
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); LIMITED THREAT GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2016-0076; SEGMENTS 3 AND 4 CONTRA COSTA CANAL REPLACEMENT PROJECT, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent application on 17 April 2017 from the Contra Costa Water District (hereinafter Discharger), for discharge of groundwater to surface water during construction of the Segments 3 and 4 phase of the Contra Costa Canal Replacement Project (hereinafter Project). Based on the application packet submitted by the Discharger, staff has determined that the Project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order), as a Tier 1B discharge. The Project is hereby assigned Limited Threat General Order R5-2016-0076-008 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002. Please reference your Limited Threat General Order number, **R5-2016-0076-008**, 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/r5-2016-0076_mod.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 I of the Limited Threat General Order. Review of the Project's water quality data in comparison to the screening values showed no reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in Rock Slough.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Contra Costa Canal Replacement Project is a drinking water supply protection and flood management project to replace four miles of unlined Contra Costa Canal with reinforced concrete pipeline from the Discharger's Pumping Plant 1 (PP1) to the Rock Slough Headworks. The first phase was completed in 2009 and replaced approximately 1,900 feet of unlined Canal from PP1 to Marsh Creek (Segment 1). The second phase was completed in 2015 and included the installation of approximately 5,500 feet of pipeline replacing the unlined Canal from Marsh Creek to Sellers Avenue and 200 feet of pipe installed at the end of Contra Costa Canal near Rock Slough that supports a Flood Isolation Structure (Segment 2). This NOA provides coverage for Segments 3 and 4 that will be constructed in 2018 – 2019. Segments 3 and 4 include the replacement of approximately 5,500 feet of unlined canal from Sellers Avenue to a location about 250 feet upstream (west) of Jersey Island Road and East Cypress Road with a 10-foot diameter pipeline. During construction, shallow groundwater will be extracted through wells to facilitate pipeline construction and discharged to the Contra Costa Canal near the intersection of East Cypress Road and Jersey Island Road, hereinafter referred to as Discharge Point 003.

It is anticipated that the dewatered groundwater for this phase of the Project may have high salinity concentrations. To mitigate this, the Discharger will use its Old River and Middle River surface water intakes to divert lower salinity surface water that will flow through lined Segments 1 and 2 and mix with the dewatered groundwater before it is discharged at Discharge Point 003. Blending surface water with the high salinity groundwater will lower the salinity of the discharge to minimize potential impacts to the receiving water.

Estimated average monthly discharge rates for the Project are expected to range from 3.5 to 8.5 million gallons per day (MGD) and will occur between the months of May through October 2018 and 2019, (possibly into November or December depending on weather conditions). Including the blending water, the maximum daily discharge is anticipated to be up to 16 MGD.

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The Limited Threat General Order includes effluent limitations in Section V. Based on the information provided in the NOI, only effluent limitations for pH, as specified in Section V.A.1 of the Limited Threat General Order, are applicable to this discharge. The applicable effluent limitations are shown below:

1. **pH (Section V.A.1.b.i).** 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.

RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

The Limited Threat General Order includes receiving surface water limitations in Section VIII.A. Based on the information provided in the NOI, only the following receiving surface water limitations are applicable to this discharge:

- Bacteria (VIII.A.2);
- Biostimulatory substances (VIII.A.3);
- Chemical constituents (VIII.A.4);
- Color (VIII.A.5);
- Dissolved oxygen (VIII.A.6.b.iii);

- Floating material (VIII.A.7);
- Oil and grease (VIII.A.8);
- pH (VIII.A.9.a);
- Pesticides ((VIII.A.10);
- Radioactivity (VIII.A.11);
- Suspended sediments (VIII.A.12);
- Settleable substances (VIII.A.13);
- Suspended material (VIII.A.14);
- Taste and odors (VIII.A.15);
- Temperature (VIII.A.16);
- Toxicity (VIII.A.17); and
- Turbidity (VIII.A.18.a).

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring and reporting requirements are contained in Attachment C 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 accordance with Attachment C of the Limited Threat General Order.

Monitoring Locations – The Discharger shall monitor the effluent and receiving water at the specified locations as follows in Table 1:

Table 1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description ¹
003	EFF-003	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to discharging to surface water at Discharge Point 003.
--	RSW-001	Rock Slough at the DWR Rock Slough ABV Contra Costa Canal (RSL). 37°58'33.84"N 121° 38'25.62"W
--	RSW-002	Rock Slough at the Delta Road Bridge. 37°58'36.49"N 121°37'12.59"W

¹ See enclosed project map.

Effluent Monitoring – When discharging to surface water, the Discharger shall monitor the effluent at EFF-003 in accordance with Table C-2 of the Limited Threat General Order and this NOA. The applicable monitoring requirements are as follows in Table 2:

Table 2. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Discharge Flow Rate, Total	MGD	Estimate	1/Day	1
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Week	1, 2

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week	1, 2
Chronic Toxicity	--	Grab	1/Project Term	2, 3

- ¹ 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.
- ² Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CRF Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.
- ³ See the Limited Threat General Order MRP (Attachment C, section V) for toxicity monitoring requirements.

Receiving Water Monitoring - When discharging to surface water, the Discharger shall monitor, or provide monitoring data, for the receiving water at RSW-001 and RSW-002 in accordance with Table C-3 of the Limited Threat General Order and this NOA. The applicable monitoring requirements are as follows in Table 3:

Table 3. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Monitoring Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab or Meter	1/Month	1, 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.
- ² 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.

In conducting the receiving water sampling, a log shall be kept of the receiving water conditions throughout the reach bounded by Discharge Point 003 and RSW-001. Attention shall be given to the presence or absence of:

- a. Floating or suspended matter
- b. Discoloration
- c. Bottom deposits
- d. Aquatic life
- e. Visible films, sheens, or coatings
- f. Fungi, slimes, or objectionable growths
- g. Potential nuisance conditions

Notes on receiving water conditions shall be summarized in the monitoring report.

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 second Quarter 2017. This report shall be submitted on 1 August 2017. If monitoring samples were not obtained within 24 hours of initiation of the discharge, the Discharger must document the reasons in the corresponding monitoring report. 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. Table 4, below, summarizes the monitoring report due dates required under the Limited Threat General Order. 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.

Table 4. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Quarterly Report Due Date
1/Day, 1/Week, 1/Month, 1/Quarter	7 June 2017	1 May (1 Jan – 31 Mar) 1 Aug (1 Apr – 30 Jun) 1 Nov (1 Jul – 30 Sep) 1 Feb, of following year (1 Oct – 31 Dec)

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

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. 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 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, attention Genevieve Sparks. Ms. Sparks can be reached at (916) 464-4821 or Genevieve.Sparks@waterboards.ca.gov.

We have transitioned 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 include the following information in the email: Attention: NPDES Compliance section; Discharger: Contra Costa Water District; Facility: Canal Replacement Construction Dewatering Project; County: Contra Costa; and the CIWQS place ID 795798 in the body of the email. Documents that are 50 megabytes or larger must be

transferred to a DVD, or flash drive and mailed to our office, attention "ECM Mailroom-NPDES". Please include the attached Monitoring Report Transmittal Form as the first page of each monitoring report.

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.

Original Signed by Adam Laputz for

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures: General Order R5-2016-0076 (Discharger only)
Monitoring Report Transmittal Form (Discharger only)
Project Map

cc: David Smith, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
NPDES Unit, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento (email only)

Project Map – Contra Costa Water District, Canal Replacement Project
Segments 3–4 Effluent and Receiving Water Monitoring Locations
R5-2016-0076-008

