



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

August 31, 2010

ROGER BRIGGS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL REPORT AND COMPLIANCE TIME SCHEDULE, BOULDER
CREEK (CSA NO.7), SANTA CRUZ COUNTY – ORDER NO. 01-034

Dear Mr. Briggs:

This letter is in response to your letter dated June 22, 2010, regarding the Boulder Creek County Service Area No. 7 (CSA) wastewater plant's aeration tank. In that letter, you required that the County of Santa Cruz submit a technical report describing how the County proposes to evaluate the plant's condition and to effect any necessary repair or maintenance measures. You also required that the technical report include a proposed time schedule.

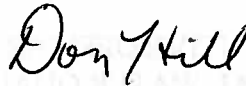
In 2006, the County contracted with Corrosion Engineering Associates in order to perform a site evaluation of the Boulder Creek wastewater plant and provide recommendations for mitigating any problems that were encountered. At that time, significant corrosion had been observed on both interior and exterior surfaces of the aeration tank structure. It was recommended that a cathodic protection system be installed in order to mitigate the existing corrosion activity. A cathodic protection system was installed in the following year (2007/2008 fiscal year). It is our understanding that the cathodic protection has eliminated further corrosion but that damaged areas still need to be repaired.

In addition, there were issues with force main breaks occurring between the treatment plant and the leach fields. The problem was evaluated by Larson Consulting and it was determined that a portion of the force main had exceeded its useful life and needed to be replaced. Due to limited funding, the force main replacement was considered to be the highest priority for this (CSA). This was addressed in fiscal year 2009/2010 by replacing the force main.

The current budget for Boulder Creek includes \$145,000 for treatment plant upgrades. This is anticipated to be more than enough funding for the aeration tank repairs to be completed. The re-coating of the aeration structure is anticipated to require that the aeration tank be emptied for a number of days in order to clean the corroded areas and apply a protective coating. Because of the high inflow/infiltration problems that have been experienced in this CSA, it is anticipated that the repairs will need to be completed in late spring or summer of 2011. The County will solicit bids for repairs and coating of the aeration tank by March 30, 2011 and plan to award a contract for the work by June 1, 2011.

Please be assured that the County is aware of the maintenance needs of the CSA and are implementing the measures needed in order to continue to treat wastewater in accordance with waste discharge requirements adopted by the Regional Board in Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 01-034. If you have any questions regarding this technical report, please call John Swenson, Operations Manager at (831) 477-3945.

Yours truly,



FOR /
JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
District Engineer

RLL:bbs/311.wpd

Copy to: Rachél Lather, Sanitation Engineer
John Swenson, Sanitation Operations