



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 24, 2016

Mr. Michael LaCavera, General Manager
Vopak Terminal Long Beach, Incorporated
3601 Dock Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Dear Mr. LaCavera:

CHANGE OF VENUE, RESPONSE TO COMMENTS, REVISED TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT – VOPAK TERMINAL LONG BEACH, VOPAK TERMINAL LONG BEACH INC., SAN PEDRO, CA (NPDES NO. CA0064165, CI NO. 7873)

On February 20, 2016, we transmitted the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for the Vopak Terminal Long Beach. Regional Board staff considered your comments submitted on March 4, 2016, and March 18, 2016, on the tentative permit. Enclosed are the Response to Comments (RTC) and the revised pages 16, F-4, and F-5 in the revised tentative permit (dated March 23, 2016) that reflects changes addressed in the RTC. Other portions of the revised tentative permit are not enclosed since they remain unchanged from the February 20, 2016 version of the revised tentative permit. Changes on the revised pages appear in the strikeout/underline format.

In the February 20, 2016 letter, we also informed you that the April 14, 2016, Board Hearing would be held at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Board Room, 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California, at 9:00 a.m. **The venue of the public hearing has now been changed to the Council Chambers of the City of Simi Valley, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, California.** The Board Hearing time remains the same. The Board will hear any testimony pertinent to this newly revised tentative Order. It is expected that the Board will take action at the hearing; however, as testimony indicates, the Board, at its discretion, may order further investigation.

The Board Meeting agenda will be available on the Los Angeles Regional Board website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> approximately two weeks prior to the April 14, 2016 Board Meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Gensen Kai at (213) 576-6651.

Sincerely,

Cassandra D. Owens, Chief
Industrial Permitting Unit

Enclosures

IRMA MUÑOZ, CHAIR | SAMUEL UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

320 West 4th St., Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

♻️ RECYCLED PAPER

Mr. Michael LaCavera
Vopak Terminal Long Beach
Vopak Terminal Long Beach Inc.

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March 24, 2016

cc: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Permits Branch (WTR-5)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service
Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mr. William Paznokas, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5
State Water Resource Control Board, Drinking Water Division
California Coastal Commission, South Coast Region
Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works
Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health
Ms. Rita Kampalath, Heal the Bay
Mr. Bruce Reznik, Los Angeles WaterKeeper
Ms. Becky Hayat, Natural Resources Defense Council
Ms. Laura West, Natural Resources Defense Council
Ms. Kristy Allen, Tetra Tech

Vopak Terminal Long Beach, Incorporated
Vopak Terminal Long Beach
(NPDES NO. CA0064165)

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Response to Comments

Vopak Terminal Long Beach, Inc.
 Vopak Terminal Long Beach
 (NPDES Permit No. CA0064165)
 Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements

# ¹	Comment ²	Agree	Disagree	Reply	Action Taken
3-4-16 1	<p>The Discharger requested clarification on the applicability of AMEL to the discharges from Vopak Terminal Long Beach.</p> <p><i>AMEL resampling procedure on pg. 16 for when the AMEL is exceeded seems to be not applicable to our permit and situation. We have no single sample AMELs that are monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually. Generally, we may discharge once or twice per month. We couldn't even pull four samples at equal intervals during the month because our discharges are completely dependent on rainfall. Can you please explain how and why this applies to Vopak?</i></p>		x	<p>The federal NPDES regulations require that daily maximum effluent limits and average monthly effluent limits are used for continuous discharge. The subject NPDES permit allows discharge of process wastewater mixed with storm water, which results in flows for multiple days during the month. Therefore, it is appropriate to provide both daily maximum and average monthly effluent limitations in this NPDES permit.</p>	None needed.
3-18-16 AM 1	<p>The Discharger indicated in a telephone discussion with Regional Board staff that some specifics in the tentative Order were not applicable to the dischargers from Vopak Terminal Long Beach. Staff requested the Discharger to propose suggestions for revision on the implementation of Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL) as in page 16 of the tentative Order.</p> <p><i>1. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, does not exceed the AMEL of that constituent, the Discharger has demonstrated</i></p>	x		<p>Staff agrees to the proposed change with some minor modifications.</p>	Modified requirements on page 16 of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

Notes:

1. Date, time, and order of comment submitted as shown in the Comment Letters section of the Board Agenda package.
2. The Discharger's specific requests stated in its comment emails are all quoted in this Response to Comments and formatted in italic font. Explanatory contexts are in regular font.

