

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
May 9, 2012

ITEM: 5

SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Amendment: City of Oceanside Brine Discharge from the Mission Basin Desalting Facility to the Oceanside Ocean Outfall (Joann Lim)

PURPOSE: To amend Order No. R9-2011-0016, NPDES Permit No. CA0107433 with the adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042.

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042 is recommended.

KEY ISSUES: The modification to the monitoring and reporting requirements would result in an increase in the monitoring frequency for turbidity. The Tentative Order may be processed as a minor permit modification under section 122.63(b), title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

DISCUSSION: The City of Oceanside (City) currently discharges up to 22.6 million gallons per day of secondary treated effluent and waste brine into the Pacific Ocean through the Oceanside Ocean Outfall pursuant to Order No. R9-2011-0016 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0107433.

In January 2011, the San Diego Water Board adopted a Time Schedule Order (TSO), requiring the City to achieve compliance with the final effluent limitation for turbidity in the discharge from the Mission Basin Desalting Facility (MBDF). Compliance with this effluent limitation is currently determined using a 24-hour composite sample. On January 11, 2012, the City submitted a technical report that determined the likely cause for the elevated turbidity concentrations is dissolved ferric iron being converted to suspended ferrous iron in the stored 24-composite samples. The City requested an opportunity to begin monitoring the discharge using a continuous turbidimeter rather than using a 24-hour composite sampler. The City noted that the results from a continuous turbidimeter will

better represent turbidity levels throughout the 24-hour period.

The continuous turbidimeter is an acceptable methodology, frequently used in monitoring reclaimed water under Title 22, Article 6, Section 60321(b) of the California Code of Regulations and is also an acceptable technique for monitoring turbidity in NPDES Permits under 40 CFR 136, *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants Under the Clean Water Act*.

With the modification of the sampling technique, it is expected that the City will achieve full compliance with the turbidity effluent limits for the MBDF contained in Order No. R9-2011-0016.

The Tentative Order modifies Order No. R9-2011, 0016 as requested by the City in their January 11, 2012 report.

There were no comments received on the Tentative Order.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:

1. Location Map
2. Tentative Order No. R9-2012-0042

PUBLIC NOTICE:

On March 16, 2012, copies of the Tentative Order were mailed (via email) to the Discharger and to all known interested persons and posted on the San Diego Water Board's website.