UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10



1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

Reply To Attn Of: OWW-130

APR 3 0 2008

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Jeff Tucker Principal Engineer PacifiCorp 1407 W. North Temple, #330 Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

RE: Coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General

Permit for Groundwater Remediation Discharge Facilities in Idaho

PacifiCorp Idaho Falls Pole Yard, ID-G91-0004 (formerly ID-002656-5)

Dear Mr. Tucker:

This letter authorizes the PacifiCorp Idaho Falls Pole Yard groundwater remediation facility to discharge to the Snake River at River Mile 795, located in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Enclosed are the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for your facility. The permit number assigned to the facility is ID-G91-0004. Please use this number in all future correspondence and reports.

The facility is currently discharging into waters where federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species, or designated or proposed critical habitat are present, which is an excluded area prohibited under the general permit (Part I.E.5) unless a waiver is obtained consistent with the permit requirements. According to the Notice of Intent (NOI) submitted by PacifiCorp on September 27, 2007, the Utah Valvata snail (*Valvata utahensis*) an endangered species, and the Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) a candidate species, exist in the vicinity of the discharge. As required by the general permit, PacifiCorp submitted a Biological Evaluation (BE) to EPA on January 17, 2008, to assist with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). On April 4, 2008, EPA received a letter from USFWS concurring with EPA's determination that the discharge from the PacifiCorp Idaho Falls Pole Yard facility may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect Utah valvata snails and will not affect Yellow-billed cuckoo. The concurrence letter from USFWS is also enclosed.

In accordance with Part I.F.6 of the general permit, because a waiver is necessary for PacifiCorp to discharge to an excluded area, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) has issued an individual CWA Section 401 water quality certification for the Idaho Falls Pole Yard facility. The CWA §401 certification is enclosed with this authorization letter.



Groundwater remediation facilities discharging under the authority of the NPDES general permit must keep a copy of the permit and this coverage letter at the remediation facility where the discharges occur, or retain a copy of the permit at the nearest administrative or field office managing the remediation operation.

Please contact Hanh Shaw of my staff at (206) 553-0171 or via email at shaw.hanh@epa.gov if you have any questions regarding this authorization letter or the general permit.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Lidgard, Manager

NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures:

(1) Effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for PacifiCorp Idaho Falls

Pole Yard facility

- (2) Concurrence letter from USFWS, dated April 4, 2008
- (3) IDEQ's CWA Section 401 water quality certification, dated April 21, 2008

cc: Troy Saffle, IDEQ Idaho Falls Regional Office Johnna Sandow, IDEQ State Office

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS, MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Effluent Limitations

- During the effective period of this general permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the restrictions set forth herein. This general permit does not authorize the discharge of any waste streams, including spills and other unintentional or non-routine discharges of pollutants, that are not part of the normal operation of the facility as disclosed in the permit application and/or NOI, or any pollutants that are not ordinarily present in such waste streams.
- 2. The permittee must not discharge hazardous materials in concentrations that pose a threat to public health or impair the beneficial uses of the receiving water.
- 3. The permittee must not discharge chemicals or toxic pollutants in concentrations that impair the beneficial uses of the receiving water.
- 4. The permittee must not discharge deleterious materials in concentrations that impair the beneficial uses of the receiving water.
- 5. The permittee must not discharge floating, suspended or submerged matter of any kind in concentrations causing nuisance or objectionable conditions or that may impair the beneficial uses of the receiving water.
- 6. The permittee must not discharge excess nutrients that can cause visible slime growths or other nuisance aquatic growths impairing beneficial uses of the receiving water.
- 7. The effluent pH range must be between 6.5 and 9.0 standard units.
- 8. Since the Snake River is designated for cold water uses, the maximum temperature limit of 19°C applies.
- 9. Discharges must comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in Table 1.
- 10. Dilution of effluent as a form of treatment, or as a means of complying with concentration-based effluent limitations is prohibited.

Table 1. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Effluent Limit	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	30.0 mg/l	Quarterly	grab
Benzo(a) Anthracene 1	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Benzo(a) Pyrene ¹	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Benzo(b)Fluoranthene 1	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene 1	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Chrysene ¹	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene 1	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Indeno(1,2,3-cd) Pyrene ¹	0.0028 μg/l ³	Quarterly	grab
Acenaphthene ²	(200 µg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Acenaphthylene ²	(200 µg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Anthracene ²	(200 μg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Benzo(ghi) Perylene ²	(200 µg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Fluoranthene ²	(200 μg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Fluorene ²	(200 μg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Naphthalene ²	100 μg/l	Quarterly	grab
Phenanthrene ²	(200 μg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Pyrene ²	(200 μg/l total Group II PAHs)	Quarterly	grab
Flow	Report	Continuous	recording
Temperature	19°C	Quarterly	grab
pH	6.5 – 9.0 s.u. (at all times)	Quarterly	grab

¹ Group I – Carcinogenic PAHs
² Group II – Non Carcinogenic PAHs
³ Although the maximum value for the individual Group I PAH compounds is 0.0028 μg/l, the compliance limits are equal to the minimum level (ML) of the test method used as listed in Attachment B of the NPDES General Permit.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Eastern Idaho Field Office 4425 Burley Dr., Suite A Chubbuck, Idaho 83202 Telephone (208) 237-6975 http://IdahoES.fws.gov



