
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

30 December 2020

Karin Graves
Contra Costa Clean Water Program
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553-4825

APPROVAL OF THE PYRETHROID PESTICIDES MANAGEMENT PLAN AND BASELINE MONITORING APPROACH FOR CONTRA COSTA COUNTY STORM WATER DISCHARGERS WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

Dear Ms. Graves,

On 31 August 2020, the Contra Costa Clean Water Program (CCCWP), on behalf of the Cities of Brentwood, Antioch, and Oakley; the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District); and unincorporated Contra Costa County (County) (collectively referred to as the East County Permittees) submitted a letter to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) describing how the CCCWP's water quality monitoring and implementation of a pesticide toxicity control program meet the requirements of the Pyrethroids Basin Plan Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins for the Control of Pyrethroid Pesticide Discharges, Resolution R5-2017-0057 (Pyrethroid BPA).

The CCCWP serves all 19 cities and towns in Contra Costa County, plus the District and the County, in the administration of applicable National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits regulating the discharge from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). The East County Permittees are located entirely or partly within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Water Board; thus, Central Valley Water Board requirements that affect MS4 permittees are applicable to East County Permittees. On 6 January 2017, the Central Valley Water Board and San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Francisco Bay Water Board) designated the San Francisco Bay Water Board to regulate MS4 discharges from the East County Permittees. MS4 discharges from East County Permittees are currently regulated under the Municipal Regional Storm Water NPDES Permit (MRP), Order No. R2-2015-0049, as amended by Order No. R2-2019-0004, issued by the San Francisco Bay Water Board.

The Pyrethroid BPA requires MS4 permittees to develop and implement Pyrethroid Management Plans (PMPs) to reduce pyrethroid levels in their discharges to the

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

maximum extent practicable. The Pyrethroid BPA requires that the PMP identify a set of management practices that, taken as a whole, are reasonably expected to effectively reduce pyrethroid levels in discharges. The Pyrethroid BPA also lists management practices which must be considered for inclusion in a PMP.

Provision C.9 of the MRP requires implementation of a pesticide toxicity control program (Pesticide Control Program) by all permittees, including the East County Permittees. The elements of the Pesticide Control Program are consistent with Pyrethroid BPA requirements for a PMP and include all the management practices required to be considered for inclusion in a PMP. The Pesticide Control Program must also include annual progress reporting and a once-per-permit-cycle evaluation of the effectiveness of management practices and any improvements needed. Therefore, because the East County Permittees' Pesticide Control Program meets all Pyrethroid BPA requirements for PMPs, I approve this Program as a PMP to be implemented as required by the Pyrethroid BPA.

The Pyrethroid BPA also requires that MS4 permittees either complete baseline monitoring or, with Executive Officer approval, submit a report which demonstrates that the required water chemistry and toxicity testing data information has been collected. The data in the report needs to be sufficient to determine if discharges are exceeding the Pyrethroid BPA's Acute and Chronic Pyrethroid Triggers or if pyrethroid pesticides are causing or contributing to exceedances of the narrative water quality objective for toxicity in surface waters or bed sediments. The CCCWP's monitoring, as summarized in CCCWP's 31 August 2020 letter, has generated the information necessary to meet the Pyrethroid BPA baseline monitoring requirements. Therefore, the proposed 19 September 2022 submittal of a baseline monitoring report summarizing the required pesticide and toxicity information from the CCWP's monitoring is approved as an approach for meeting the baseline monitoring requirements of the Pyrethroid BPA.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Daniel McClure at (916) 464-4751 or Daniel.Mcclure@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer,
Central Valley Water Board

cc: Michael Montgomery, Executive Officer, San Francisco Bay Water Board
Thomas Mumley, Assistant Executive Officer, San Francisco Bay Water Board
Keith Lichten, Storm Water Program Manager, San Francisco Bay Water Board
Bryan Smith, P.E., Storm Water Program Manager, Central Valley Water Board
Elizabeth Lee, Central Valley Water Board