Statement of Basis - FINAL
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT NO. CA0084280

Permittee's Name:	Table Mountain Rancheria WWTP
Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA 93626
Plant Location:	8184 Table Mountain Road Friant, CA 93626
Contact Person	Richard Rodriguez, WWTP Manager (559) 822-2485 Ext. 7411

I. Status of Permit

The Table Mountain Rancheria has submitted a timely application for renewal of its NPDES permit. The current permit became effective on January, 18, 1998. This is a classified as a minor permit.

II. General Information

Table Mountain is a 200 acre Rancheria located 7 miles east of the town of Friant, Fresno County, California.

III. Facility Information

The waste water treatment plant (WWTP) serves a population of approximately 10,000, largely originating from the tribal casino. The facility also serves about 30 private residential connections and a church, and does not accept wastewater from any industrial facilities. Wastewater generated from the casino includes sewage, restaurant washwaters, and blowdown from the air conditioning system. Only chlorine is used in the cooling towers for the air conditioning system.

The existing WWTP was completed in 1997, and consists of a sequencing batch reactor, tertiary treatment through sand filtration, and chlorination. The design flow is 0.1 mgd. In 2002 the average annual daily flow rate was 0.078 mgd. Treated effluent is pumped to a 500,000 gallon holding tank located above the WWTP. A portion of the effluent is utilized as water supply for cooling towers, and is then spray irrigated. The remainder of the effluent is used directly for spray irrigation. The spray irrigation is utilized on over 20 acres of tribal cropland and spray fields. There have been no historical discharges of the WWTP effluent to surface waters, although the potential exists for a discharge during storm events.

The Tribe is in the process of constructing a new WWTP for the casino. The treatment system has a design flow of 0.5 mgd with a peak flow of 1 mgd. The raw wastewater is fairly high strength with an influent BOD_5 concentration of approximately 650 mg/L due to water use in the casino. The new WWTP consists of two sequencing batch reactors at 500,000 gallons each. The average retention time in the SBRs at design flows will be 57.0 hours. Approximately 25% of each batch will be decanted and pumped to a holding tank. The decant from the holding tank will be sent to 3 rapid mix sand filters with polymer addition. Backwash from the sand filters will be sent back to the headworks. Effluent from the sand filter is sent to a series of UV disinfection units.

The SBR tanks are enclosed and equipped with a vapor collection system. The vapors are pumped to a wet scrubber to control odor emissions. The wet scrubber blowdown is returned to the headworks of the treatment plant.

Final effluent is pumped up to the top of the hill to two 500,000 gallon storage tanks. (One of these was used for the previous WWTP, and an addition tank is being built for the new WWTP). During the summer, effluent will be used at the existing spray fields and up to 50,000 gpd is used for the casino's air conditioning unit. The Tribe must also maintain 300,000 gallons of storage at all times for firefighting. For these uses, the Tribe must maintain a chlorine residual of 0.2 mg/L. During winter months, the evapotranspiration of the spray fields may not be sufficient to dispose of all effluent. Therefore, the Tribe anticipates discharging effluent through outfall point, 005 during winter months.

Sludge generated from the sequencing batch reactors will be sent to an aerobic digester and then sent off site for composting.

IV. Receiving Water

An unnamed tributary to Little Dry Creek runs next to the WWTP, passes around the casino, and runs for approximately 7.5 miles until connecting with Little Dry Creek, which is about 1.0 mile from the continuous flow in the San Joaquin River. The unnamed wash was observed to contain a small flow during the summer that originates from a spring located about 100 yards upstream of the discharge point. The spray fields are located on upland areas approximately ½ mile from the unnamed tributary. The rate of disposal is equivalent to 0.16 inches per day to soils that can accept as much as 0.4 inches per hour, although during summer much of the water is evaporated before entering the soil. It is unclear to what extent the spring in the tributary is dependent on groundwater recharge from the spray fields. The tributary may occasionally receive inputs of treated wastewater through sheet flow during storm events.

