



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region
Bob Anderson, Chairman**

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Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

July 3, 2008

Steven Neill
City of Yreka
701 Fourth Street
Yreka, CA 96097

Dear Mr. Neill:

Subject: Notice of Violation of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2003-047 and State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2006-003-DWQ for the City of Yreka Wastewater Treatment Facility and California Water Code Section 13267 Request for Technical Report

File: Yreka Wastewater Treatment Facility, WDID No. 1A84073OSIS

This Notice of Violation serves as a notice that the City of Yreka is in non-compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2003-0047 (WDRs) due to a sanitary sewer overflow from the sewer collection system at East Miner Street in Yreka, California that occurred on June 30, 2008. The spill resulted in a violation of the following requirement of Order No. R1-2003-0047:

- Discharge Prohibition A3 of Order No. R1-2003-0047 which states: "Discharge of untreated waste from anywhere within the collection, treatment, or disposal facilities is prohibited."

The City's verbal report to Regional Water Board staff, as well as the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Report, dated June 30, 2008, described the spill as resulting in the discharge of approximately 4,000 gallons of raw sewage from the collection system, of which 2,500 gallons of raw sewage entered Yreka Creek, a tributary to the Shasta River.

The City's sanitary sewer system is enrolled under Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ (amended in 2008), Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems (Statewide Order), which also contains prohibitions against discharges of untreated wastewater to waters of the United States and requires dischargers to take all feasible steps to contain and mitigate the impacts of SSOs (Sanitary Sewer Overflows) and to prevent untreated wastewater from discharging from storm drains into waters of the United States.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Both the WDRs and the Statewide Order require that you provide spill reports within specific timeframes. Please ensure that you comply with the specified reporting requirements.

Section 13267 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authorizes the Regional Water Board Executive Officer to impose the following requirements on persons suspected of discharging waste that could affect the quality of waters within this region:

- Section 13267(a) - *“A regional board, in establishing or reviewing any water quality control plan or waste discharge requirements, or in connection with any action relating to any plan or requirement or authorized by this division, may investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region.”*
- Section 13267(b) - *“In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or proposes to discharge waste within its region...that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires.”*

Pursuant to section 13267 of the California Water Code, the City of Yreka is hereby required to submit, by no later than **September 1, 2008**:

- A copy of the City’s sewer collection system spill contingency plan.
- A copy of the City’s sewer collection system maintenance and capital improvement plan.

The spill contingency plan should, at a minimum, meet the requirements of Order No. R1-2003-047, and should address all potential spills that could result from the City’s operation of its wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system. The maintenance and capital improvement plan should include all pertinent City ordinances and/or policies related to restaurant grease interceptor requirements, staff inspection protocol and status of facility compliance with any existing ordinances.

The technical reports required by this letter are necessary to ensure the protection of water quality and the prevention of future sewer spills. Your timely submittal of the required technical reports will be taken into consideration with regard to any future enforcement actions contemplated by the Regional Water Board, including the possibility of an administrative civil liability complaint.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call John Short of my staff at (707) 576-2065.

Sincerely,

Luis G. Rivera
Assistant Executive Officer

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Certified-Return Receipt Requested

cc: Mr. Mike Moses, Environmental Health Director, Siskiyou County Health
Department, 806 South Main Street, Yreka, CA 96097

Captain William Arruda, Ca. Dept. of Fish and Game, 601 Locust Street, Redding,
CA 96001