waterboards.ca.gov).

*Original Signed by Frederick S. Moss for*

Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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

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. James A Dehart, Affinity Engineering Inc., 10824 Olson Drive, Suite C266, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670