The Tribe does not have approved water quality standards for discharges to waters located on the Table Mountain Rancheria. However, the discharge of wastewater from the WWTP is to a tributary of Little Dry Creek, which eventually flows to the San Joaquin River. Therefore, water quality standards applicable to the San Joaquin River and its tributaries are applicable to the discharge, and EPA has applied water quality standards based on the "Water

Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins - Fourth Edition - 1998", as adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and hereafter referred to as the Basin Plan

The Basin Plan on page II-2.00 states: "Existing and potential beneficial uses which currently apply to surface waters of the basin plan are presented in Figure II-1 and Table II-1. The beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams". Therefore, the beneficial uses designated for the unnamed tributary to Little Dry Creek surface water body are those that apply to the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to Mendota Pool and are listed as : Agricultural supply (AGR), Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN), Industrial Service Supply (IND), Industrial Process Supply (PRO), Water Contact Recreation (REC-1), Non-contact Recreation (REC-2), Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM), Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD), Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR), Spawning, Reproduction, and/or early Development (SPWN) and Wildlife Habitat (WILD).

V. Description of Discharge

The discharge will be tertiary treated municipal wastewater. Disinfection will be by UV disinfection prior to discharge to Little Dry Creek, tributary to the San Joaquin River.

No discharge has occurred from the existing WWTP due to 100% land application. The new WWTP is expected to discharge during winter months when not 100% land application is not practical. The permit application lists the following design paramaters[1] for the new treatment system:

Pollutant or parameter	Influent Concentration	Influent Mass	Effluent Concentration	Effluent Mass
BOD_5	500 mg/L	2,085 lbs/day	<10 mg/L	42 lbs/day
TSS	500 mg/L	2,085 lbs/day	<10 mg/L	42 lbs/day
TKN	80 mg/L	334 lbs/day	<10 mg/L Total Nitrogen	-
NH4-N	50 mg/L	209 lbs/day	< 20 mg/L NH3-N	-

[1] Source US Filter Omniflow® Sequencing Batch Reactor "Resubmittal for Record" dated 12/18/03

VI. Regulatory Basis for NPDES Permit Effluent Limitations

Section 301(a) of the Clean Water Act provides that the discharge of any pollutant to waters of the United States is unlawful except in accordance with an NPDES permit. Section 402 of the Act establishes the NPDES program. The program is designed to limit the discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S. from point sources (40 CFR 122.1 (b)(1)) through a combination of various requirements including technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations.

1. Technology-based effluent limitations

The regulation under Section 125.3(c)(2) states: "Technology based treatment requirements may be imposed on a case-by-case basis under Section 402(a) of the Act, to the extent that EPA promulgated effluent limitations are inapplicable." The regulation allows the permit writer to consider the appropriate technology for the category or class of point sources and any unique factors relating to the applicant.

The minimum levels of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment for Settleable Solids, as specified in the EPA Region IX Policy memo dated May 14, 1979, are listed below:

30-day average - 1 ml/l
Daily maximum - 2 ml/l

The minimum levels of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment for Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and pH, as defined in 40 CFR 133.102, are listed below:

BOD:
Concentration-based Limits
30-day average - 30 mg/l
7-day average - 45 mg/l
Removal Efficiency - minimum of 85%

Mass-based Limits
30-day average - (30 mg/l)(1.0 mgd)(8.34 conversion factor) = 250 lbs/day
7-day average - (45 mg/l)(1.0 mgd)(8.34 conversion factor) = 375 lbs/day

TSS:
Concentration-based Limits
30 - day average - 30 mg/l
7 - day average - 45 mg/l
Removal efficiency - Minimum of 85%

Mass-based Limits

30-day average - (30 mg/l)(1.0 mgd)(8.34 conversion factor) = 250 lbs/day
7-day average - (45 mg/l)(1.0 mgd)(8.34 conversion factor) = 375 lbs/day

pH:

Instantaneous Measurement: 6 - 9 standard units (s.u.)

2. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Sections 402 and 301(b)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act require that the permit contain effluent limitations to meet water quality standards. 40 CFR 122.44(d) provides that an NPDES permit must contain:

"Water quality standards and State requirements: any requirements in addition to or more stringent than promulgated effluent limitations guidelines or standards under sections 301, 304, 306, 307, 318 and 405 of CWA necessary to:
(1) Achieve water quality standards established under section 303 of the CWA, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Section 40 CFR § 122.44 (d) (i) states the following:
"Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

40 CFR 122.44 (d) (1) (ii) states:
"When determining whether a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an in-stream excursion above a narrative or numeric criteria within a State water quality standard, the permitting authority shall use procedures which account for existing controls on point and non-point sources of pollution, the variability of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in the effluent, the sensitivity of the species to toxicity testing (when evaluating whole effluent toxicity) and where appropriate, the dilution of the effluent in the receiving water."

