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California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region

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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

ORDER NO. R9-2011-0043

AN ORDER MODIFYING ORDER NO. R9-2009-0105, WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT 11, BUCKMAN SPRINGS SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region (hereinafter San Diego Water Board), finds that:

1. On December 16, 2009, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2009-0105, which prescribes waste discharge requirements to the California Department of Transportation, District 11 (hereinafter Caltrans or Discharger) for the discharge of domestic wastewater and recreational vehicle tank holding waste from the septic tank/subsurface disposal system serving the Buckman Springs Safety Roadside Rest Area, San Diego County (Rest Area).
2. Section C.1 (Groundwater Monitoring) of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105 required Caltrans to construct monitoring wells for collection of groundwater samples for water quality analysis within 120 days of adoption of Order No. R9-2009-0105.
3. On July 19, 2010, Caltrans submitted a letter to the San Diego Water Board requesting postponement of construction of monitoring wells at the Rest Area. Caltrans reported that the Rest Area had been closed to the public for remodeling since April 5, 2010, and that the Rest Area restrooms and dumpstation have not been in use since the facility was closed.
4. On January 20, 2011, Caltrans submitted a monitoring well construction report to the San Diego Water Board documenting installation of monitoring wells at the Rest Area on December 15, 16, and 17, 2010. The report documented that the wells were installed in accordance with Section C.1.a-c (Groundwater Monitoring) of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105. Caltrans also reported that the Rest Area is tentatively scheduled to be reopened on June 1, 2011.
5. Section C.9 (Facility Design and Operation Specifications) of Order No. R9-2009-0105 required Caltrans to submit a water quality investigation by April 30, 2011 to fully assess the potential impacts of groundwater from the discharge to the Rest Area's septic tank/subsurface disposal system.
6. Since the Rest Area has been closed since April 5, 2010, postponing the date for submittal of a water quality investigation will enable Caltrans to collect sufficient effluent and groundwater samples to assess potential impacts to groundwater from the discharge to the Rest Area's septic tank/subsurface disposal system.

7. The Rest Area is an existing facility and as such is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000, *et seq.*) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, section 15301.
8. The San Diego Water Board has notified the Discharger and all known interested persons of the intent to modify Order No. R9-2009-0105.
9. The San Diego Water Board in a public meeting has heard and considered all comments pertaining to the proposed modifications to Order No. R9-2009-0105.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

Except as modified or superseded by modifications of Order No. R9-2009-0105 set forth below, all of the findings, prohibitions, provisions, specifications, and other requirements of Order No. R9-2009-0105 remain in full force and effect. The following modifications of Order No. R9-2009-0105 are hereby incorporated and immediately effective:

1. Finding No. 10 shall be modified as follows:

The discharge of wastes regulated under this Order is not expected to either degrade existing water quality or cause groundwater quality objectives to be exceeded downgradient of the property boundary. The Discharger, however, will complete a water quality investigation by ~~April 30, 2011~~ December 30, 2012 to fully assess the potential impacts of the discharge to groundwater. Upon completion of this investigation, modification of the requirements in this Order may be necessary to comply with the Basin Plan or Antidegradation Policy or both.

2. Finding No. 11 shall be deleted and subsequent findings shall be renumbered accordingly:

~~A deadline of April 30, 2011 for submittal of the results of the water quality investigation discussed in Finding 10 by the Discharger is reasonable because it gives the Discharger sufficient time to install groundwater monitoring wells, collect effluent and groundwater samples, and assess any threatened water quality impacts as a result of the discharge of waste to the leach field.~~

3. Section C.9 (Facility Design and Operation Specifications) shall be modified as follows:

The Discharger shall submit results of a water quality investigation by ~~April 30, 2011~~ that demonstrates whether or not the discharge of waste from the Rest Area will or will not cause groundwater beneath and downgradient of the site to exceed water quality objectives in the Basin Plan December 30, 2012 after

completion of a minimum of four consecutive quarters of sampling. The water quality investigation must demonstrate whether or not the discharge of waste from the Rest Area will or will not cause groundwater beneath and downgradient of the site to exceed water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The water quality investigation shall also demonstrate whether or not the discharge of waste complies with the State Antidegradation Policy. The State Antidegradation Policy requires that high quality waters are maintained to the maximum extent possible and that changes in water quality are only allowed if the change is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State, does not unreasonably affect beneficial uses, and does not result in water quality less than that prescribed in the Basin Plan.

In the event that the water quality investigation finds that the discharge of waste will cause an exceedance of water quality objectives, or finds that the discharge will not comply with the State Antidegradation Policy, the Discharger must submit a Report of Waste Discharge that proposes necessary measures that will be implemented in a timely manner to enable the discharge achieve compliance with the Basin Plan and the State Antidegradation Policy.

4. Section D.18 (Regional Board Address) shall be modified as follows:

~~Groundwater Basins Cleanup and Land Discharge Branch~~
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123

5. The following requirement shall be added to Tables 2, 3, and 4 of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105:

The Discharger shall collect initial effluent and groundwater samples in accordance with Sections B and C of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105 within 45 days of reopening the Rest Area. Subsequent effluent and groundwater samples shall be collected pursuant to Sections B and C of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105.

6. Section G (Report Schedule) of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105 shall be modified as follows:

An annual monitoring report shall be submitted to the San Diego Water Board by January 30 of each year. The annual monitoring report must contain results of all water quality samples collected within the previous calendar year, and must also include information specified in Sections D and E of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2009-0105.

Monitoring Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board in accordance with the following schedule:

Reporting Frequency	Report Period	Report Due
Annual	January – December	January 30

Monitoring reports shall be submitted to:

Groundwater Basins Cleanup and Land Discharge Branch
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123

7. All references to "Regional Board" are henceforth changed to "San Diego Water Board".

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on June 8, 2011.



David W. Gibson
Executive Officer