APR 0 4 2008

Hanh Shaw NPDES Permits Unit U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

Subject: National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for

Discharge Facilities in Idaho for the PacifiCorp Pole Yard, Idaho Falls, Idaho

File # 600.0000 TAILS # 08-I-0243

Dear Ms. Shaw:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is writing to provide concurrence with your determination of effects on listed species for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Discharge Facilities in Idaho for the PacifiCorp Pole Yard, Idaho Falls, Idaho. In a letter dated March 21, 2008, and received by the Service on March 24, 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested concurrence with its determination that the proposed NPDES permit may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect Utah valvata snails (*Valvata utahensis*), documented within the accompanying Biological Assessment (Assessment) for the NPDES permit. Additionally, the Service acknowledges your determination that the NPDES permit will not affect yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). Additional information regarding the proposed action and more specific details of the NPDES permit was received via email from EPA on April 3, 2008. This letter is provided in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act).

The proposed NPDES permit would authorize PacifiCorp to discharge treated groundwater from their water treatment facility directly to the Snake River at river mile 795. PacifiCorp would be required (through the NPDES permit) to meet Idaho Water Quality Criteria at the end of pipe (i.e., no mixing zone is authorized). Additionally, actual discharge permitted via the NPDES permit (0.37 cfs) would comprise only 0.008 percent of the average mean daily flow, 0.02 percent of minimum mean daily flow, and 0.003 percent of maximum mean daily flow in the Snake River at the action area. Furthermore, effluent limits required as a part of this permit, are more stringent than previous permits issued to PacifiCorp. Quarterly sampling of all constituents authorized for discharge through the NPDES permit also is required as part of issuance of the NPDES permit.

Based on the information provided in the Assessment, conversations held with Hahn Shaw with EPA, and follow-up information provided to the Service via email, the Service concurs with EPA's determination that the NPDES permit may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect Utah valvata snails. Per the NPDES permit, Idaho Water Quality Criteria must be met at the end of pipe and discharge represents less than $1/10^{th}$ of 1 percent of minimum flows in the Snake River. As such, discharge associated with the NPDES permit is insignificant and discountable. This consultation and associated concurrence deals solely with the issuance of the NPDES permit, other activities associated with future actions of PacifiCorp's pole yard would be subject of separate section 7 consultation.

This concludes informal consultation under section 7 of the Act for the issuance of the NPDES permit authorizing discharge into the Snake River. Please contact the Service to verify the above determination is still valid if: 1) the project is changed or new information reveals effects of the action to a listed species to an extent not considered in the letter; or 2) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the project.

We appreciate your conscientious efforts to comply with Federal requirements. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Sandi Arena of this office at 208-237-6975 ext. 34.

Sincerely,

Damien Miller, Supervisor Eastern Idaho Field Office



900 North Skyline Drive, Suite B • Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402 • (208) 528-2650

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor Toni Hardesty, Director

April 21, 2008

Mr. Jeff Tucker Principal Engineer PacifiCorp 1407 W North Temple. #330 Salt Lake City, Utah

RE: DEQ § 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR PACIFICORP IDAHO FALLS POLE YARD FACILITY

Dear Mr. Tucker:

We have reviewed your application for permit, resulting correspondence between yourself and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as well as a recent Biological Evaluation (BE) from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Your permit seeks to discharge water under the General Permit for Groundwater Remediation and requires an individual water quality certification. This water quality certification is issued under the authority of Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and its Amendments (Clean Water Act) and IDAPA 58.01.02 and IDAPA 58.01.02.054.04 and 05.

This certification does not relieve the applicant of responsibility for obtaining any other approvals, licenses or permits in accordance with federal, State, or local requirements and does not authorize commencement of the proposed project. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (Department) has determined from a review of the plans that this project should not significantly increase any pollutants and therefore will not violate Idaho's water quality standards and other applicable requirements of state law.

This § 401-certification decision may be appealed pursuant to the Idaho Environmental Protection and Health Act, Idaho Code § 39-107(5) and the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act. Such an appeal is a prerequisite to any district court action and must be initiated by filing a petition for a contested case in accordance with the Rules of Administrative Procedure before the Department of Environmental Quality Board (IDAPA 58.01.23) within thirty-five (35) days of the date of the Department's decision regarding the 401 certification.

The certification holder shall comply with the conditions listed below:

- 1. Within one-hundred eighty days (180) of the date of this certification, the holder shall conduct an on-site facility review with the Department;
- 2. Submit a copy of quarterly discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to this office; and

SCANNED

3. Shall photo document the discharge location during quarterly sampling to verify the lack of excessive visible slime or nuisance plant growth. Photos shall be provided to the Department with DMR submission or via email.

Water Quality Certification provided herein shall be revoked for failure to comply with the conditions outlined above. Revocation shall become effective upon written notice to the holder and all activities authorized shall immediately cease until holder obtains another Certification from Department.

If Department can clarify any portions of this Certification, please do not hesitate to contact me at 208-528-2650.

Sincerely,

Troy Saffle

Regional Water Quality Manager Idaho Falls Regional Office

c: Hahn Shaw, US EPA

ec: Doug Conde, DAG Johanna Sandow, DEQ