40 CFR122.44 (d)(1) (iii) states:
"When the permitting authority determines using the procedures in paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, that a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause or contributes to an in-stream excursion above the allowable ambient concentration of a State numeric criteria within a State water quality standard for an individual pollutant, the permit must contain effluent limits for that pollutant."

Guidance for the determination of reasonable potential to discharge toxic pollutants is included in both the *Technical Support Document for Water Quality Based Toxics Control (TSD)* - Office of Water Enforcement and Permits, U.S. EPA, dated March 1991 and the *U.S.EPA NPDES Permit Writers Manual* - Office of Water, U.S. EPA, dated December 1996. EPA's technical support document contains guidance for determining the need for permit limits. In doing so, the regulatory authority must satisfy all the requirements of 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(ii). In determining whether the discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants, the regulatory authority must consider a variety of factors. These factors include the following:

- Dilution in the receiving water,
- Existing data on toxic pollutants,
- Type of industry,
- History of compliance problems and toxic impacts,
- Type of receiving water and designated use.

Therefore, based on WWTP operations and projected waste water quality data provided in the application, EPA conducted a "reasonable potential" analysis to compare effluent discharges to water quality standards, as required by 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(ii), (iii) and (iv).

A. Dilution in the receiving water

Discharges from outfall 005 is to Little Dry Creek. Little Dry Creek may have no natural flow during certain times of the year. Therefore, no dilution of the WWTP effluent has been considered in the development of effluent limits.

B. Existing data on toxic pollutants

No discharge of effluent has been reported during the previous permit term and therefore there is no data on toxic pollutants.

The new treatment plant is designed to meet the following effluent concentrations:

BOD_5 < 10 mg/l
TSS < 10 mg/l;
Total Nitrogen < 10 mg/l.

The effluent is designed to meet California “Title 22" disinfection standards for the re-use of wastewater, although treatment to this level is not a requirement of the permit. Title 22 requires that for spray irrigation of food crops, parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and other areas of public access, wastewater be adequately disinfected, oxidized, coagulated, clarified, and filtered and that the effluent total coliform levels not exceed 2.2 MPN/100 ml as a 7-day median. The spray irrigation fields in use are located on private property not generally accessible to the

public.

The WWTP serves very few residential customers, and most all flows originate from sanitary uses at the casino. No industrial sources discharge to the WWTP, although there is a restaurant in the casino. Wastewater recycled in the casino's air conditioning unit is not treated with any chemical to prevent fouling (only chlorine is used). Therefore, it is not expected that toxic pollutants will be present in the effluent at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a water quality exceedance. However, the permittee will be required to conduct a full scan of priority pollutants within 90 days of discharge from the new treatment plant and yearly thereafter. Reasonable potential will be re-evaluated at this time and the permit may be re-opened to incorporate new water quality based limits as necessary.

C. Type of Industry

Typical pollutants of concern in untreated and treated domestic wastewater include ammonia, nitrate, oxygen demand, pathogens, temperature, pH and solids. Chlorine and turbidity may also be of concern due to treatment plant operations.

D. Receiving Water

As described in Section IV of this Statement of Basis, numeric water quality standards that apply to Little Dry Creek are:

MUN, AGR, INDUSTRY-PROC, REC-1, REC-2, FW HABITAT-WARM/COLD, SPWN-WAMR/COLD, and WILD.

No effluent data is available for the discharge from the Permittee, therefore, EPA evaluated typical pollutants and applicable water quality standards to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

E. Rationale for Effluent Limitations

EPA evaluated the typical pollutants expected to be in WWTP discharge effluent and selected the most stringent of applicable technology-based standards or water quality-based effluent limitations. Where effluent concentrations of toxic parameters are unknown or are not reasonably expected to be discharged in concentration that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to water quality standards, EPA has established monitoring requirements in the permit. This data will be re-evaluated and the permit re-opened to incorporate effluent limitations if necessary.