# ¹	Comment ²	Agree	Disagree	Reply	Action Taken
	<p><i>compliance.</i></p> <p><i>2. If the analytical result of a single sample monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, exceeds the AMEL of that constituent, the Discharger will collect an additional samples as the Discharger is able to on a weekly basis for any/all subsequent discharges for the month that occur. All analytical results shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month, or 45 days after results for the additional samples were received, whichever is later.</i></p> <p><i>When all sample results are greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Reporting Requirement I.G. of the MRP), the numerical average of the analytical results of these five samples will be used for compliance determination.</i></p> <p><i>When one or more sample results are reported as "Not-Detected (ND) or "Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)" (see Reporting Requirement I.G. of the MRP), the median value of the samples collected shall be used for compliance determination. In the case of only two samples for a monthly period and one or any of the values is ND or NDQ, the AMEL will be the mean of the ML of the constituent showing ND or DNQ and the value of the samples that are quantifiable.</i></p> <p><i>3. If only one sample was obtained for the month or more than a monthly period and the results exceeds the AMEL; then the discharger is in violation of the AMEL.</i></p>				
3-18-16 PM 1	<p>The Discharger requested a correction on the comment submitted earlier.</p> <p><i>I just noticed in #2, paragraph two, there is a reference to five samples. I should have listed it as the "Numerical average of any samples collected during the month period" rather than the five samples taken.</i></p>	x		Staff agrees to the proposed change.	Modified requirements on page 16 of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

# ¹	Comment ²	Agree	Disagree	Reply	Action Taken
3-4-16 2	<p><i>Table E-4 on page E-13 notes that Nitrogen, pH, Salinity, and Temperature are to be monitored on a 1/semiannual basis, whereas everything else is annual. Do you know why the monitoring of our receiving water for these parameter was changed from annually on our old permit to semiannually on the proposed permit? Also, there is no definition of what semiannually means. Again, because our discharges are completely dependent upon rainfall, we may not have the opportunity to sample semiannually at equal intervals as we don't know when rainfall will occur. In the past, we have gone 6-9 months between discharges and having a semiannual requirement will be difficult for us to determine when we would have to sample.</i></p>		x	<p>The purpose of monitoring these parameters is to provide data to calculate the water quality objective for ammonia. The monitoring frequencies of these parameters have been changed from annually in the existing order to semi-annually in the proposed order. As per the permit the sampling should occur once between January 1 and June 30 and a second sample between July 1 and December 31. If there are no discharges from the facility, Footnote 1 to Table E-4 on page E-13 indicates that no receiving water sampling is required.</p>	None needed.
3-4-16 3	<p><i>Page F-4 No. 5 notes that T-511 is used for the storage of trichlorethylene. This is incorrect. The tank schedule I sent over during the review process notes that the tank is empty and was last in caustic service, so this reference should be removed.</i></p>	x		<p>Comment noted. Requested update will be implemented.</p>	<p>Modified requirements on page F-4 of the Attachment F – Fact Sheet.</p>
3-4-16 4	<p><i>Page F-5 No. 11 notes that if stormwater doesn't meet effluent requirements, it will be stored in 4 storage tanks and eventually sent off for disposal. We only have 2 tanks tapped for emergency water storage at the facility.</i></p>	x		<p>Comment noted. Requested update will be implemented.</p>	<p>Modified requirements on page F-5 of the Attachment F – Fact Sheet.</p>

Vopak Terminal Long Beach, Incorporated
Vopak Terminal Long Beach
(NPDES NO. CA0064165)

COMMENT LETTERS

Kai, Gensen@Waterboards

From: Chris Blatter <chris.blatter@vopak.com>
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 9:46 AM
To: Kai, Gensen@Waterboards
Subject: Questions about Proposed Order R4-2016-XXXX - Vopak Terminal Long Beach Inc.

Hello Gensen,

I've reviewed the tentative permit that you sent over and have a few questions/comments that I'd like to review. Below you can find the issues:

1) AMEL resampling procedure on pg. 16 for when the AMEL is exceeded seems to be not applicable to our permit and situation. We have no single sample AMELs that are monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually. Generally, we may discharge once or twice per month. We couldn't even pull four samples at equal intervals during the month because our discharges are completely dependent on rainfall. Can you please explain how and why this applies to Vopak?

2) Table E-4 on page E-13 notes that Nitrogen, pH, Salinity, and Temperature are to be monitored on a 1/semiannual basis, whereas everything else is annual. Do you know why the monitoring of our receiving water for these parameter was changed from annually on our old permit to semiannually on the proposed permit? Also, there is no definition of what semiannually means. Again, because our discharges are completely dependent upon rainfall, we may not have the opportunity to sample semiannually at equal intervals as we don't know when rainfall will occur. In the past, we have gone 6-9 months between discharges and having a semiannual requirement will be difficult for us to determine when we would have to sample.

3) Page F-4 No. 5 notes that T-511 is used for the storage of trichlorethylene. This is incorrect. The tank schedule I sent over during the review process notes that the tank is empty and was last in caustic service, so this reference should be removed.

