

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Michael T. Chee)
MEETING DATE: September 13, 2006

ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: **Sanitary District No.1 of Marin County (a.k.a. Ross Valley Sanitary District), Marin County** - Hearing to Consider Imposition of Administrative Civil Liability for Discharge of Untreated Wastewater into Waters of the State

CHRONOLOGY: The Water Board has not previously considered this matter.

DISCUSSION: In December 2005, the District had a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO), totaling 472,600 gallons of untreated sewage to Corte Madera Creek. The SSO occurred as a result of a PG&E brownout and back-up emergency power failure at the District's pump station.

This SSO occurred during a severe storm event, estimated to be a 50-year storm event by the County of Marin. Because the SSO occurred during a storm, storm runoff and groundwater flowing into the collection system significantly diluted the raw sewage, thus making it less toxic than a similar volume SSO during dry weather. In addition, because high creek flows quickly carried the wastewater away, the impacts to the beneficial uses in the receiving water were greatly reduced. After considering these factors, we issued an administrative civil liability (ACL) in the amount of \$78,000, which includes \$8,000 in staff costs.

The District has signed a waiver to a hearing (Appendix B), and plans to implement a supplemental environmental project in an amount up to \$62,000 in lieu of an equal amount of the penalty.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: No action required.

File No.: 1210.57 (MTC)

Appendices: A. Complaint No. R2-2006-0034
B. Signed waiver

Appendix A

Appendix B

