

ITEM:

SUBJECT: Formica Corporation, Sierra Plant, Placer County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal and Cease and Desist Order.*

BACKGROUND: Formica owns and operates a distribution and manufacturing facility that handles high-pressure decorative plastic laminate. Press cooling water and press vacuum cooling water are detained in a 290,000 gallon earthen, unlined detention pond to provide some temperature equalization and particulate settling prior to discharge into a drainage ditch then an emergent marsh via both a subsurface culvert and elevation control outlet. Print and translucent air conditioning cooling water, treater unwind brake cooling water and treater end rolls cooling water are discharged directly into the drainage ditch via a separate culvert upstream of the outlet where the press cooling waters enter the ditch and the emergent marsh. Approximately 0.6 mgd of noncontact cooling water is discharged via a drainage ditch into an unnamed tributary of Pleasant Grove Creek and has resulted in the formation of the freshwater marsh at the point of discharge. The unnamed tributary is tributary to Pleasant Grove Creek, Pleasant Grove Creek Canal, Natomas Cross Canal, and the Sacramento River, south of the confluence with the Feather River.

Renewal NPDES Permit

The permit includes new limitations for dichlorobromomethane, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, aluminum, iron, total trihalomethanes, naphthalene, manganese, persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides, and total chlorine residual.

Cease and Desist Order

Formica requests a two-year compliance schedule for compliance with permit limitations to allow for cessation of the discharge. The Discharger also requests an additional three years be added to the compliance schedule if regulatory requirements or unexpected equipment issues require maintenance of the discharge beyond two years. In that case, the Discharger will be required to submit a workplan to the Regional Board by 29 April 2007 that proposes additional measures that will address potential impacts of the discharge and, once approved, the Discharger will implement that workplan promptly thereafter.

The proposed Cease and Desist Order is included to provide compliance time schedules for meeting aluminum, iron, total trihalomethanes, naphthalene, manganese, persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides limitations, and total chlorine residual Effluent Limitations and the Receiving Water Limitation for temperature in the proposed permit. Compliance time schedules included in the Order are based on the Discharger's request.

ISSUES: All of the issues have been resolved and the item is expected to be uncontested.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review _____

28-29 April 2005
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
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Rancho Cordova, CA 95670