4) Page F-5 No. 11 notes that if stormwater doesn't meet effluent requirements, it will be stored in 4 storage tanks and eventually sent off for disposal. We only have 2 tanks tapped for emergency water storage at the facility.

Feel free to call me or if you like, you can respond via email. If you have any questions, let me know.

Thanks,

Chris B

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 Chris Blatter | SHEQ Manager - West Coast | T: 310-221-5957 | M: 310-982-3149 | E: chris.blatter@vopak.com

Vopak Terminal Los Angeles Inc. | 401 Canal Street, Wilmington, California 90744, United States | www.vopak.com

Kai, Gensen@Waterboards

From: Chris Blatter <chris.blatter@vopak.com>
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 11:08 AM
To: Kai, Gensen@Waterboards
Subject: Re: Questions about Proposed Order R4-2016-XXXX - Vopak Terminal Long Beach Inc.

Hi Gensen,

As discussed on our call, I am providing suggested language regarding the AMEL compliance determination on Page 6 Section E. Here is what I propose for the procedure:

- 1. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, does not exceed the AMEL of that constituent, the Discharger has demonstrated compliance.**
- 2. If the analytical result of a single sample monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, exceeds the AMEL of that constituent, the Discharger will collect an additional samples as the Discharger is able to on a weekly basis for any/all subsequent discharges for the month that occur. All analytical results shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month, or 45 days after results for the additional samples were received, whichever is later.**

When all sample results are greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Reporting Requirement I.G. of the MRP), the numerical average of the analytical results of these five samples will be used for compliance determination.

When one or more sample results are reported as "Not-Detected (ND) or "Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)" (see Reporting Requirement I.G. of the MRP), the median value of the samples collected shall be used for compliance determination. In the case of only two samples for a monthly period and one or any of the values is ND or NDQ, the AMEL will be the mean of the ML of the constituent showing ND or DNQ and the value of the samples that are quantifiable.

- 3. If only one sample was obtained for the month or more than a monthly period and the results exceeds the AMEL; then the discharger is in violation of the AMEL.**

Let me know your thoughts on this proposal.

Chris B

Kai, Gensen@Waterboards

From: Chris Blatter <chris.blatter@vopak.com>
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 6:07 PM
To: Kai, Gensen@Waterboards
Cc: Owens, Cassandra@Waterboards
Subject: Re: Questions about Proposed Order R4-2016-XXXX - Vopak Terminal Long Beach Inc.

Thanks Gensen.

I just noticed in #2, paragraph two, there is a reference to five samples. I should have listed it as the "Numerical average of any samples collected during the month period" rather than the five samples taken.

Sorry for the oversight. I was writing this quickly and missed that portion in my haste to get you a response quickly.

Chris B

Vopak Terminal Long Beach, Incorporated
Vopak Terminal Long Beach
(NPDES NO. CA0064165)

**PAGES WITH REVISIONS
FROM THE REVISED TENTATIVE ORDER**

1. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
2. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

E. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)

If the average (or when applicable, the median determined by subsection 2 above for multiple sample data) of daily discharges over a calendar month exceeds the AMEL for a given parameter, this will represent a single violation; though the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for each day of that month for that parameter (e.g., resulting in 31 days of non-compliance in a 31-day month). If only a single sample is taken during the calendar month and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the AMEL, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that calendar month. For anyone calendar month during which no sample (daily discharge) is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar month.

In determining compliance with the AMEL, the following provisions shall also apply to all constituents:

1. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, does not exceed the AMEL for that constituent, the Discharger has demonstrated compliance with the AMEL for that month;
2. If the analytical result of a single sample monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, exceeds the AMEL for any constituent, the Discharger shall collect **additional samples as the Discharger is able to on a weekly basis for any/all subsequent discharges for the month that occur.** ~~four additional samples at approximately equal intervals during the month. All analytical results for samples collected during the month period All five analytical results~~ shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month, or 45 days after results for the additional samples were received, whichever is later.

When all sample results are greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Reporting Requirement I.G. of the MRP), the numerical average of the analytical results of ~~all these five~~ samples collected will be used for compliance determination.

When one or more sample results are reported as "Not-Detected (ND)" or "Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)" (see Reporting Requirement I.G. of the MRP), the median value of ~~these four~~ samples collected shall be used for compliance determination. If one or both of the middle values is ~~NDQ~~ or DNQ, the median shall be the lower of the two middle values.

- ~~3. In the event of noncompliance with an AMEL, the sampling frequency for that constituent shall be increased to weekly and shall continue at this level until compliance with the AMEL has been demonstrated.~~
- ~~4.3.~~ If only one sample was obtained for the month or more than a monthly period and the result exceeds the AMEL; then the Discharger is in violation of the AMEL.

F. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitations (MDEL)

2010-0018 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0064165 adopted on February 4, 2010. The Order expired on January 10, 2015. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. The State Water Board retains the jurisdictional authority to enforce such requirements under Water Code section 1211.

