

AZPDES PERMIT NO. AZ0025313

Pursuant to A.C.C. R18-9-B906, on April 14, 2016, ADEQ received an application from the City of Buckeye for modification of the Central Buckeye Wastewater Treatment Plant's AZPDES Permit (AZ0025313) which became effective on March 27, 2015. The request for modification includes two significant changes. The first change is to add two additional outfalls (003 and 004) to the permit, and the second request is to clarify the description of the previously permitted outfall (002) for the record.

The Central Buckeye Wastewater Treatment Plant (CBWWTP) is a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). The facility treats typical domestic sewage generated by residents of the City of Buckeye. Section 208 of the Clean Water Act requires that a certified Regional Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) be completed as part of the approach to protecting the State's water quality. The 208 WQMP has been amended to reflect the proposed amendment to the CBWWTP AZPDES permit. The addition of two new outfalls has been certified by ADEQ as consistent with Arizona's Continuing Planning Process (CPP) and the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) WQMP, and approved by U.S. EPA on March 22, 2016.

No changes are proposed at this time to the treatment process at the CBWWTP.

The receiving water for Outfall 002 is a lateral of the Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District (BWCDD) Canal, which flows approximately one half mile south where it enters the Arlington Canal. Both the Arlington Canal and the BWCDD are tributary to the Gila River in the Middle Gila River Basin. Based on the volume and continuous nature of the discharge in conjunction with the effluent entering the Arlington Canal very quickly after being discharged, the applicable designated use applied to the discharge is Agricultural Livestock Watering (AgL), which is the use applicable to the Arlington Canal. Outfall 002 is located on the east side of 7th Street (Norton Drive), across from the CBWWTP. This section of the Middle Gila River is listed as Impaired for selenium and boron, and a TMDL was completed in 2015. New effluent limits have been included in the permit for all outfalls for selenium and boron based on waste load allocations for the CBWWTP.

The receiving water for proposed Outfall 003 is the Roosevelt Canal and the designated uses for this segment of the canal are: Agricultural Irrigation (AgI) and Agricultural Livestock Watering (AgL). Roosevelt Irrigation District (RID) has a Groundwater Savings Facility (GSF) that is permitted by Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to accept up to 60,000 acre-feet of effluent annually into the Roosevelt Canal, and deliver it as renewable water supply. The City of Buckeye has a Water Storage Permit for RID's GSF, which allows the City to deliver up to 5,000 acre-feet (1,629 million gallons) of A+ effluent annually to the Roosevelt Canal and receive Long-Term Storage Credits (LTSCs) in return for the effluent used by RID customers to reduce groundwater pumping. Outfall 003 is located adjacent to the City of Buckeye Sundance Water Reclamation Facility.

The receiving water for proposed Outfall 004 is the main Buckeye Canal. The applicable designated uses applied to the discharge for this segment of the canal are: Agricultural Irrigation (AgI) and

Agricultural Livestock Watering (AgL). Outfall 004 is located on the west side of Dean Road, about ¼ mile south of Southern Avenue.

Antidegradation

Antidegradation rules have been established under A.A.C. R18-11-107 to ensure that existing surface water quality is maintained and protected. The discharge from Central Buckeye Wastewater Treatment Plant will be to a canal, which is subject to Tier 1 antidegradation protection. Effluent quality limitations and monitoring requirements have been established under the permit to ensure that the discharge will meet the applicable water quality standards. As long as the permittee maintains consistent compliance with these provisions, the designated uses of the receiving water will be presumed protected.

These changes are considered a major modification. This proposed modification will be public noticed for a 30-day comment period prior to issuance of the final permit.