

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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ORDER NO. R7-2009-0300
NPDES NO. CAG997001

**GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND
GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
FOR LOW THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS
WITHIN THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

A Discharger, as described in the following table, who has complied with the requirements for coverage under this General Board Order, is authorized to discharge wastes, once permit coverage is effective, as described in this General Board Order.

For the purposes of this General Board Order, references to the terms, *Discharger*, *Permittee*, or *Enrollee* in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policies are held to be equivalent to the term, *Discharger*, herein.

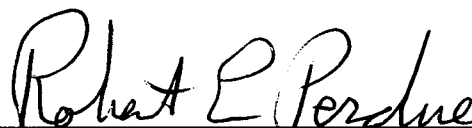
Table 1. Discharger Information

Dischargers	Individuals and miscellaneous public and private entities discharging or proposing to discharge low threat wastewaters to surface waters of the Colorado River Basin Region are hereafter referred to as <i>Discharger</i> and are subject to the terms and conditions of this General Board Order. Low threat discharges are (a) treated or untreated, (b) clean or relatively pollutant-free, and (c) pose an insignificant threat to water quality.
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Table 2. Administrative Information

This General Board Order was adopted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board on:	November 19, 2009
This General Board Order shall become effective on:	November 19, 2009
This General Board Order shall expire on:	November 18, 2014

I, Robert Perdue, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this General Board Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of a General Board Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on November 19, 2009.



Robert Perdue, Executive Officer

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I. DISCHARGE INFORMATION

A. Individuals, public agencies, private business, and other legal entities occasionally need to discharge treated or untreated wastewaters directly into surface waters of the United States that pose an insignificant or minimal threat (i.e., low threat) to water quality. Examples of activities producing such low threat discharges are categorized below. See section III.B. of this General Board Order for a longer list of examples within these activity categories.

1. **Water System-Related Activities.** Water treatment (including water recycling) facilities, industries, and other entities that maintain and operate potable or non-potable water systems occasionally need to release water to surface waters. Example activities include, but are not limited to, hydrostatic testing and disinfection of vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances; designed or planned pressure releases or flushing; and fire hydrant testing or flushing.

Discharges of hydrostatic test water were previously authorized under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) General Board Order No. 98-300, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG677001, NPDES Permit and General WDRs for Discharge of Hydrostatic Test Water to Surface Waters (a Colorado River Basin Region-wide General Permit). General Board Order No. 98-300 was rescinded on March 19, 2009. Discharges of hydrostatic test water may be authorized to discharge under this General Board Order.

2. **Dewatering Activities.** Entities discharging treated or untreated groundwater from permanent or temporary dewatering operations to construct or protect pipelines and other structures from groundwater infiltration or flotation.

3. **Groundwater Extraction Activities.** Entities involved in investigating or cleaning up sites with soil and/or groundwater pollution may extract groundwater that later needs to be discharged to surface waters. Low threat wastewaters are often generated when these entities drill, construct, and purge wells.

4. **Other Low Threat Discharge Activities.** Public and private entities may engage in other miscellaneous activities that result in low threat discharges to surface waters, including, but not limited to, pilot treatment discharges, evaporative condensate, equipment washing and spill wash water, swimming or ornamental pool drainage, and discharges that have the same types of waste. Although these discharges pose a low threat to water quality, they still require WDRs since they are not covered by an Individual¹ or other Statewide² or Regional Water Board-wide³ WDRs.

¹ The term, "Individual," refers to individual waste discharge requirements issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board of the Colorado River Basin Region for the discharge.

² The terms, "Statewide" and "State Water Board," as used throughout this General Board Order, refer to the State Water Resources Control Board.

³ The terms, "Regional Water Board-wide" and "Regional Water Quality Control Board," as used throughout this General Board Order, refer to the Regional Water Quality Control Board of the Colorado River Basin Region.

B. This General Board Order is intended to cover individuals or entities that discharge low threat wastewaters to surface waters⁴. Dischargers of low threat wastewaters to surface waters, who have been enrolled for coverage to allow the discharge under an existing Statewide or Regional Water Board-wide permit as listed in Table 3 or an individual permit, are not required to apply for coverage under this General Board Order; such individuals or entities may continue to discharge pursuant to the applicable existing permit in Table 3 or their individual permit. Background information concerning these general permits is provided in Attachment F (Fact Sheet) to this General Board Order.

Table 3. Related State Water Board- or Regional Water Board-Wide General Permits

General Permit	Water Quality Order No. (NPDES General Permit No.)	Coverage
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity	99-08-DWQ (CAS000002)	Statewide permit that applies to construction activities (clearing, grading, stockpiling, or excavation) that result in soil disturbances of at least 1 acre of total land.
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities Excluding Construction Activities	97-03-DWQ (CAS000001)	Statewide permit that applies to new or existing industrial storm water discharges and authorized non-storm water discharges.
WDRs for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)	2003-0005-DWQ (CAS000004)	Statewide permit that applies to storm water discharges from small MS4s.
WDRs for the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	99-06-DWQ (CAS000003)	Statewide permit that applies to municipal storm water activities by Caltrans, in areas that require a MS4 permit and in areas that do not require a permit. Also applies to all Caltrans construction activities that require a permit under federal regulations.
Treated Groundwater from Cleanup of Petroleum-related and VOCs ¹ Regional Water Board General Permit	R7-2009-0400 (CAG917001)	Applies to discharges resulting from the cleanup of groundwater polluted by releases of petroleum related organic compounds and other VOCs associated with chemical releases.
Statewide General NPDES Permit for Utility Vaults and Underground Structures	2006-0008-DWQ (CAG990002)	Statewide permit that applies to utility companies with short-term, intermittent discharges from utility vaults and underground structures.

⁴ This General Board Order is not intended to cover releases to surface water from water systems used to transport and deliver surface water for groundwater replenishment, irrigation or other municipal, industrial or agricultural uses. Likewise, this General Board Order is also not intended to cover releases to surface water from untreated groundwater wells when operated as drinking water sources. In addition, this General Board Order is also not intended to cover releases to surface water from subsurface drainage systems installed to reclaim lands for beneficial uses. Further, this General Board Order is not intended to cover discharge activities conducted by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

General Permit	Water Quality Order No. (NPDES General Permit No.)	Coverage
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¹ VOCs = Volatile Organic Chemicals or Compounds

- C. The water quality characteristics most likely of concern for the discharge types covered by this General Board Order include biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), oil and grease, pH, total residual chlorine (TRC), turbidity, settleable solids, total dissolved solids (TDS) and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH).

II. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. General Permit Application and Coverage

To obtain coverage under this General Board Order, which also serves as an NPDES permit, the Discharger shall submit the following information to the Regional Water Board: (1) a completed Notice of Intent (NOI); (2) results of wastewater sampling; (3) proposed practices to comply with effluent limitations, if applicable; (4) Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan or Control Strategy Plan; (5) categorical exception data, if applicable; and (6) filing fee, plus applicable surcharges. A Discharger having multiple discharges involving the same or substantially similar types of operations into the receiving water(s) need only submit one NOI but must specify in the NOI estimates of the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges expected in the receiving water(s). The Discharger, if enrolled for coverage under this General Board Order, will be required to provide a summary update on the actual discharges in an annual report.

- 1. **Notice of Intent.** All applicants must complete and submit an NOI as provided in Attachment C. The NOI requires Dischargers seeking coverage under this General Board Order to submit the following information:
 - a. General project(s) or facility information;
 - b. Indication of discharge type(s), discharge period(s) (duration), proposed rate of discharge(s), and whether the discharge(s) is continuous or intermittent;
 - c. Indication that the wastewater discharges from drainage of ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impounded water do not contain pesticides, insecticides, biocides, wastes and/or other chemicals that may have been applied to the wastewater;
 - d. Description of the discharge location(s);
 - e. Information concerning the receiving waterbody(ies);
 - f. Map (local and/or regional) showing project location(s), discharge points with latitude and longitude, the receiving waterbody with identifying information, and the location of any treatment or disposal systems;

- g. A copy of the letter of acceptance or permit from the agency (e.g., municipality, water district, or other special district) responsible for the discharge location to allow the discharge into their drainage system, if applicable;
 - h. List of primary pollutants / parameters likely to be contained in the discharge;
 - i. Indication that a representative sample of the proposed effluent was taken and whether the screening level for any parameter analyzed was exceeded;
 - j. Indication of ability and method(s) to be employed to continuously comply with effluent limits and other requirements of this General Board Order;
 - k. Description of disposal system, BMPs, or other control strategies;
 - l. Categorical exception information (if applicable);
 - m. Explanation of why a discharge(s) to surface water is the only feasible method for disposing of the effluent, supported by a letter from the local publicly owned treatment works (POTW) stating that they cannot accept the discharge; and
 - n. The appropriate filing fee, plus applicable surcharge(s).
- 2. Sampling Requirements.** All dischargers are required to analyze the proposed discharge for the priority pollutants regulated under the California Toxics Rule (CTR) except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the State Implementation Policy (SIP). Screening levels for these parameters are specified in Attachment B.

