

## **AGENDA ITEM: 9**

### **SUBJECT:**

Following are proposed permits for consideration of adoption. All agencies and dischargers concur or have offered no comments

### **BOARD ACTION:**

Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal, Amendment and Cease and Desist Order

### **BACKGROUND:**

#### **a. CITY OF MERCED, WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, MERCED COUNTY**

City of Merced owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility (Facility) at 10260 Gove Road in Merced County. The Facility was previously regulated by Order R5-2014-0096 for discharges to (1) Hartley Slough, a water of the United States, (2) the Merced Wildlife Management Area, and (3) the Land Application Area.

The Facility provides sewerage service for the City of Merced and serves a population of approximately 93,000. Currently, the design average capacity is 12.0 million gallons per day (mgd). However, the Discharger has plans to perform phases of Facility upgrades to increase its treatment capacity to up to 20.0 mgd. The current treatment system at the Facility consists of the following: a headworks pump station with fine screens and grit removal; primary clarifiers; activated sludge basins with internal separate anoxic denitrification basins; secondary clarifiers, flocculation basins; filters; ultraviolet disinfection; and a re-aeration outfall. Solids handling and treatment include: a dissolved air flotation thickener, primary digesters, digest gas holder, solids dewatering facility, centrate pump station and equalization tank, and lined active solar dryers. Dried biosolids are applied to the Land Application Area, except the abandoned ponds 5 and 6 area.

An Order is proposed to renew the joint National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit/Waste Discharge Requirements. The proposed NPDES permit includes revised effluent limitations for total recoverable copper and total ammonia nitrogen based on recalculation of water quality criteria dependent on site-specific parameters. Averaging periods for effluent limitations have been revised for electrical conductivity and for mass-based and concentration-based effluent limitations for both biochemical oxygen demand and total suspended solids. The proposed NPDES permit requires several technical reports, including a Constituent Study for Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene and Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene and a Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan. The proposed NPDES permit was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 14 February 2020 with comments due by 16 March 2020. During the public comment period, the Discharger submitted comments on the proposed permit. Minor changes were made in response to the Discharger's comments in order to update section reference numbers for consistency. Other requests for changes in the proposed NPDES permit made by the Discharger were not granted, as detailed in the Staff Response to Comments document included in the agenda package.

**b. CITY OF WOODLAND, WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY, YOLO COUNTY**

The City of Woodland (Discharger) owns and operates the Water Pollution Control Facility (Facility) in Yolo County. The Facility provides sewerage service for the City of Woodland, Yolo County, and serves a population of approximately 59,000. The Facility provides tertiary level treatment for up to 10.4 million gallons per day and discharges to Tule Canal, a water of the United States, which flows to the Yolo Bypass.

Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5 2014-0120-01, issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 9 October 2014. An Order is proposed to renew the NPDES permit. The proposed permit includes updated effluent limitations for electrical conductivity and selenium and will remove existing effluent limitations for boron because there is no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to in-stream exceedances of the applicable water quality objectives for boron. The proposed permit also includes new waste discharge requirements to land to protect the beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater. The new requirements include pond effluent limitations for biochemical oxygen demand and nitrate, and new groundwater limitations for electrical conductivity, total coliform organisms, and nitrate. The Discharger is unable to immediately comply with the new land discharge requirements. The proposed permit includes a compliance schedule to implement facility improvements as necessary to comply with the new land discharge requirements by 31 May 2029. The tentative Amending Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 14 February 2020 with comments due on 16 March 2020. Public comments were received by the due date from the Discharger and the Central Valley Clean Water Association. The proposed permit has been modified to address the comments; details are provided in the Staff Response to Comments document included in the agenda package.

**c. PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT, PARADISE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, BUTTE COUNTY**

Paradise Irrigation District (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Paradise Water Treatment Plant (Facility), a drinking water treatment plant located in Butte County, California. The Facility provides drinking water services for the town of Paradise and serves a population of approximately 2,500. The Facility generates filter backwash wastewater, which is discharged to the Magalia Reservoir, a water of the United States.

Discharge from the Facility is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2010-0057, adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 27 May 2010 and Time Schedule Order R5-2010-0058-02, adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 27 May 2010 and amended by the Central Valley Water Board on 8 December 2017.

An Order is proposed to renew the Discharger's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The proposed NPDES permit considers dilution credits and a mixing zone in the receiving water resulting in the relaxation of effluent limitations for dichlorobromomethane (DCBM) and the removal of effluent limitations for aluminum. The Discharger has submitted an approved Mixing Zone and Dilution Study.

The tentative Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 21 February 2020 with comments due by 23 March 2020. No comments were received.

**d. SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES, BURNEY DIVISION, SHASTA County**

Sierra Pacific Industries (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Burney Division Sawmill (Facility), a sawmill and wood-burning cogeneration facility located in Shasta County, California. The cogeneration plant produces 20 megawatts (MW) of electric power. Sawmill operations consist of log scaling, wet and dry log storage, mechanical log debarking, sawmill, planning mill, kilns, lumber storage, aboveground storage of petroleum hydrocarbons, equipment fueling and maintenance, storage of used equipment, paved and unpaved roadways, a truck shop, and an office. The Facility discharges storm water to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States tributary to Burney Creek and the Pit River within the Lower Pit watershed.

Discharge from the Facility is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2015-0071, adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 1 August 2015.

An Order is proposed to renew the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The proposed NPDES permit will remove existing effluent limitations for settleable solids because the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to in-stream exceedances of the applicable water quality objectives for this constituent. Additionally, because the discharge consists solely of storm water runoff from the log deck, the proposed Order continues to implement industrial storm water action levels along with implementation of best management practices to regulate the discharge.

The tentative Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 20 February 2020 with comments due by 21 March 2020. No comments were received.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the NPDES Permits

**REVIEWS:**

Management Review:	
Legal Review:	DL
Date:	16 April 2020
Board Meeting Street Address:	Via Web Ex
Board Meeting City, State, Zip:	Rancho Cordova, CA 95670