Ammonia

Treated and untreated domestic wastewater may contain levels of ammonia that are toxic to aquatic organisms. Ammonia is converted to nitrate during biological nitrification process, and then nitrate is converted to nitrogen gas through biological denitrification process. The WWTP will be operated to nitrify and denitrify ammonia present in the waste stream.

USEPA's Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life recommends acute and chronic criteria that are pH dependent. Due to the potential for ammonia

to be present in sanitary wastewater and due to the conversion of ammonia to nitrate, effluent limitations are established for ammonia.

Nitrate

Treated and untreated domestic wastewater may contain levels of ammonia that are toxic to aquatic organisms. Ammonia is converted to nitrate during biological nitrification process, and then nitrate is converted to nitrogen gas through biological denitrification process.

The primary MCL for protection of MUN is 10 mg/L and the USEPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health is also 10 mg/L for non-cancer effects. Due to the potential for ammonia to be present in sanitary wastewater and due to the conversion of ammonia to nitrate, effluent limitations are established for nitrate (measured as N).

Total Dissolved Solids/Electrical Conductivity

To protect the beneficial uses of water for agriculture uses, studies by the United Nations have recommended a goal of 700 *u*mhos/cm[1] . The California Department of Health Services has recommended an SMCL for EC of 900 *u*mhos/cm, with an upper level of 1600 *u*mhos/cm and a short term level of 2200 *u*mhos/cm.

In the Basin Plan, numeric water quality objectives have been established for the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to Mendota Pool. The Basin Plan does not establish numeric objectives for dissolved solids in this reach.

Dissolved solids have been identified as a pollutant impairing the San Joaquin River on the 303(d) in the lower reaches of the San Joaquin. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is currently considering an amendment to the Basin Plan and the establishment of a TMDL for the control of dissolved solids in the San Joaquin Watershed. Studies conducted by the RWQCB indicate that the majority of dissolved solids is primarily caused by the non-point sources such as return flows from irrigated agriculture.

Due to lack of discharge data from the previous permit, it is unknown at this time if the discharge from the new WWTP will have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. Due to previous studies conducted by the RWQCB on the origin of dissolved solids impairment , it is unlikely that the WWTP will be a significant contributor of dissolved solids to the lower San Joaquin River. Therefore, the draft permit establishes monthly monitoring requirements for EC and TDS to assess reasonable potential and the potential for future waste load allocations.

pH:

The basin plan requires that a pH of 6.5-8.5 must be met at all times and the changes in normal ambient pH level no exceed 0.5 units. This is more stringent than technology based requirements for pH, therefore, this limit is included in the permit.

Total Coliform:

Based on the nature of WWTP effluent, there is a reasonable potential for total coliform to violate water quality standards. Based on REC-1 Beneficial Use total coliform concentration

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[1]("Water Quality for Agriculture" By Ayers and Westcot, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1985)"

based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period shall not exceed 200/100 ml, nor shall more than 10%of the total number of samples during any 30-day period exceed 400/100 ml - 10% of samples for 30-day period. Based on MUN standards, total coliform must not exceed 2.2 /100mL in a 7 day median. Since the MUN is the most stringent standard, this limit is included in the permit.

Total Residual Chlorine:

Chlorine is not used to disinfect WWTP effluent which is disinfected through the use of filtration and UV disinfection. However, chlorine is added to wastewater stored in one of the 500,000 gallons storage tanks in order to maintain a chlorine residual of 0.2 mg/l for spray irrigation and wastewater re-use (firefighting and air conditioning).

Chlorine is known to cause toxicity to aquatic organisms when discharged to surface waters. Therefore, the use of chlorine at the facility presents a reasonable potential that it could be discharged in toxic concentrations even though it is not used for primary disinfection. In order to prevent the discharge of wastewater containing chlorine to surface waters, chlorine will not be added to one of the storage tanks when discharge is anticipated. The permit will require the operator to maintain a log documenting chlorine addition to the tanks.