Attachment B also provides screening levels for discharges from water system-related activities, hydrostatic test water discharges and other low threat discharge activities and screening levels for pathogens and TSS for discharges to specific waterbodies.

Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities must also sample for total residual chlorine. If the discharge will be discharged to an impaired water body that is a water quality listed segment (WQLS) as specified in the latest Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list⁵ (hereafter 303(d) List), the Discharger shall also analyze for the parameter(s) causing the impairment(s).

In addition, depending on the type of operation and water quality of the discharge, dischargers may be required to analyze their discharge for BOD, TSS, settleable solids, oil and grease, pH, turbidity, TDS, TPH, and hardness.

⁵ CWA Section 303(d) requires NPDES authorities to biannually publish lists of water quality segments that are impaired by one or more pollutants (i.e., not meeting designated uses). The latest CWA section 303(d) List may be found at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml.

Also, applicants proposing to discharge low threat wastewaters to receiving waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II, segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I and REC-II, and the New River must also sample the effluent, upstream receiving water, and downstream receiving water for a few additional parameters specified in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin* (hereinafter Basin Plan) and contained in Attachment B of this General Board Order.

If the discharge exceeds any of the applicable screening levels for non-priority pollutants or has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards in the receiving water, the Executive Officer will specify the applicable effluent limitations, as listed in section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications, and monitoring requirements as listed in Attachment E to which the Discharger is subject in the Notice of Applicability (NOA).

However, Dischargers, who exceed a screening level for one of the priority pollutants, will not be considered eligible for coverage under this General Board Order and will need to apply for an individual NPDES permit, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. If the results of analysis for a discharge indicates that priority pollutant concentrations in the discharge have the reasonable potential to contribute to the impairment, the discharge will not be authorized by this General Board Order (see section II.C below).

3. **Proposed Approach to Comply.** All dischargers are required to describe how they will comply with the effluent limitations in section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications, whether through BMPs or other control strategies.
4. **Best Management Practices or Control Strategy Plan.** All Dischargers are required in section VII.C.3 of this General Board Order to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan and have this plan at the discharge location and available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. The elements of the Discharger's BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004), available from the EPA National Service Center for Environmental Publications website at <http://www.epa.gov/nscep/>. Dischargers may also consult the California Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at <http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/>, and other documents for guidance on addressing site-specific discharge situations. Dischargers exceeding the applicable screening levels for discharges from water system-related activities, hydrostatic test water discharges and other low threat discharge activities and screening levels for discharges of pathogens and TSS to specific waterbodies contained in Attachment B are required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI.
5. **Categorical Exceptions for Priority Pollutant Criteria and Objectives, if applicable.** Section 5.3 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State

Implementation Policy or SIP) allows the Regional Water Board to allow certain Dischargers short-term or seasonal exceptions from meeting priority pollutant criteria and objectives for discharges that are necessary to implement control measures that fulfill statutory requirements regarding drinking water. Dischargers applying for a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives, as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP, must notify potentially affected public and governmental agencies and must submit the following information, with the completed NOI, to the Regional Water Board:

- a. A detailed description of the proposed action, including the proposed method of completing the action;
- b. A time schedule;
- c. A discharge and receiving water quality monitoring plan (before project initiation, during the project, and after project completion, with the appropriate quality assurance and quality control procedures);
- d. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation;
- e. Contingency plans;
- f. Identification of alternate water supply (if needed); and
- g. Residual waste disposal plans.

To prevent unnecessary delays in taking emergency actions or to expedite the approval process for expected or routine activities that fall under categorical exceptions, the Discharger is advised to file, in advance of seeking Regional Water Board approval, the information required in items (a) through (g) above, to the extent possible.

The Regional Water Board will review the above submitted information and will determine whether the Discharger meets requirements of section 5.3 of the SIP for a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria. If the Regional Water Board determines that the Discharger does not meet these requirements to qualify for a categorical exception, then the Discharger will be required to analyze the proposed discharge for all of the CTR constituents listed in Tables B-2 and B-3 of Attachment B and to submit the analytical test results to the Regional Water Board.

Upon the Executive Officer's determination that the Discharger has submitted the information necessary to qualify under section 5.3 of the SIP for a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria, the submitted information will be made available for public review and comment for 30 days.

- i. If there is no objection after the public review and comment period, the Executive Officer will issue an authorization letter to the Discharger

making the approved application for categorical exception an enforceable part of the General Board Order.

- ii. If a written request for a hearing on the application for categorical exception is received within the 30-day public review and comment period, which includes the reason(s) the hearing is being requested (e.g., why the application for categorical exception is inadequate), the item will be placed on the next available Regional Water Board meeting agenda. Because of the need to comply with certain minimum noticing requirements, placement of this item on the agenda will be at least 30 days from the date when a hearing is requested plus the additional time necessary to follow the administrative procedures involved in preparing for the meeting.
- iii. If possible, the Regional Water Board staff will attempt to resolve the issues of concern by arranging a meeting with the Discharger and the interested person(s) requesting the hearing. If an agreement is reached in the meeting, a hearing may not be required. If the agreement reached requires significant changes to be made to the submitted application, however, a new public notice and comment period will be required. If an agreement is not reached with the interested person(s) requesting the hearing, the hearing will proceed as scheduled. After testimony is taken at the hearing, the Regional Water Board will decide whether permit coverage shall commence or whether the submitted application for categorical exception needs to be revised.

6. Filing Fee and Applicable Surcharge. In addition to the items specified in items II.A.1 through 5 above, Dischargers shall submit the current State Water Board adopted permit fee, plus the applicable surcharge. The current annual fees are as follows:

- a. **Adopted Permit Fee.** The applicable adopted permit fee for discharges that require minimal or no treatment systems to meet limits and pose no significant threat to water quality (i.e., Category 3 discharges) is \$1,200.
- b. **Surcharge.** The applicable surcharge is 21%.

Information concerning current permit fees may be found at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees>.

7. Dischargers shall submit all required materials to the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

B. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for coverage under this General Board Order, the proposed discharge shall meet the following criteria:

1. Pollutant concentrations in the discharge shall not (i) cause, (ii) have the reasonable potential to cause, or (iii) contribute to an excursion above any applicable water quality objective;
2. A representative sample of the discharge shall not exceed the screening levels contained in Attachment B, or if the sample does exceed the screening levels, the Discharger is able to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations for constituents contained in section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications;
3. The discharge shall not include water added for the purpose of diluting pollutant concentrations; and
4. The Discharger is able to comply with all the terms and provisions of this General Board Order.

C. Exclusion of Coverage

Dischargers seeking coverage under this General Board Order shall submit a completed NOI, together with the other applicable information as described in section II.A above, at least 45 days prior to the proposed initial discharge. Upon receipt of the NOI, the Executive Officer shall determine the applicability of this General Board Order to the discharge. If the discharge is deemed eligible for coverage, the Executive Officer shall issue a Notice of Applicability (NOA) to the Discharger specifying the terms and conditions of coverage under this General Board Order. Discharges shall not commence until after receiving the Executive Officer's written NOA. Where appropriate, the Executive Officer will write the NOA to be applicable to a project or an agency to eliminate the need for multiple NOAs to be issued when several discharges involving the same or substantially similar types of operations are conducted in one project or for one agency. The Executive Officer may terminate or revise the NOA at any time.

The Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board or the Regional Administrator of USEPA may require any person authorized to discharge wastes by this General Board Order to subsequently apply for and obtain an individual NPDES permit. Any interested person may petition the Executive Officer or the Regional Administrator of USEPA to take action in accordance with this finding. Cases where an individual permit may be required include the following:

1. The Discharger is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of this General Board Order or the NOA from the Executive Officer;
2. Technologies or practices have emerged that impact the control or abatement of pollutants in the discharge;

3. New or revised effluent limitation guidelines have been promulgated for one or more categories of discharges covered by this General Board Order;
4. Changes to the Basin Plan have been adopted that contain requirements applicable to the discharges covered by this General Board Order;
5. The requirements of general NPDES permits, as specified at section 122.28(a)⁶ of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) are not met; and
6. The discharge is determined to adversely affect the water quality objectives of the receiving waters.

D. Termination of Discharges

1. If the Discharger wishes to terminate authorization under this General Board Order, the Discharger shall submit a completed Notice of Termination (NOT) to the Regional Water Board. The requirements of the NOT are contained in Attachment I. Termination from coverage shall occur on the date specified in the NOT unless the Regional Water Board notifies the Discharger otherwise within 30 days of receipt of the NOT. All discharges shall cease before the date of termination, and any discharges to surface waters on or after this date shall be considered in violation of the CWA unless such discharges are covered by another NPDES permit.
2. If the Regional Water Board issues the Discharger an individual NPDES permit or WDRs with more specific requirements, the applicability of this General Board Order to that Discharger shall be automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual NPDES permit or WDRs.
3. Dischargers authorized to discharge under this General Board Order and who have been granted a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives in the SIP (section 5.3) shall provide certification by a qualified biologist that the beneficial uses of the receiving water have been restored upon cessation of the discharge and prior to termination of the permit coverage.

E. Transfer of Ownership

In the event of any change in operational control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities or project presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this General Board Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Regional Water Board. The succeeding owner or operator shall then submit a new NOI to the Regional Water Board.

