

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (John H. Madigan)
MEETING DATE: August 8, 2007

ITEM: 12A and B

SUBJECT: Browning-Ferris Industries, Corinda Los Trancos (Ox Mountain) Landfill, Half Moon Bay, San Mateo County - Reissuance of NPDES Permit (12A), Hearing to Consider Cease and Desist Order (CDO) for Discharge in Violation of Waste Discharge Requirements (12B)

CHRONOLOGY: November 1993 - Permit Reissued

DISCUSSION: Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI) owns and operates the Corinda Los Trancos (Ox Mountain) Landfill, a municipal landfill near Half Moon Bay. Naturally-occurring groundwater polluted by infiltration into, or pollutants leaking from, a closed, unlined part of the landfill is collected and treated on-site prior to its discharge to Corinda Los Trancos Creek, which is a tributary to Pilarcitos Creek that drains to the Pacific Ocean.

BFI submitted comments (Appendix C) on a draft permit and companion Cease and Desist Order (CDO) distributed for review. Appendix D contains our responses to the comments received. We resolved most of BFI's comments, modifying the draft permit and CDO as appropriate. The modifications are reflected in the attached Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) and Revised Tentative CDO (Appendix B).

The most significant issue BFI raised was the tasks and time schedule to comply with the effluent limits on metals. Since BFI will be unable to immediately comply with effluent limits on copper, mercury, cyanide, nickel, silver, selenium, and vinyl chloride in the Revised Tentative Order, the CDO would establish tasks and a time schedule for BFI to come into compliance. BFI, in its comments on the CDO, proposed a two-year period to implement and evaluate a more rigorous sample collection and analytical protocol to characterize effluent metals concentrations prior to considering treatment system upgrades. While we agree that the effects of the improved sample collection and analytical protocol should be evaluated, one year is a reasonable amount of time to do so. Our responses and modifications resolve this and all other issues.

We expect the item to be uncontested.

RECOMMEND-
ATION:

Adoption of the Revised Tentative Order and Revised CDO.

File Number:

2179.7053 (JHM)

Appendices:

- A. Revised Tentative Order
- B. Revised Tentative CDO
- C. Comments
- D. Response to Comments

APPENDIX A

Revised Tentative Order

APPENDIX B

Revised Tentative Cease and Desist Order

APPENDIX C

Comments

APPENDIX D

Response to Comments