

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Farhad Azimzadeh)
MEETING DATE: July 21, 2004

ITEM: 5.A

SUBJECT: **General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge or Reuse of Extracted and Treated Groundwater Resulting from the Cleanup of Groundwater Polluted by Volatile Organic Compounds** - Reissuance of NPDES General Permit

CHRONOLOGY: July 20, 1994 – NPDES general permit issued
July 21, 1999 – NPDES general permit reissued

DISCUSSION: This general permit regulates the discharge of extracted groundwater from the cleanup of sites polluted by volatile organic compounds (VOCs), usually solvents. It is one of two general permits for cleanup discharges; the other one is for fuel-leak cleanups and was reissued in 2001. There are currently 90 active discharges covered under the VOC general permit. Within the next five years, we expect about ten more groundwater cleanup sites will require coverage under this general permit. The Tentative Order (Appendix A) reissues the general permit and establishes effluent limits for the discharges based on best available technology (e.g., granular activated carbon or air stripping) and applicable water quality objectives.

The proposed general permit is very similar to the expiring NPDES permit. One key change is to make the permit consistent with the California Toxics Rule and the State Implementation Plan, something we did already for the fuel general permit. Other changes are summarized in the Fact Sheet (Appendix D, pp. 2-3). The reissuance of this general permit will allow staff to continue to expedite the processing of requirements, enable the Board to better utilize limited staff resources, and hasten the startup of groundwater cleanups.

We received written comments on the Tentative Order from eight dischargers or interested persons (Appendix B). We have responded to the comments (Appendix C) and have addressed most of the comments by making minor changes in the self-monitoring program. We expect the Tentative Order to remain uncontested.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: Adopt the Tentative Order

File No.: 1210.48(FA)

Appendices:

A - Tentative Order

B - Correspondence

C - Response to Comments

D - Fact Sheet

Appendix A - Tentative Order

Appendix B – Correspondence

1. E-Mail, June 09, 2004, Ryan Freeborn (Geomatrix) on behalf of various dischargers
2. E-Mail, June 22, 2004. Patrick Lacey (FSI)
3. Letter, June 24, 2004. Susan Gahry (PES) on behalf of SMI Holding, LLC
4. Letter, June 24, 2004. Susan Gahry (PES) on behalf of Plessey, Inc.
5. Letter, June 28, 2004. Susan Gahry (PES) on behalf of TDY Industries, Inc.
6. Letter, June 28, 2004. Pinaki Banerjee (MWH) on behalf of Lorentz Barrel and Drum
7. Letter, June 29, 2004. Patrick Lacey (FSI) on behalf of Velcon Filters
8. E-Mail, June 29, 2004. Sangeeta Goyal (LFR) on behalf of various dischargers

Appendix C - Response to Comments

Appendix D - Fact Sheet