⁶ All further statutory references are to Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations unless otherwise indicated.

III. FINDINGS

The Regional Water Board finds that:

A. Background

Individuals or entities proposing to discharge treated or untreated wastewaters containing few or no pollutants to waters of the United States must apply for coverage under this General Board Order **except** for those individuals or entities whose discharges are covered under other Regional Water Board- or State Water Board -wide General Permits or an individual permit. To obtain authorization to discharge, Dischargers must submit a completed NOI and associated documents, as described in section II.A above.

B. Discharge Description

This General Board Order covers wastewater discharges that pose little or no threat to water quality. Examples of the types of activities that have the potential to produce low threat discharges include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. **Water System-Related Activities.** This category includes discharges from water treatment (including water recycling) facilities, industries, and other entities that maintain and operate potable or non-potable water systems.

Examples:

- Maintenance and repairs to uncontaminated water supply wells, vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances;
- Hydrostatic testing of vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances (includes testing of newly constructed potable or non-potable pipelines, tanks, and vessels);
- Disinfection of wells, vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances;
- Discharges from water (including recycled water) systems resulting from designed or planned pressure releases, backwashing, flushing, or similar operational activities; and
- Fire hydrant testing or flushing.

2. **Dewatering Activities.** This category includes discharges from entities undertaking dewatering activities.

Examples:

- Treated or untreated groundwater from permanent or temporary dewatering operations to construct or protect pipelines and structures from groundwater infiltration or flotation; and
- Subterranean seepage dewatering, such as water extracted from crawl space pumps.

- 3. Groundwater Extraction Activities.** This category includes discharges from entities that extract groundwater when investigating or cleaning up sites with soil and groundwater pollution or as a result of drilling, constructing, developing, and purging wells. Entities discharging VOC-contaminated groundwater are **not** eligible for coverage under this General Board Order; instead, they are eligible to discharge such wastewaters under Regional Water Board General Board Order No. R7-2009-0400, NPDES No. CAG917001 (or subsequent updated General Board Order) or an individual permit.

Examples:

- Groundwater pumped as an aid in the containment and/or cleanup of a contaminant plume or groundwater from cleanup sites;
- Groundwater generated from well drilling, construction and development purging of wells;
- Groundwater extracted during aquifer tests;
- Equipment wash water;
- Geothermal well testing; and
- Groundwater infiltration (e.g., seepage, foundation or footage drainage, seawater infiltration).

- 4. Other Low Threat Discharge Activities.** This category includes discharges from public and private entities that engage in other miscellaneous activities that result in low threat discharges, such as those listed below.

Examples:

- Pilot treatment discharges (less than 2 years in duration and where water is removed, treated, and discharged into the same water body at points having similar water characteristics);
- Evaporative condensate (e.g., discharges associated with atmospheric condensates including refrigeration, air conditioners, compressor condensate, and cooling towers);
- Equipment washing and spill wash water;
- Discharges from drainage of swimming or ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impounded water⁷; and
- Discharges that have the same types of waste. Although they pose a low threat to water quality, they still require WDRs since they are not covered by other State Water Board- or Regional Water Board-wide General Board Orders or an Individual Permit.

Entities engaging in activities that fall under one or more of the above categories, **but** that discharge exclusively to land for disposal, are **not** eligible for coverage under this General Board Order; instead, they may be covered under State Water Board General

⁷ For these types of water body discharges a full characterization of the wastewater for presence of pesticides, priority pollutants, wastes and/or other chemicals that have been applied to the wastewater needs to be provided. There must be a demonstration that there are no pollutants present at levels of concern.

Board Order No. 2003-003-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality.

C. Legal Authorities. This General Board Order is issued pursuant to Section 402 of the federal CWA and implementing regulations adopted by USEPA and Chapter 5.5, Division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with Section 13370). It shall serve as a General NPDES Permit for point source discharges of low threat wastewaters to surface waters. This General Board Order also serves as WDRs pursuant to Article 4, Chapter 4, Division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with Section 13260).

Title 40 CFR section 122.28 authorizes USEPA and approved states to issue general permits to regulate a point source category if the sources:

1. Involve the same or substantially similar types of operations;
2. Discharge the same types of waste;
3. Require the same effluent limitations or operating conditions;
4. Require the same or similar monitoring; and
5. Are more appropriately controlled under a general permit rather than under individual permits.

On September 22, 1989, USEPA granted the State of California, through the State Water Board and the Regional Water Boards, the authority to issue general NPDES permits pursuant to 40 CFR Parts 122 and 123.

D. Background and Rationale for Requirements. The Regional Water Board developed the requirements in this General Board Order based on readily available information and permit requirements for several similar discharges. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F) contains background information and rationale for this General Board Order's requirements. The Fact Sheet is hereby incorporated into this General Board Order and constitutes part of the Findings for this General Board Order. Attachments A through E and G through I are also incorporated into this General Board Order.

E. California Environmental Quality Act. Under Water Code Section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA, commencing with Section 21100 of the Public Resources Code, except requirements for "new sources"⁸ as defined in the federal CWA. For any "new sources" compliance with CEQA must be achieved before an NOA for coverage under this General Board Order can be issued for the project.

The SIP at section 5.3 authorizes the Regional Water Board, after compliance with CEQA, to allow certain dischargers short-term or seasonal exceptions from meeting the

⁸ A "new source" is a discharge type for which USEPA has issued New Source Performance Standards. A "new source" does not mean a new discharge. See 40 CFR 122.2, 122.29, and Part 401.

priority pollutant criteria and objectives if the Regional Water Board determines the discharge is necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code. Generally, discharges of potable water are made to fulfill California Health and Safety statutory requirements and to ensure a steady and safe drinking water supply to end-users. The potable water discharges under this General Board Order are mostly intermittent, short duration, low flow discharges that comply with California Department of Public Health Maximum Contaminant Levels, which are established at levels to protect public health and welfare. Therefore, existing and new potable water discharges, as qualified under this General Board Order, have been determined to pose no significant threat to water quality and to meet the conditions for a categorical exception under the SIP.

To satisfy the categorical exception requirements of section 5.3 of the SIP, dischargers seeking enrollment under this General Board Order will be required to submit project-specific information to the Executive Officer regarding the discharge and its water quality effects. The information required by the SIP is presented in the application requirements contained in section XIII of Attachment C.

Upon review of the submitted information as required in section 5.3 of the SIP and determination by the Regional Board's Executive Officer that it meets this criteria, the submitted information will be made available for public review and comment for 30 days.

- i. If there is no objection after the public review and comment period, the Executive Officer will issue an authorization letter to the Discharger making the approved application for categorical exception an enforceable part of the General Board Order.
- ii. If a written request for a hearing on the application for categorical exception is received within the 30-day public review and comment period, which includes the reason(s) the hearing is being requested (e.g., why the application for categorical exception is inadequate), the item will be placed on the next available Regional Water Board meeting agenda. Because of the need to comply with certain minimum noticing requirements, placement of this item on the agenda will be at least 30 days from the date when a hearing is requested plus the additional time necessary to follow the administrative procedures involved in preparing for the meeting.
- iii. If possible, the Regional Water Board staff will attempt to resolve the issues of concern by arranging a meeting with the applicant and the interested person(s) requesting the hearing. If an agreement is reached in the meeting, a hearing may not be required. If the agreement reached requires significant changes to be made to the submitted application, however, a new public notice and comment period will be required. If an agreement is not reached with the interested person(s) requesting the hearing, the hearing will proceed

as scheduled. After testimony is taken at the hearing, the Regional Water Board will decide whether permit coverage shall commence or whether the submitted application for categorical exception needs to be revised.

F. Technology-based Effluent Limitations. Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at 40 CFR 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. Because there are no applicable Effluent Limitation Guidelines (technology-based requirements established by USEPA) for the low threat discharges authorized by this General Board Order, the technology-based requirements of this General Board Order have been established using Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with 40 CFR 125.3. A detailed discussion of the technology-based effluent limitations development is included in the Fact Sheet (Attachment F) accompanying this General Board Order.

G. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations. Section 301(b) of the CWA and 40 CFR section 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards.

Title 40 CFR section 122.44(d)(1)(i) mandates that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) must be established using: (1) USEPA criteria guidance under CWA Section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

H. Water Quality Control Plans. The Regional Water Board adopted the Basin Plan on November 17, 1993, which designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan (and including amendments adopted by the Regional Water Board to date). In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, which establishes state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. The existing and potential beneficial uses of the various surface waters (e.g., rivers, streams, lakes, canals / aqueducts, drains, springs, perennial and intermittent streams, and ephemeral streams or washes) that could be impacted by low threat discharges in the Colorado River Basin Region include one or more of the following:

- Agricultural supply (AGR)

- Aquaculture (AQUA)
- Cold freshwater habitat (COLD)
- Freshwater replenishment (FRSH)
- Ground water recharge (GWR)
- Hydropower generation (POW)
- Industrial service supply (IND)
- Municipal and domestic supply (MUN)
- Non-contact water recreation (REC-II)
- Preservation of rare, threatened, or endangered species (RARE)
- Warm freshwater habitat (WARM)
- Water contact recreation (REC-I)
- Wildlife habitat (WILD)

Requirements of this General Board Order implement the Basin Plan.

