

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: Planada Community Services District, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Merced County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Waste Discharge Requirements (new)*

BACKGROUND: Planada Community Services District (District) discharges secondary disinfected wastewater to Miles Creek under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2011-0042 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CA0078950. The District has had difficulty meeting various NPDES permit limits, and this has been the subject of many Central Valley Water Board actions, including multiple mandatory minimum administrative civil liability assessments and a time schedule order.

To comply with Central Valley Water Board directives, the District is proposing to cease discharging to Miles Creek and to instead discharge its wastewater to storage ponds prior to recycling its effluent on fiber, fodder, and seed crops. The District is also proposing to expand the WWTF in two phases, first from a flow of 0.53 million gallons per day (mgd) to a flow of 0.58 mgd, and then to a flow of 0.75 mgd. The WWTF expansion will consist of constructing two new clay-lined storage ponds, deepening of the existing stabilization ponds to convert them to aerated ponds, and the discharge to 110 acres of agricultural land. The District will need to acquire another 25 acres to increase its flow from 0.58 mgd to 0.75 mgd; therefore, the proposed WDRs contain phased flow limits of 0.58 mgd and 0.75 mgd. The discharge is not expected to cause significant degradation or exceedences of water quality objectives.

ISSUES: AM Consulting Engineers, on behalf of the District, submitted comments. Comments were also submitted by Central Valley Clean Water Association. Minor revisions were made to address the comments.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends adoption of the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements.

Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Review PEP

11/12 April 2013  
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670