US EPA recommends, in the Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Fresh Water Aquatic Life, that chlorine concentrations not exceed 0.02 mg/l as a 1-hour average or 0.01 mg/l as a 4-day average. Due to chlorine usage in the storage containers at a level above the water quality criteria, effluent limitations for chlorine have been included in the permit.

Dissolved oxygen

The basin plan contains the requirement that dissolved oxygen not be reduced below 7.0 mg/L based on COLD and SPWN beneficial uses. Therefore, this is included in the permit.

Toxicity:

The basin plan includes that language that “All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physicological responses in human, plant, animal or aquatic life.” No Whole Effluent Toxicity tests have been performed on the WWTP effluent. Therefore, the permit requires yearly monitoring for toxicity based on Whole Effluent Toxicity Procedures to assess the reasonable potential of the discharge to have toxic effects on aquatic organisms.

Turbidity:

A technology based limit for turbidity has been established to ensure that the treatment system is operating properly and to ensure that the fecal coliform standards are met on a consistent basis.

3. <u>Narrative water quality standards</u>:

The following narrative water quality standards contained in the permit are based upon water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan.

The discharge shall not cause the following in downstream waters:

1. The fecal coliform concentration, based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period, to exceed a geometric mean of 200 MPN/100 mg/L or cause more than10 percent of total samples taken during any 30-day period to exceed 400 MPN/100 mg/L.

2. Biostimulatory substances that promote aquatic growths in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

3. Esthetically undesirable discoloration.

4. Concentrations of dissolved oxygen to fall below 7.0 mg/L. The monthly median of the mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration shall not fall below 85 percent of saturation in the main water mass, and the 95th percentile concentration shall not fall below 75 percent of saturation.

5. Floating material to be present in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

6. Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials to accumulate in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the water surface or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

7. The ambient pH to fall below 6.5, exceed 8.5, or change by more than 0.5 units. A one-month averaging period may be applied when calculating the pH change of 0.5 units.

8. Radionuclides to be present in concentrations that harm human, plant, animal or aquatic life; or that result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

9. Deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

10. Taste- or odor-producing substances to impart undesirable tastes or odors to domestic or municipal water supplies or to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin or to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

11. The ambient temperature to increase more than 5°F.

12. Toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments, or biota in

concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses; that produce detrimental response in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life; or that bioaccumulate in aquatic resources at levels which are harmful to human health.

13. The turbidity to increase as follows:
    a. More than 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs) where natural turbidity is between 0 and 5 NTUs.
    b. More than 20 percent where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs.
    c. More than 10 NTUs where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs.
    d. More than 10 percent where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs.
    When wastewater is treated to a tertiary level (including coagulation) or equivalent, a one-month averaging period may be used when determining compliance with Receiving Water Limitation E.13.a.

14. Aquatic communities and populations, including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species, to be degraded.

VII. Monitoring Requirements

1. Priority Pollutants

The discharger must conduct a comprehensive screening test for the Priority Toxic Pollutants listed for the California Toxics Rule in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR Section 131.38, within 90 days of discharge from the new treatment plant. If an exceedance of the limits, or a reasonable potential for exceedance of such limits is detected, further testing of that or those particular compound(s) must be undertaken within 90 days to determine the cause of exceedance or potential exceedance and this permit may be re- opened to require appropriate limits.

2. Whole Effluent Toxicity

The permit establishes tests for toxicity for both acute and chronic.

Acute toxicity will be conducted through 96-hour acute toxicity tests on two species; *Daphnia magna* (acute toxicity only) and the fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* using 100% effluent and a control. The permittee must follow the USEPA 5th edition manual, "Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms" (EPA/821-R-02-012) for all acute compliance toxicity testing.

Chronic toxicity testing evaluates reduced growth/reproduction at 100 percent

effluent. Chronic toxicity is to be reported based on the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC). The permittee shall conduct short-term tests with the water flea, *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (survival and reproduction test), the fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* (larval survival and growth test) and the green alga, *Raphidocelis subcapitata* (growth test). The presence of chronic toxicity shall be estimated as specified by the methods in the 40 CFR Part 136.3 as amended on November 19, 2002.

VIII. Changes from previous permit

Major changes from the previous permit include the following:

- The new permit eliminates Outfall 002 "Leach field" as a discharge because the Tribe is no longer utilizing the leachfield.