The 2006 303(d) List classifies the Imperial Valley Drains as impaired by five pesticides and one metal. Respectively, the pollutants include dieldrin, DDT, endosulfan, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), toxaphene, and selenium. The Regional Water Board has not yet developed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these parameters.⁹ The Imperial Valley Drains were previously listed as impaired for sedimentation / siltation. USEPA has approved a sedimentation / siltation TMDL for the Imperial Valley Drains. The TMDL requires discharges from point sources not to exceed the TSS limits and corresponding mass loading rates as specified at 40 CFR 122 et seq. It also requires monitoring for TSS during each discharge event. Imperial Valley Drains discharge to two major water bodies: the New River and the Alamo River.

The New River is listed as impaired by the following chemical constituents: (1) toxic organics (1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, chloroform, cymene, and toluene); (2) pesticides (chlordane, chlorpyrifos, DDT, diazinon, dieldrin, PCBs, and toxaphene); (3) xylenes (m,p-xylenes and o-xylenes); (4) metals (copper and mercury); (5) nutrients; (6) dissolved oxygen; (7) toxicity; and (8) trash. TMDLs for these various parameters are under development by the Regional Water Board. The New River is also listed as impaired for bacteria and sediment / siltation. USEPA has approved the Regional Water Board's TMDLs for these parameters. These TMDLs establish waste load allocations (WLAs) for fecal coliform, E. coli, enterococci, and sediment. The established effluent limitations for fecal coliform, E. coli, enterococci, and TSS in this General Board Order comply with the WLAs established in the New River TMDLs. A Trash TMDL for the New River has been approved by the Regional Water Board and State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and USEPA. The TMDL essentially establishes a prohibition on the discharge of any trash to the New River by point sources. This General Board Order prohibits discharges of trash to the New River.

⁹ The schedule for TMDL development may be found at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml.

The Alamo River is listed as impaired by the following constituents: (1) pesticides (chlorpyrifos, DDT, dieldrin, PCBs, and toxaphene); (2) metals (selenium); and (3) sediment / silt. A sedimentation / siltation TMDL for the Alamo River has been approved by the Regional Water Board and the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law and USEPA. The requirements of this General Board Order are consistent with the WLAs contained in the sedimentation / siltation TMDL for the Alamo River.

The 303(d) List classifies segments of the Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel as impaired by pathogens and toxaphene. A TMDL has not yet been developed for toxaphene; however, a TMDL is under development for pathogens.

The Colorado River (Imperial Reservoir to California-Mexico border) is listed as impaired for selenium (metal). The Palo Verde Outfall Drain and Lagoon is listed as impaired for pathogens and DDT (pesticide). TMDLs have not yet been developed for these parameters.

Finally, the Salton Sea is listed as impaired by: (1) nutrients, (2) salt, and (3) metals (selenium). No TMDLs have been developed to date for the Salton Sea, although a nutrient TMDL is under development. Tributaries to the Salton Sea, including the Coachella Valley Storm Channel and Imperial Valley Drains, may be affected by the nutrient TMDL and any others developed for the Salton Sea. Furthermore, the Basin Plan establishes selenium objectives for tributaries to the Salton Sea.

- I. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** USEPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About 40 criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, USEPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain water quality criteria for priority pollutants.
- J. **State Implementation Policy.** On March 2, 2000, the State Water Board adopted the SIP. The SIP became effective on April 28, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by USEPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005 that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control.

Section 5.3 of the SIP authorizes the Regional Water Board, after compliance with CEQA, to allow certain dischargers short-term or seasonal exceptions from meeting the priority pollutant criteria and objectives if the Regional Water Board determines the discharge is necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code.

This General Board Order contains a process for Regional Water Board and public review for those Dischargers who submit the information required by section 5.3 of the SIP for categorical exception to the criteria and objectives in the CTR and SIP, as outlined in Attachment C.

In addition, as required by the SIP, Dischargers authorized to discharge under this General Board Order with an exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the receiving water beneficial uses have been restored upon cessation of the discharge and prior to termination of the permit. Authorized discharges under this General Board Order meet fully comply with the requirements of the CTR and SIP.

- K. Compliance Schedules and Interim Requirements.** Section 2.1 of the SIP provides that, based on a Discharger's request and demonstration that it is infeasible for an existing Discharger to achieve immediate compliance with an effluent limitation derived from a CTR criterion, compliance schedules may be allowed in an NPDES permit. Unless an exception has been granted under section 5.3 of the SIP, a compliance schedule may not exceed 5 years from the date that the permit is issued or reissued, nor may it extend beyond 10 years from the effective date of the SIP (or May 18, 2010) to establish and comply with CTR criterion-based effluent limitations. Where a compliance schedule for a final effluent limitation exceeds 1 year, the General Board Order must include interim numeric limitations for that constituent or parameter. Where allowed by the Basin Plan, compliance schedules and interim effluent limitations or discharge specifications may also be granted to allow time to implement a new or revised water quality objective. This General Board Order does *not* include compliance schedules or interim effluent limitations.
- L. Alaska Rule.** On March 30, 2000, USEPA revised its regulation that specifies when new and revised state and tribal water quality standards become effective for CWA purposes. (40 CFR 131.21; 65 Federal Register 24641, April 27, 2000). Under the revised regulation (also known as the Alaska rule), new and revised standards submitted to USEPA after May 30, 2000, must be approved by USEPA before being used for CWA purposes. The final rule also provides that standards already in effect and submitted to USEPA by May 30, 2000 may be used for CWA purposes, whether or not approved by USEPA.
- M. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants.** This General Board Order contains both technology-based requirements and WQBELs for individual pollutants. The technology-based requirements consist of the implementation of BMPs, which are discussed in section IV.B.2 of the Fact Sheet. This General Board Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements.

WQBELs have been scientifically derived to implement water quality objectives that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. To the extent that toxic pollutants WQBELs were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to 40 CFR 131.38. The scientific procedures

for calculating the individual WQBELs for priority pollutants are based on the CTR-SIP, which was approved by USEPA on May 18, 2000. All beneficial uses and water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by USEPA prior to May 30, 2000. Any water quality objectives and beneficial uses submitted to USEPA prior to May 30, 2000, but not approved by USEPA before that date, are nonetheless “applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA” pursuant to 40 CFR 131.21(c)(1). Collectively, this General Board Order’s restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA.

- N. Antidegradation Policy.** Section 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California’s antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board’s Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies. As discussed in detail in section IV.D.5 of the Fact Sheet, the Regional Water Board expects minimal and insignificant impacts to water quality from the low threat discharges authorized by this General Board Order. The General Board Order requires all Dischargers to screen for the presence of toxics as required by the SIP, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP, in addition to a few commonly occurring conventional and non-conventional pollutants. Based on the results of these analyses, the Regional Water Board will specify effluent limitations on a Discharger-specific basis. This General Board Order also requires Dischargers to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan. Dischargers that exceed the screening level for one or more of the priority pollutants in Attachment B are not eligible for coverage under this General Board Order and must apply for coverage under an individual NPDES permit.
- O. Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and the federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions where limitations may be relaxed. As discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet, the effluent limitations contained in General Board Order No. 98-300 to control discharges of hydrostatic test waters to surface waters have been maintained and is consistent with the anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and federal regulations.
- P. Endangered Species Act.** This General Board Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code Sections 2050 to 2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. Sections 1531 to 1544). This General Board Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect

the beneficial uses of waters of the state. The Discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

Q. Monitoring and Reporting. Title 40 CFR section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code Sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements. This program is provided in Attachment E to this General Board Order.

R. Standard and Special Provisions. Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 CFR 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 CFR 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The Discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under Section 122.42. The Regional Water Board has also included in this General Board Order special provisions applicable to the Discharger. The rationale for the special provisions contained in this General Board Order is provided in the attached Fact Sheet.

S. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law. The provisions/requirements in subsection VII.A.2.d of this General Board Order are included to implement state law only. These provisions / requirements are not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of these provisions / requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.

T. Notification of Interested Parties. The Regional Water Board has notified interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for discharges of low threat wastewaters to surface waters of the United States and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of notification are provided in the Fact Sheet of this General Board Order.

U. Consideration of Public Comment. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet of this General Board Order.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with Section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder and the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this General Board Order.

IV. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

A. The discharge of treated wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described by the Discharger in the NOI application or as authorized by the Executive Officer is prohibited.

- B. Except as allowed under the Standard Provisions for NPDES permits (hereinafter Standard Provisions), included as Attachment D, the bypass or overflow of untreated wastewater or wastes to waters of the State is prohibited.
- C. The Discharger shall not extract, accept or treat waste in excess of the BMP or Control Strategy Plan or disposal capacity of the system as specified in the Discharger’s NOA from the Executive Officer.
- D. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any water supply unless in compliance with Resolution No. 68-16.
- E. The treatment or disposal of wastes from the facility or project site shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), respectively, of the California Water Code.
- F. The discharge of any substances in concentrations toxic to animal or plant life is prohibited.
- G. Discharges of trash to the New River are prohibited.

V. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Effluent Limitations – Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

Discharges of wastewater from low threat discharges activities that exceeds the screening level in Attachment B for pH, TSS, oil and grease, and TPH shall be subject to the effluent limitations in Table 4 below. Other applicable effluent limitations from section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications shall be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

Table 4. Effluent Limitations for All Low Threat Discharges

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) ¹	mg/L	95
Oil and Grease ¹	mg/L	25
pH ¹	standard units	Range 6 -9
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons ^{1,2}	mg/L	0.1

¹ Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

² Applies only to dewatering/discharge operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering/discharge operation.

2. Effluent Limitations – Applicable to Discharges from Water System-Related Activities and Other Low Threat Discharge Activities

Discharges of wastewater from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities that exceed the screening level for total residual chlorine contained in Attachment B shall be subject to the effluent limitations in Table 5 below. Other applicable effluent limitations from section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications, shall be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

Table 5. Effluent Limitations for Water System-Related and Other Low Threat Discharge Activities

Parameter	Units ¹	Effluent Limitations	
		1-Hour Average	4-Day Average
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	0.019	0.011

¹ mg/L = milligrams per liter

3. Effluent Limitations – Applicable to Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges

Discharges of wastewater from hydrostatic test water that exceeds the screening level for the TSS, BOD, oil and grease, turbidity, settleable solids, TPH, and TRC contained in Attachment B shall be subject to the effluent limitations in Table 6 below. Other applicable effluent limitations from section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications, shall be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

Table 6. Effluent Limitations for Discharges from Hydrostatic Test Water Activities

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations
Suspended Solids, Total	mg/L	95
BOD ₅ @ 20° C or CBOD ₅ @ 20° C	mg/L	55 for BOD ₅ or 50 for CBOD ₅
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25
Turbidity	NTU	75
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.2
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	mg/L	0.1
Chlorine Total Residual	mg/L	See Table 5

4. Effluent Limitations – Applicable to Discharges to Specific Waterbodies

Discharges of wastewater to an applicable waterbody listed below that exceeds the screening criteria for a parameter(s) contained in Attachment B shall be subject to the effluent limitations below. Effluent limitations in this section that are applicable to specific discharges or projects shall be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

- a. **Discharges to Waters Designated as REC-I.** As identified in the NOA, the bacterial density in the wastewater effluent discharged to waters designated as REC-I shall not exceed the following values, as measured by the following bacterial indicator:

(b) Enterococci. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 33/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 100/100 mL.

(c) Fecal Coliform Organisms. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 200/100 mL, nor shall more than ten percent of the total samples during any 30-day period exceed a MPN of 400/100 mL.

ii. Total Suspended Solids. The annual average effluent concentration of TSS in the effluent discharged to the New River shall not exceed 200 mg/L¹⁰.

B. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

C. Reclamation Specifications – Not Applicable

VI. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Receiving Water Limitations – Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

Receiving water limitations are based on the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this General Board Order. All low threat discharges to any receiving waterbodies of the Colorado River Basin Region shall not cause the following:

1. Result in the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the receiving water to fall below 5.0 mg/L. When dissolved oxygen in the receiving water is already below 5.0 mg/L, the discharge shall not cause any further depression.
2. Result in the presence of oil, grease, floating material (liquids, solids, foam and scum) or suspended material in amounts that create a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
3. Result in the deposition of pesticides or combination of pesticides detectable in concentrations that adversely affects beneficial uses.
4. Result in discoloration in the receiving water that adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. Result in the discharge of biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growths to the extent that such growths cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
6. Result in an increase turbidity that adversely affects beneficial uses.

¹⁰ The TSS effluent limitation of 95 mg/L for TSS from hydrostatic test water discharges is more stringent and shall be in effect.

7. Result in the normal ambient pH of the receiving water to fall below 6.0 or exceed 9.0 units.
8. Result in altering the natural receiving water temperature that adversely affects beneficial uses.
9. Result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
10. Result in the discharge of an individual chemical or combination of chemicals in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
11. Result in toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments or biota in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
12. Result in an increase in taste or odor-producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses.
13. Result in the violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Water Board or the State Water Board as required by the federal CWA and regulations adopted thereunder. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to CWA Section 303 or amendments thereto, the Regional Water Board will revise and modify this Permit in accordance with such more stringent standards.

B. Surface Receiving Water Limitations – Applicable to Discharges to Specific Waterbodies

Receiving water limitations to specific waterbodies are based upon the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this General Board Order. Discharges to applicable receiving water shall not result in the following:

1. **Total Dissolved Solids—New River, Alamo River, and Imperial Valley Drains.**
Discharges to the New River, Alamo River, and the Imperial Valley Drains shall not cause the receiving water body to exceed an annual average of 4,000 mg/L and a daily maximum of 4,500 mg/L of total dissolved solids.
2. **Total Dissolved Solids—Coachella Valley Drains and Palo Verde Valley Drains.**
Discharges to the Coachella Valley Drains and the Palo Verde Valley Drains shall not cause the receiving water body to exceed an annual average of 2,000 mg/L and a daily maximum of 2,500 mg/L of total dissolved solids.

C. Groundwater Limitations – Not Applicable

VII. PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

1. **Federal Standard Provisions.** The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D of this General Board Order.
2. **Regional Water Board Standard Provisions.** The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions:
 - a. The Discharger shall comply with all conditions of this General Board Order. Noncompliance constitutes a violation of the federal CWA and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification of Waste Discharge Requirements; or denial of a permit renewal application.
 - b. The Discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the content of this General Board Order and shall maintain a copy of this General Board Order at the site.
 - c. The Discharger shall immediately notify the Regional Water Board by phone at (760) 346-7491, the local health officer or directors of environmental health with jurisdiction over affected water bodies and the Office of Emergency Services by phone at (800) 852-7550 to report any noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment as soon as: (1) the Discharger has knowledge of the discharge, (2) notification is possible, and (3) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures.

Although states and Regional Water Boards do not have duties as first responders, it is important to ensure that the agencies that do have first responder duties are notified in a timely manner in order to protect public health and beneficial uses. The following notification requirements are to be implemented:

- i. During non-business hours, the Discharger shall leave a voice message on the Regional Water Board's voice recorder. A written report shall also be provided within five (5) business days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the incident. The written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance; the anticipated time to achieve full compliance; and the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.
 - d. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the Discharger shall transmit a copy of this General Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Water Board.

- e. Prior to any modifications to the facility, treatment system, or project site, which would result in material change in the quality or quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of discharge, the Discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Water Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
- f. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facilities inoperable.
- g. This General Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
- h. Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this General Board Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from this facility, treatment system, or project site may subject the Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities.
- i. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, instantaneous maximum effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation of this General Board Order, the Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board by telephone (760) 346-7491 within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance and shall confirm this notification in writing within 5 days, unless the Regional Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall state the nature, time, duration, and cause of noncompliance and shall describe the measures being taken to remedy the current noncompliance and prevent recurrence including, where applicable, a schedule of implementation. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.
- j. In accordance with section 1211 of the CWC, the Discharger shall obtain approval from the State Water Board's Division of Water Rights 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.

B. Monitoring and Reporting Program Requirements

The Discharger shall comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E of this General Board Order. The Executive Officer will describe the MRP requirements listed in Attachment E that are applicable to the discharge(s) in the NOA.

C. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

- a.** This General Board Order may be reopened for modification, or revocation and reissuance, as a result of the detection of a reportable priority pollutant generated by special conditions included in this General Board Order. These special conditions may be, but are not limited to, fish tissue sampling, whole effluent toxicity, monitoring requirements on internal waste stream(s), and monitoring for surrogate parameters. Additional requirements may be included in this General Board Order as a result of the special condition monitoring data.
- b.** The Discharger shall submit data sufficient to determine if a WQBEL is required in the discharge permit as required under the SIP. It is the Discharger's responsibility to provide all information requested by the Regional Water Board for use in the analysis. The permit shall be reopened to establish WQBELs, if necessary.
- c.** This General Board Order may be modified, rescinded and reissued, for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for a Board Order modification, rescission and reissuance, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Board Order condition. Causes for modification include the promulgation of new regulations, modification of land application plans, or modification in sludge use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the State Water Board or the Regional Water Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.
- d.** This General Permit may be re-opened and amended to include a list of entities that qualify and are granted a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives as outlined in section 5.3 of the SIP. This General Permit may also be re-opened and amended to revise the monitoring and reporting program to allow group or regional monitoring.
- e.** The CWA requires the Regional Water Board to modify, or terminate and reissue, the NPDES permit if a discharger must implement a pretreatment program. Public notice and a comment period are mandatory for these actions.
- f.** This General Board Order may be reopened and the Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Requirements, contained in section V of the MRP may be modified to address changes to USEPA or State Water Board policies or guidance regarding the testing or reporting requirements for WET testing.
- g.** If a statewide policy for total residual chlorine is adopted during the term of this General Board Order, this General Board Order may be reopened to include a revised reporting level to determine compliance with effluent limitations for total residual chlorine for low threat discharges consistent with the statewide policy.

