

ITEM: 23

SUBJECT: City of Bakersfield and County of Kern; Storm Water Discharges From Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System; Kern County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Storm Water NPDES Permit Renewal (NPDES Permit No. CA0083399)*

BACKGROUND: The City of Bakersfield and County of Kern, hereafter jointly referred to as 'Discharger' and individually as 'Permittees', submitted an application requesting renewal of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 5-01-030, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0083399 (Permit) for discharges from the area-wide municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) to groundwater and to waters of the U.S.

The Permittees have jurisdiction over and/or maintenance responsibilities for a storm drainage system in the Bakersfield Urbanized Area. The system includes approximately 2 to 3 miles of major storm drain open channels and approximately 40 miles of major closed conduit conveyances. Approximately 80% of the Bakersfield Urbanized Area discharges storm water to terminal basins. Urban storm water runoff from the remaining 20% of the Bakersfield Urbanized area drains to the Kern River, East Side Canal, Carrier Canal, Stine Canal, and Kern Island Canal.

ISSUES: The Kern Delta Water District, the owner and operator of the East Side Canal, Stine Canal, and Kern Island Canal, provided written comments. The District notes it is the owner/operator of the canals. The District does not believe the canals are waters of the U.S. Additionally, the District is concerned that discharges from the MS4 may cause impacts to surface and groundwater that could be attributed to the District during implementation of the new irrigated lands waste discharge requirements.

Staff provided a response to the comments and made some minor changes to the Permit findings to address the Kern Delta Water District issues.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review ___APM___

5/6 December 2013
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