- C. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge and submitted an application for reissuance of its WDRs and NPDES dated July 7, 2014. The application was deemed complete on January 15, 2016. Staff from the consultant for U.S. EPA, PG Environmental, LLC and the Regional Water Board visited the site on November 19, 2014 and October 16, 2015, respectively to observe operations and collect additional data to develop permit limitations and requirements for waste discharge.

II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Facility receives shipments of bulk liquid chemicals by rail and tanker ships. The Facility has 55 aboveground storage tanks to store biodiesel, chlorinated solvents, non-halogenated solvents, caustics, organic liquids, amines, oil, and petroleum distillates. Tanker trucks are then filled from the storage tanks with the final products for distribution.

A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls

Wastewaters discharged from the Facility are mainly storm water runoff through the operation areas where potential sources of pollutants may exist. Compressor condensate water, fire system test water, truck rinse water, and boiler blowdown are also discharged with the storm water.

A brief description of the operation areas of the Facility is listed below:

1. **Railcar Off-Loading Area** – Hazardous chemicals are off-loaded from railroad cars and transferred to the aboveground storage tanks in this area.
2. **Marine Tanker Off-Loading Area** – Two spill pans are located on the dock for the purpose of containing spills or leaks.
3. **Tank Truck Loading Area** – This area consists of five truck scales, four of which are located in scale pits, and the fifth being completely aboveground. A sixth loading spot is located on the east side of the Facility. All six loading areas have concrete secondary containment features.
4. **Hydrostatic Test Area** – This area is used for pressure testing of marine tanker transfer piping. Accumulated storm water can be drained from the secondary containment area through a manual valve.
5. **Surfaces Near or On Tanks T-511 and T-218** – These tanks are used for the storage of chemicals with toxic characteristics, T-511 being used for the storage of trichloroethylene and T-218 being used for the storage of tetrachloroethylene.
6. **Hazardous Waste Storage Pad** – Small containers of chemical product samples are stored in walk-in storage cabinets and some waste handling takes place in this area.
7. **Aboveground Storage Tank Confinement Areas** – All storage tanks are used for the storage of chemicals.

8. **Forklift Truck Maintenance Area** – This area is used for the maintenance of forklift trucks and on-site vehicles. These operations involve the use of lubricating oils, solvents, and paints.
9. **Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) Load Station** – This area consists of two bays of concrete containment and features automated self-loading by trained Facility employees.
10. **Off-Loading Gasoline Station #6** – This station receives gasoline via tank truck and features concrete containment.
11. **Drum Storage Area** – Drum storage areas are for the storage of chemical additives and empty drums. Chemical additives are stored within the former naphthyl unloading area and empty drums are stored within a bermed area.

The Facility uses a system of dikes and drains to direct storm water flows to a centralized sump pump. If there is a need to discharge accumulated storm water, the sump pump directs the storm water to the Facility treatment system prior to discharge. The treatment system, as shown in Attachment C, consists of chlorination (injector pump and reaction tank), filtration (sand and bag filters), adsorption (granular activated carbon vessels and MetalPROOF vessels).

After the treatment, representative water samples are taken and tested for compliance with the NPDES discharge requirements prior to discharge. If the accumulated storm water doesn't meet effluent limitations, then it is stored in one of ~~two~~ four tanks and eventually transported off-site for disposal. Generally the loading, off-loading, and storage areas within the Facility have secondary containment systems in place in case of product spillage in those areas. Accumulated storm water in these areas can be drained and sent to the centralized sump pump. Compressor condensate water, fire system testing water, and truck rinse water are also directed to the centralized sump pump and treated if discharge is necessary.

The Discharger requested to include boiler blowdown in the permit renewal. Prior to this Order, all boiler blowdown was hauled off-site for contracted disposal. For this Order, boiler blowdown will be conveyed to the treatment system and will result in an additional 5,000 to 10,000 gallons of effluent per month. Boiler blowdown will be discharged only during periods of storm water discharge and will continue to be hauled off-site during dry periods.

The treatment system design flow is 288,000 GPD. During the term of Order R4-2010-0018 the Facility had 10 discharge events. The average daily flow reported for these events varied from 25,206 GPD to 114,993 GPD demonstrating that the system has sufficient capacity for boiler blowdown.

B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

1. Description of Discharge Points

The Facility intermittently discharges wastewater through Discharge Point 001 (Latitude 33.7645639°, Longitude -118.2419639°) into the Cerritos Channel, within the Long Beach Inner Harbor, both waters of the United States.

C. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data

1. Effluent limitations contained in Order R4-2010-0018 for discharges from Discharge Point 001 at Monitoring Location EFF-001, and representative monitoring data from the term of the Order are as follows:

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