- h.** TMDLs for pathogens, nutrients, salt, dissolved oxygen, VOCs, trash, pesticides, and selenium are to be developed by the Regional Water Board. The permit may be reopened and modified in the future to include appropriate requirements necessary to fully implement the approved TMDLs, if needed.
- i. Alamo River: Chlorpyrifos, DDT, Dieldrin, PCBs, Selenium, Toxaphene
 - ii. Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel (CVSWC)¹¹: Pathogens, Toxaphene
 - iii. Colorado River (Imperial Reservoir to California-Mexico Border): Selenium
 - iv. Imperial Valley Drains: DDT (Barbara Worth Drain, Peach Drain, and Rice Drain), Dieldrin (Barbara Worth Drain and Fig Drain), Endosulfan (Peach Drain), PCBs (Central Drain from Meloland Road to the outlet into the Alamo River), Selenium (Upper Basin Portion of Colorado River), Toxaphene (Barbara Worth Drain, Peach Drain, and Rice Drain)
 - v. New River (Imperial County): 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, Chlordane, Chloroform, Chlorpyrifos, Copper, DDT, Diazinon, Dieldrin, Mercury, meta-para Xylenes, Nutrients, Organic Enrichment/Low Dissolved Oxygen, o-Xylenes, PCBs, p-Cymene, p-Dichlorobenzene/DCB, Pesticides, Selenium, Toluene, Toxaphene, Toxicity, Trash
 - vi. Palo Verde Outfall Drain and Lagoon: DDT, Pathogens
 - vii. Salton Sea: Nutrients, Salinity, Selenium

2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements – Not Applicable

3. Best Management Practices (BMPs) or Control Strategies

- a. Best Management Practices or Control Strategy Plan.** Each Discharger authorized under this General Board Order shall develop and implement a BMPs Plan or Control Strategy Plan that includes site-specific plans and procedures

¹¹ See Region 7 Basin Plan for applicable segments of the CVSWC.

implemented and/or to be implemented to prevent the generation and potential release of pollutants in the discharge to waters of the United States. This BMPs or Control Strategy Plan must be available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. Applicants must *develop and maintain a copy of* the BMPs or Control Strategy Plan at the discharge location, and all site-operating personnel shall be familiar with the contents of the BMPs or Control Strategy Plan. The BMPs Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the USEPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (EPA 833-B-93-004). The Discharger may consult other handbooks for guidance, such as the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at <http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/>, to address the site-specific discharge situation. In particular, the Discharger shall perform a risk assessment of each area identified by the Discharger that will ensure proper operation and maintenance, prevent additional chemicals or other substances from being introduced into the discharge, and prevent the addition of pollutants from the other non-permitted process waters, spills, or other sources of pollutants. The necessary BMPs or control strategies shall be identified, developed, and implemented prior to the initiation of the discharge.

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications – Not Applicable

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities – Not Applicable

6. Other Special Provisions

- a. The Discharger may be required to submit technical reports as directed by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer.
- b. The Discharger shall exclude from the facility, treatment system, or project any liquid or solid waste that could adversely affect operations or effluent quality. Any excluded liquid or solid wastes shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations.

7. Required Submittals and Reports

- a. **Deliverables and Due Dates.** The Discharger shall comply with the following schedules for report submittal as summarized in Table 7:

Table 7. Deliverables and Due Dates

Activity	Description	Due Date
Annual Report	<p>The annual report shall include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the facility/project for emergency and routine situations. 2. A statement certifying whether the current Best Management Practices (BMPs) or Control Strategy Plan, reflect the Discharger's operations as currently constructed and operated, and the date when the BMPs or Control Strategy Plan was last revised and last reviewed for adequacy. 3. A summary report that includes the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges to the receiving water(s). 4. For those dischargers with a project specific NOA, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were in compliance with this General Board Order 5. For those dischargers granted a categorical exception under 5.3 of the SIP, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code and in compliance with this General Board Order. 	February 1, annually

VIII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Compliance with the effluent limitations contained in section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of this General Board Order will be determined as specified below:

A. Total Residual Chlorine Effluent Limitations. Monitoring for chlorine residual or for dechlorination agent residual in the effluent is an appropriate method for compliance determination. A positive residual dechlorination agent in the effluent indicates that chlorine is not present in the discharge, which demonstrates compliance with the effluent limitations. This type of monitoring can also be used to prove that some chlorine residual exceedances are false positives. For Dischargers that dechlorinate, field monitoring data showing either a positive dechlorination agent residual or a chlorine residual below the reporting level or prescribed limit (whichever is higher) is sufficient to show compliance with the total residual chlorine effluent limitations, as long as the instruments are maintained and calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Any excursion above the 1-hour average or 4-day average total residual chlorine effluent limitations and greater than or equal to a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L or a future reporting level included in a statewide policy adopted by the State Water Board is a violation.

If the Discharger conducts continuous monitoring and the Discharger can demonstrate, through data collected from a back-up monitoring system, that a chlorine spike recorded by the continuous monitor was not actually due to chlorine in the discharge, then any

excursion resulting from the recorded spike may not be considered an exceedance, but rather reported as a false positive.

- B. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL).** If the average 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 where no data is available to show compliance. 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. The Discharger will only be considered out of compliance for days when the discharge occurs. For any one calendar month during which no sample (daily discharge) is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar month.
- C. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL).** If a daily discharge exceeds the MDEL for a given parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that 1 day only within the reporting period. For any 1 day during which no sample is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that day.
- D. Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation.** If the analytical result of a single grab sample is lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation for a parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately. For example, the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that are both lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation.
- E. Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation.** If the analytical result of a single grab sample is higher than the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for a parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately. For example, the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both exceed the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation.

F. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

1. In accordance with section 2.4.5 of the SIP, compliance with WQBELs shall be determined as follows:
 - a. Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation if the concentration of a priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reported ML.
 - b. When determining compliance with an average monthly effluent limitation and more than one sample result is available in a month, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of Detected Not Quantified (DNQ) or Non-Detect (ND). In those

cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

- i. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, and followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
- ii. 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 a DNQ.

ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

Acutely Toxic Conditions

When used in the context of mixing zones, acutely toxic conditions refers to lethality that occurs to mobile aquatic organisms that move or drift through the mixing zone.

Annual Average Effluent Limitation

The highest allowable average of monthly discharges over a calendar year, calculated as the sum of all monthly discharges measured during a calendar year divided by the number of monthly discharges measured during that year.

Arithmetic Mean (μ)

Also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Arithmetic mean} = \mu = \Sigma x / n \quad \text{where: } \Sigma x \text{ is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and } n \text{ is the number of samples.}$$

Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BMPs are methods, measures, or practices designed and selected to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants to surface waters from point and non-point discharges including storm water. BMPs include structural and non-structural controls, and operation and maintenance procedures, which can be applied before, during, and/or after pollution producing activities.

Best Professional Judgment (BPJ)-Based Limits

Best Professional Judgment-based Limits are technology-based NPDES permit limits derived on a case-by-case basis using all reasonably available and relevant data for non-municipal facilities in the absence of effluent limitations guidelines (ELG).

Bioaccumulative

Those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

Carcinogenic

Pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

Categorical Exception

A categorical exception as outlined in section 5.3 of the SIP is a short-term or seasonal exception from meeting the priority pollutant criteria/objectives if determined to be necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code. Such categorical exceptions may also be granted for draining water supply reservoirs, canals, and pipelines for maintenance, for draining municipal storm water conveyances for cleaning or maintenance, or for draining water treatment facilities for cleaning or maintenance.

Coefficient of Variation (CV)

CV is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

Cooling water

Cooling water means water used for contact or noncontact cooling, including water used for equipment cooling, evaporative cooling tower makeup, and dilution of effluent heat content. The intended use of the cooling water is to absorb waste heat rejected from the process or processes used, or from auxiliary operations on the facility's premises.

Criteria Continuous Concentration (CCC)

Criteria Continuous Concentration equals the highest concentration of a pollutant to which aquatic life can be exposed for an extended period of time (e.g., 4 days) without deleterious effects.

Criteria Maximum Concentration (CMC)

Criteria Maximum Concentration equals the highest concentration of a pollutant to which aquatic life can be exposed for a short period of time (e.g., 1 hour) without deleterious effects.

Daily Discharge

Daily Discharge is defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)

DNQ are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL.

Dewatering

Dewatering means to remove or drain the water from a tank, trench, and pipe or from the ground.

Dilution Credit

Dilution Credit is the amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)

ECA is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as Waste Load Allocation (WLA) as used in USEPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

Enclosed Bays

Not applicable.

Estimated Chemical Concentration

The estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

Estuaries

Not applicable.

Evaporative Condensate

Evaporative condensate is the atmospheric condensate from an evaporative cooling system. For the purposes of this General Board Order, this term does not encompass non-contact cooling water or water from open recirculating cooling water systems.

Existing Discharger

Any Discharger that is not a new Discharger. An existing Discharger includes an “increasing Discharger” (i.e., an existing Facility with treatment systems in place from its current discharge that is or will be expanding, upgrading, or modifying its existing permitted discharge after the effective date of this Policy).