- A new WWTP is being built that is expected to begin discharge in the fall of 2004. The new WWTP increases design flow to 0.5 mgd.

- The new permit establishes a new Outfall 005 for anticipated discharge directly to an unnamed tributary of Little Dry Creek.

- The previous permit established effluent limits for BOD_5, TSS, total coliform, pH and Settleable Solids. The new permit adds effluent limits for the following: Total Residual Chlorine, Ammonia, Nitrate, Turbidity, and establishes monitoring for Total Dissolved Solids, Electrical Conductivity, Whole Effluent Toxicity and the Priority Pollutants.

- The new permit incorporates additional monitoring requirements for toxic and priority pollutants.

IX. Special Conditions

The Permittee shall implement best management practices to safeguard against erosion from the discharge.

As described above, the permittee only uses chlorine to maintain a residual in tanks for re-use. Therefore, the permit requires that the permittee maintain a log of chlorine residual in storage tanks and shall ensure that chlorine residual is less than 0.01 mg/L in the storage tank at time of discharge.

As described above, there are no industrial facilities discharging to the WWTP. Therefore, there are no pretreatment requirements in this permit.

X. Threatened and Endangered Species

EPA transmitted a no effect determination for federally listed threatened and endangered species to US Fish and Wildlife Service on October 27, 1997.

XI. Permit Reopener

The permit contains a reopener clause to allow for modification of the permit if reasonable potential is demonstrated during the life of the permit.

XII. Standard Conditions

Conditions applicable to all NPDES permits are included in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 122.

XIII. Administrative Information

Public Notice (A.A.C. R18-9-A907)
The public notice is the vehicle for informing all interested parties and members of the general public of the contents of a draft NPDES permit or other significant action with respect to an NPDES permit or application. The basic intent of this requirement is to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to comment on significant actions of the permitting agency with respect to a permit application or permit. This permit will be public noticed in a local newspaper after a pre-notice review by the applicant and other affected agencies.

Public Comment Period (A.A.C. R18-9-A908)
Rules require that permits be public noticed in a newspaper of general circulation within the area affected by the facility or activity and provide a minimum of 30 calendar days for interested parties to respond in writing to EPA. After the closing of the public comment period, EPA is required to respond to all significant comments at the time a final permit decision is reached or at the same time a final permit is actually issued.

Public Hearing (A.A.C R18-9-A908(B))
A public hearing may be requested in writing by any interested party. The request should state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised during the hearing. A public hearing will be held if the Director determines there is a significant amount of interest expressed during the 30-day public comment period, or if significant new issues arise that were not considered during the permitting process.

XIV. Additional Information

Additional information relating to this proposed permit may be obtained from the following locations:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

CWA Standards & Permits Office Mail Code: WTR-5
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105-3901
Telephone: (415) 972-3518
Attn: John Tinger

XV. Information Sources

While developing effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and special conditions for the draft permit, the following information sources were used:

1. Water Quality Control Plan for the State of California, Region 5, Water Quality Control Board, December 4, 1994.

2. EPA Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control dated March 1991.

3. U.S. EPA NPDES Basic Permit Writers' Manual, December 1996.

4. 40 CFR Parts 122, 131, and 133.

5. Interim Final Regions 9 and 10 Guidance for Implementing Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Program, May 31, 1996.

6. Environmental Assessment, Conveyance of Fee Status Property to Federal Trust, Construction of 14 Single Family Housing Units and Associated Infrastructure, Affecting Assessors Parcels #300-290-09, 300-290-11, and 300-270-06 (Approximately 61.19 Acres), Table Mountain Rancheria, Fresno, California, January 29, 1997.

7. Permittee's submittals to EPA dated December 16, 1996 and January 13, 1997, which included facility history and treatment plant performance data.

8. Correspondence dated December 5, 1997 from California Department of health Services recommending fecal coliform effluent limitation of 2.2 MPN/100 ml and weekly monitoring during time of discharge to protect drinking water well operated by Fresno County Service Area No. 34.

9. NPDES renewal application, dated December 19, 2002.

10. Permittee submittals: U.S. Filter Omniflow® Sequencing Batch Reactor "Resubmittal for Record" dated 12/18/03.