



# Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 9, 2014

## **Cambria CSD Announces Updated Start-Up Schedule for Emergency Water Supply Project**

**Approximate production date is moved to December 22 as district finalizes permit requirements**

CAMBRIA, CA – The Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) today announced a revised start-up schedule for its Emergency Water Supply project on San Simeon Creek Road. The start of production for CCSD customers is now expected to begin approximately on December 22, 2014, two weeks later than originally forecast.

Primary issues leading to the startup delay include:

- **Completion of financial assurance provisions covering operation of evaporation pond.** Under terms of its Title 27 permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), the CCSD must provide a “financial assurance mechanism” covering the reasonable and foreseeable cost of corrective action if the evaporation pond fails to perform as specified in the permit. The specific process and related documents are being finalized following detailed discussions between the CCSD, RWQCB and the CCSD’s insurance carrier; the CCSD expects this to be completed very soon.
- **The need to increase the flow to the CCSD percolation pond during the EWS commissioning period.** Under the waste discharge order modification approved by the RWQCB on November 14, 2014, the project is allowed to discharge up to 84,000 gallons per day of filter backwash water to the percolation pond (which is also used to dispose of the CCSD’s treated wastewater effluent). During the advanced water treatment plant’s commissioning, the plant will discharge up to 9.5 million gallons of treated groundwater over a 17-day to three-week period. This resulted in the need for an additional permitting step (a waiver) before the plant commissioning could begin. The waiver covering this was issued by the RWQCB on December 2, 2014.
- **Completion of the permitting process for discharge of 100 gallons per minute of highly treated mitigation water on the ground near the head of the San Simeon Creek lagoon.** On December 8, the RWQCB’s issued a low-threat National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for this discharge, which includes detailed monitoring and reporting requirements.
- **The need for additional automated sampling equipment to meet the monitoring requirements in the Title 22 permit and a subsequent Operations Maintenance and Monitoring Plan (OMMP).** The OMMP, now being finalized, will require automated sampling of certain flow streams for water quality monitoring purposes. The CCSD has authorized its contractor, CDM Smith Constructors Inc., to order and install the automated monitoring equipment. In the meantime, the contractor has asked the RWQCB to allow regular grab sampling (instead of more automated sampling) of water quality.

In addition to these permitting activities, the CCSD and its contractor are continuing to work on less critical items, including the completion of a frog barrier around the entire perimeter of the evaporation pond. The CCSD and the contractor are also working on means to better screen and paint the facilities to improve the aesthetics. These enhancements will not delay start-up of the EWS.