Geometric Mean

Geometric mean is a measure of the central tendency of a data set that minimizes the effects of extreme values. The geometric mean used for determining compliance with bacterial standards is calculated with the following equation:

Geometric Mean = $(C_1 \times C_2 \times \dots \times C_n)^{1/n}$ where n = the number of days samples were collected during the period, and C = the concentration of bacteria (MPN/100 mL) found on each day of sampling.

Incompletely-Mixed Discharge

A discharge that contributes to a condition that does not meet the meaning of a completely-mixed discharge condition.

Infeasible

Infeasible means not capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors.

Inland Surface Waters

All surface waters of the State that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation

The highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation

The lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

Load Allocation (LA)

The portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its existing or future non-point sources of pollution or to natural background sources.

Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)

The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

Median

The middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of measurements (n) is odd, then the median = $X_{(n+1)/2}$. If n is even, then the median = $(X_{n/2} + X_{(n/2)+1})/2$ (i.e., the midpoint between the $n/2$ and $n/2+1$).

Method Detection Limit (MDL)

The minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 136, Attachment B, revised as of July 3, 1999.

Minimum Level (ML)

The concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

Mixing Zone

Not applicable.

New Discharger

New Discharger includes any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is, or may be, a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced after the effective date of this Policy.

Non-contact cooling water

Non-contact cooling water is water used for cooling that does not come into direct contact with any raw material, product, byproduct, or waste. It includes water generated from any cooling equipment blowdown or produced as a result of any non-contact cooling process through either a single pass (once through) or recirculating system. Most non-contact cooling water systems are also open recirculating cooling water systems (see definition below).

Non-potable water

Water that may contain objectionable pollution, contamination, minerals, or infective agents and is considered unsafe and/or unpalatable for drinking.

Not Detected (ND)

ND is a sample result that is less than the laboratory's MDL.

Notice of Applicability (NOA)

The NOA is the written authorization for coverage under this General Board Order from the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board. The NOA shall specify the applicable effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

Notice of Intent (NOI)

The NOI is a Discharger's application for coverage under this General Board Order. The NOI is required to contain all of the elements identified in Attachment C.

Notice of Termination (NOT)

The NOT is a Discharger's notice to the Regional Water Board that the discharge to surface waters has been terminated and coverage under this General Board Order is no longer necessary. The requirements of the NOT are contained in Attachment I. Termination from coverage shall occur on the date specified in the NOT unless the Regional Water Board notifies the Discharger otherwise within 30 days of receipt of the NOT. All discharges shall cease before the date of termination, and any discharges to surface waters on or after this date shall be considered in violation of the CWA unless such discharges are covered by another NPDES permit.

Objectionable Bottom Deposits

Objectionable Bottom Deposits are an accumulation of materials or substances on or near the bottom of a water body, which creates conditions that adversely impact aquatic life, human health, beneficial uses, or aesthetics. These conditions include, but are not limited to, the accumulation of pollutants in the sediments and other conditions that result in harm to benthic organisms, production of food chain organisms, or fish egg development. The presence of such deposits shall be determined by Regional Water Board(s) on a case-by-case basis.

Ocean Waters

Not applicable.

Open Recirculating Cooling Water Systems

Open recirculating cooling water systems use the same water repeatedly to cool process equipment. Heat absorbed from the process must be dissipated to allow reuse of the water. Cooling towers, spray ponds, and evaporative condensers are used for this purpose.

Persistent Pollutants

Substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)

PMP means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Regional Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to Water Code Section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

Pollution Prevention

Pollution Prevention means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in Water Code Section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State or Regional Water Board.

Potable Water

Water that is safe for drinking and cooking and is in compliance with the California Department of Public Health or local county health department regulations.

Public Entity

Public Entity includes the Federal government or a state, county, city and county, city, district, public authority, or public agency.

Report of Waste Discharge

For the purposes of this General Board Order, references to the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) shall include the Notice of Intent and any other application information submitted to the Regional Water Board.

Reporting Level (RL)

RL is the ML (and its associated analytical method) chosen by the Discharger for reporting and compliance determination from the MLs included in this General Board Order. The MLs included in this General Board Order correspond to approved analytical methods for reporting a sample result that are selected by the Regional Water Board either from Appendix 4 of the SIP in accordance with section 2.4.2 of the SIP or established in accordance with section 2.4.3 of the SIP. The ML is based on the proper application of method-based analytical procedures for sample preparation and the absence of any matrix interferences. Other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the specific sample preparation steps employed. For example, the treatment typically applied in cases where there are matrix-effects is to dilute the sample or sample aliquot by a factor of ten. In such cases, this additional factor must be applied to the ML in the computation of the RL.

Satellite Collection System

The portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

Source of Drinking Water

Any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in a Regional Water Board Basin Plan.

Standard Deviation (σ)

Standard Deviation is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = (\sum[(x - \mu)^2]/(n - 1))^{0.5}$$

where:

x is the observed value;

μ is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and

n is the number of samples.

State Implementation Policy (SIP)

The Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California.

Technology-Based Effluent Limitation

A technology-based effluent limitation is a permit limit for a pollutant that is based on the capability of a treatment method to reduce the pollutant to a certain concentration.

Teratogenic

Teratogenic pollutants are substances that are known to cause structural abnormalities or birth defects in living organisms.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

A TMDL is the sum of the individual waste load allocations and load allocations for receiving water. A margin of safety is included with the two types of allocations so that any additional loading, regardless of source, would not produce a violation of water quality standards.

Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)

Not applicable

Waste Load Allocation (WLA)

The portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution.

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENT B – NOI SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS AND SCREENING LEVELS

I. INSTRUCTIONS

This Attachment contains listings of the parameters Dischargers are to analyze as part of their application for coverage under this General Board Order. The sampling requirements that are applicable to all low threat discharges are presented in section II below, in Tables B-2 through B-4. The sampling requirements applicable to low threat discharges from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities are presented in section III below, in Table B-5 through B-6. The sampling requirements applicable to low threat discharges to specific waterbodies follow in section IV, in Tables B-7 through B-10.

The Discharger shall compare the results of all analyses to the corresponding screening levels in Tables B-2 to B-10, and submit them with the completed Notice of Intent (NOI). Any analyses performed for parameters without screening levels shall also be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) with the completed NOI.

The rationale for the screening levels in Tables B-2 through B-10 is provided in section IV.C.3.c. of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F) of this General Board Order. Table B-1 below provides an overview of the parameters to be analyzed as part of the application package.

Table B-1. Overview of Sampling Requirements

Attachment B Table	Parameter(s) Covered ¹	Sampling Location ²	Screening Levels Included in Table?
Table B-2	Priority Pollutants	EFF-001	Yes
Table B-3	Hardness-dependent Priority Pollutant Metals	EFF-001 ³	Yes
Table B-4	TSS, Oil and Grease, pH, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons and Hardness	EFF-001 and RSW-001 ³	Yes
Table B-5	Total Residual Chlorine	EFF-001	Yes
Table B-6	Hydrostatic Test Water	EFF-001	Yes
Table B-7	Any 303(d) Listed Parameters ⁴	EFF-001	No
Tables B-8 & B-9	<i>Eschericia coli</i> (E. coli)	EFF-001	Yes
Table-B-10	E. coli, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, and total suspended solids	EFF-001	Yes

Attachment B Table	Parameter(s) Covered ¹	Sampling Location ²	Screening Levels Included in Table?
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- ¹ The sampling requirements in terms of the parameters covered apply to all designated beneficial uses unless otherwise specified. MUN designated waters pertain to those receiving waters designated for municipal and domestic water supply, and Non-MUN designated waters pertain to those receiving waters designated for one or more of the other use categories. *Consult section III.H of the General Board Order for further information concerning designated use categories.*
- ² EFF-001 = A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to joining the receiving water.
RSW-001 = Immediately upstream of the discharge point to obtain a representative sample of the background conditions of the upstream flow.
RSW-002 = Downstream of the discharge point to obtain a representative sample of the combined flow.
- ³ Several of the priority pollutant metals are hardness dependent and require that a sample of the receiving water be analyzed for hardness.
- ⁴ If the proposed receiving water is listed as impaired by any parameter on the state’s latest Clean Water Act section 303(d) List, then the Discharger shall analyze for the offending parameter(s). Consult the following Web site for the latest section 303(d) list:
http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml.

Dischargers shall analyze all applicable pollutants in this Attachment in accordance with the analytical methods and other requirements specified in Part 136 of Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* and in accordance with section I of the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) of this General Board Order.

For priority pollutant constituents with applicable water quality criteria, detection limits shall be below the screening level. If the lowest minimum level (ML) published in Appendix 4 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Plan or SIP) is not below the screening level, the detection limit shall be the lowest ML.

Detection for the purposes of the priority pollutants with applicable water quality criteria means a sample result that is greater than or equal to the detection limit. Sample results less than the ML, but greater than or equal to the detection limit, shall be reported as “Detected, but Not Quantified,” or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported, and shall be used to compare to the applicable screening level for purposes of determining whether effluent limitations are necessary.

