

ITEM: #

SUBJECT: City of Turlock, Water Quality Control Facility, Stanislaus County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Order Amending Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2010-0002 (NPDES Permit No. CA0078948)*

BACKGROUND: The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2010-0002 (NPDES Permit) on 28 January 2010, for the City of Turlock Water Quality Control Facility. The NPDES Permit authorizes a discharge of up to 20 million gallons per day of tertiary treated wastewater to Harding Drain, a constructed agricultural drain, and the San Joaquin River, both waters of the United States.

On 10 April 2012, the Discharger submitted a Monitoring Work Plan indicating that the cost to conduct monthly sampling of all Priority Toxic Pollutants will be approximately \$88,000. Since many of the Priority Pollutants have not been detected in the effluent or receiving water from previous sampling, the Discharger requested the monitoring requirements be modified to prevent incurring unnecessary cost. In the past seven years there have been no detections in the effluent or receiving water for total cyanide, asbestos, dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and chlorinated pesticides. Therefore, the Discharger proposes monitoring for all Priority Pollutants for an initial three months, to determine if any of these constituents are detected. If there are no detections of total cyanide, asbestos, dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), or chlorinated pesticides, the monitoring for these constituents would be discontinued. The Discharger estimates a savings of more than \$60,000 under the revised monitoring program

The proposed Order modifies the NPDES permit as discussed above. The reduced monitoring will provide information sufficient to characterize the effluent and receiving water to conduct a reasonable potential analysis when the NPDES permit is renewed, while significantly reducing monitoring costs. The proposed changes are consistent with California Water Code section 13267(b)(1), which states: "The burden, including costs, of [monitoring] reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports."

The Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA) was the only party that submitted comments. CVCWA's comments were in support of the proposed Order.

ISSUES: NONE

RECOMMENDATION Adopt proposed Order amending the NPDES permit.

Mgmt. Review _____

Legal Review _____

1/2/3 August 2012

11020 Sun Center Dr. #200

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670