

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding, CA 96002

PUBLIC HEARING
concerning

Consideration of Renewal of Waste Discharge Requirements
(National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0004391)
for

**COLLINS PINE COMPANY
CHESTER SAWMILL
PLUMAS COUNTY**

The Collins Pine Company owns and operates a sawmill and cogeneration power facility in portions of Sections 6, 7 and 8, T28N, R7E, MDB&M and Section 12, T28 N, R6E, MDB&M with surface water drainage to Stover Ditch, a tributary to Lake Almanor. The Discharger diverts up to 3 million gallons per day (mgd) of water from the North Fork Feather River. Approximately 780,000 gallons per day (gpd) of water is used in the power plant and sawmill and the remaining bypasses the facility. The facility consists of a sawmill, planing mill, wood fired steam-generating power plant, and wet and dry decks for log storage. Wastes generated from the facility include cooling tower blowdown water, electrostatic precipitator water, boiler mud drum blowdown water, boiler steam drum blowdown, compressor cooling water, feedwater pump cooling water, demineralizer and reverse osmosis concentrate, front ash hopper overflow, ash, wood waste, and storm water runoff. Effluent from the fire pond and ash settling pond discharges to Stover Ditch, a tributary to Lake Almanor. This Order requires the Discharger to perform additional studies (copper and lead constituent study and a salinity evaluation and minimization plan). Interim effluent limits will be established for copper and lead, with a final effluent limit that will be protective of the beneficial uses of Stover Ditch and Lake Almanor. The Discharger operates a closed-loop recycle sprinkling system on a 40-acre log deck. Log deck runoff contains bark, sawdust, tannins and lignins, dissolved organics, settleable, and suspended solids. No water from this recycle system is discharged to surface waters. The Discharger's mailing address is: The Collin Companies – Collins Pine Company, Chester Sawmill, P.O. Box 796, Chester, CA 96020. The discharge from the Facility is currently regulated under existing Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2004-0012 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0004391. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge and requested renewal of the existing NPDES permit. Staff recommends the Regional Water Quality Control Board adopt the NPDES permit regulating the discharges from the Collins Pine facility.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) meeting, which is scheduled for:

DATE: **5/6 February 2009**
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Known designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Staff of the Regional Water Board
- Collins Pines Company

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Regional Board and must be received no later than **noon on 5 January 2009**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item must submit evidence and/or comments in writing to the Regional Board no later than **noon on 5 January 2009**. Written evidence or comments submitted after **noon on 5 January 2009** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record, unless the Regional Board agrees to accept the evidence or comments and if doing so would not prejudice any party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Regional Water Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross-examination will be limited in time by the Regional Board Chair.

Anyone having questions regarding this issue should contact Greg Cash at (530) 224-3208. Interested parties may download the proposed Orders and related documents from the Regional Board Internet website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/. The proposed item and related documents may also be inspected and copied at the Regional Board's office at 415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding, California, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. You may contact **Greg Cash at (530) 224-3208** to arrange to review the files.

The procedures governing Regional Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Board's website at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml or by contacting any one of the Regional Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

James C. Pedri, P.E.
Assistant Executive Officer

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