II. ANALYSES REQUIRED OF ALL DISCHARGERS

A. Priority Pollutants. All Dischargers seeking authorization to discharge under this General Board Order shall sample and analyze the proposed effluent for the priority pollutants contained in Tables B-2 and B-3, except those dischargers approved for a categorical exception as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. The results of the analyses shall be compared to the corresponding screening levels and shall be submitted as part of the NOI. Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities may submit the summary results of monitoring for applicable parameters reported in their annual Consumer Confidence Report as required by Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 20 of the California Code of Regulations to satisfy the sampling requirements contained in Tables B-2 and/or B-3. Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities that have been granted a waiver for the monitoring

requirements contained in Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15 of the California Code of Regulations from the California Department of Public Health, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management are exempt from the sampling requirements for the applicable parameter(s) or test methods contained in Tables B-2 and/or B-3. A copy of the waiver must be submitted with the NOI.

Table B-2. Screening Levels for Priority Pollutants

Parameter	Screening Levels ^{1,2}	
	MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³	Non-MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³
Metals and Other Compounds		
Antimony, Total Recoverable	14	4,300
Arsenic, Total Recoverable	150	150
Beryllium, Total Recoverable	4	4
Cadmium, Total Recoverable	See Table B-3	
Chromium (III)	See Table B-3	
Chromium (VI)	11	11
Copper, Total Recoverable	See Table B-3	
Lead, Total Recoverable	See Table B-3	
Mercury, Total Recoverable	0.050	0.051
Nickel, Total Recoverable	See Table B-3	
Selenium, Total Recoverable	5.0	5.0
Silver, Total Recoverable	See Table B-3	
Thallium, Total Recoverable	1.7	6.3
Zinc, Total Recoverable	See Table B-3	
Cyanide, Free (as CN)	5.2	5.2
Asbestos	7 MFL ⁵	4
2,3,7,8-TCDD	1.3 x 10 ⁻⁸	1.4 x 10 ⁻⁸
Volatile Organic Compounds		
Acrolein	320	780
Acrylonitrile	0.059	0.66
Benzene	1.2	71
Bromoform	4.3	360
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.25	4.4
Chlorobenzene	680	21,000
Chlorodibromomethane	0.41	34
Chloroethane	4	4
2-Chloroethylvinyl ether	4	4
Chloroform	4	4

Parameter	Screening Levels ^{1,2}	
	MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³	Non-MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³
Dichlorobromomethane	0.56	46
1,1-Dichloroethane	4	4
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.38	99
1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.057	3.2
1,2-Trans-Dichloroethylene	700	140,000
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.52	39
1,3-Dichloropropylene	10	1,700
Ethylbenzene	3,100	29,000
Methyl Bromide	48	4,000
Methyl Chloride	4	4
Methylene Chloride	4.7	1,600
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	0.17	11
Tetrachloroethylene	0.8	8.85
Toluene	6,800	200,000
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	4	4
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.6	42
Trichloroethylene	2.7	81
Vinyl Chloride	2	525
Acid Extractible Compounds		
3-Methyl-4-Chlorophenol	4	4
2-Chlorophenol	120	400
2,4-Dichlorophenol	93	790
2,4-Dimethylphenol	540	2,300
2-Methyl-4,6-Dinitrophenol	13.4	765
2,4-Dinitrophenol	70	14,000
2-Nitrophenol	4	4
4-Nitrophenol	4	4
Pentachlorophenol	0.28	8.2
Phenol	21,000	4,600,000
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	2.1	6.5
Base Neutral Compounds		
Acenaphthene	1,200	2,700
Acenaphthylene	4	4
Anthracene	9,600	110,000
Benzidine	0.00012	0.00054
Benzo(a)Anthracene	0.0044	0.049

Parameter	Screening Levels ^{1,2}	
	MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³	Non-MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³
Benzo(a)Pyrene	0.0044	0.049
Benzo(b)Fluoranthene	0.0044	0.049
Benzo(ghi)Perylene	4	4
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene	0.0044	0.049
Bis(2-chloroethoxyl)Methane	4	4
Bis(2-Chloroethyl)Ether	0.031	1.4
Bis(2-Chloroisopropyl)Ether	1,400	170,000
Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate	1.8	5.9
4-Bromophenyl Phenyl Ether	4	4
Butylbenzyl Phthalate	3,000	5,200
2-Chloronaphthalene	1,700	4,300
4-Chlorophenyl Phenyl Ether	4	4
Chrysene	0.0044	0.049
Dibenzo(a,h)Anthracene	0.0044	0.049
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	2,700	17,000
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	400	2,600
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	400	2,600
3,3'-Dichlorobenzene	0.04	0.077
Diethyl Phthalate	23,000	120,000
Dimethyl Phthalate	313,000	2,900,000
di-n-Butyl Phthalate	2,700	12,000
2,4-Dinitrotoluene	0.11	9.1
2,6-Dinitrotoluene	4	4
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	0.040	0.54
Di-n-Octyl Phthalate	4	4
Fluoranthene	300	370
Fluorene	1,300	14,000
Hexachlorobenzene	0.00075	0.00077
Hexachlorobutadiene	0.44	50
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	240	17,000
Hexachloroethane	1.9	8.9
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)Pyrene	0.0044	0.049
Isophorone	8.4	600
Naphthalene	4	4
Nitrobenzene	17	1,900
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	0.00069	8.1

Parameter	Screening Levels ^{1,2}	
	MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³	Non-MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine	0.005	1.4
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine	5.0	16
Phenanthrene	4	4
Pyrene	960	11,000
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	4	4
Pesticides		
Aldrin	0.00013	0.00014
alpha-BHC	0.0039	0.013
beta-BHC	0.014	0.046
delta-BHC	4	4
gamma-BHC	0.019	0.063
Chlordane	0.00057	0.00059
4,4'-DDT	0.00059	0.00059
4,4'-DDE	0.00059	0.00059
4,4'-DDD	0.00083	0.00084
Dieldrin	0.00014	0.00014
alpha-Endosulfan	0.056	0.056
beta-Endosulfan	0.056	0.056
Endosulfan Sulfate	110	240
Endrin	0.036	0.036
Endrin Aldehyde	0.76	0.81
Heptachlor	0.00021	0.00021
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.00010	0.00011
PCBs, sum of ⁶	0.00017	0.00017
Toxaphene	0.0002	0.0002

Parameter	Screening Levels ^{1,2}	
	MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³	Non-MUN Designated Waters (µg/L) ³

¹ Dischargers approved for a categorical exception for meeting the priority pollutant criteria/objectives as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP are not required to perform wastewater sampling for priority pollutants contained in Table B-2 and B-3.

² The screening levels for MUN designated waters were established based on the California Toxics Rule (CTR) criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life or for the protection of human health for consumption of water and organisms, whichever was the most stringent. The screening levels for Non-MUN designated waters were established based on CTR criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life or CTR criteria for the protection of human health for the consumption of organisms only, whichever was the most stringent.

³ µg/L = micrograms per liter

⁴ Priority pollutants for which no applicable CTR criteria for the protection of human health or aquatic life exist include asbestos (non-MUN only), beryllium, chloroethane, 2-chloroethylvinyl ether, chloroform, 1,1-dichloroethane, methyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 2-nitrophenol, 4-nitrophenol, 3-methyl-4-chlorophenol, acenaphthylene, benzo(ghi)perylene, bis(2-chloroethoxy)methane, 4-bromophenyl phenyl ether, 4-chlorophenyl phenyl ether, 2,6-dinitrotoluene, di-n-octyl phthalate, naphthalene, phenanthrene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, delta-BHC, and asbestos (non-MUN only). Therefore, screening levels for those parameters have not been established and analysis for these parameters is not required.

⁵ MFL = million fibers per liter

⁶ The screening level applies to the sum of Aroclors 1242, 1254, 1221, 1232, 1248, 1280, and 1016.

Table B-3. Screening Levels for Hardness-Dependent Priority Pollutant Metals

Parameter	Units	Hardness in mg/L (H) ³			
		H < 200	200 ≤ H < 300	300 ≤ H < 400	400 ≤ H
		Screening Level ^{1,2}	Screening Level ^{1,2}	Screening Level ^{1,2}	Screening Level ^{1,2}
Cadmium, Total Recoverable	µg/L	2.5	5.1	6.6	7.3
Chromium (III)	µg/L	207	438	577	644
Copper, Total Recoverable	µg/L	9.3	20	27	31
Lead, Total Recoverable	µg/L	3.2	10	16	19
Nickel, Total Recoverable	µg/L	52	113	151	169
Silver, Total Recoverable	µg/L	4.1	20	35	44
Zinc, Total Recoverable	µg/L	120	260	346	388

¹ Dischargers approved for a categorical exception for meeting the priority pollutant criteria/objectives as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP are not required to perform wastewater sampling for priority pollutants and hardness contained in Table B-2 and B-3.

² The screening levels apply to discharges to both MUN and non-MUN waters and were established based on the CTR criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life, which are more stringent than CTR criteria for both the protection of human health for consumption of water and organisms and protection of human health for the consumption of organisms only.

³ Dischargers shall also analyze the effluent and the receiving water for hardness.

B. TSS, Oil and Grease, pH, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons and Hardness. All Dischargers seeking authorization to discharge under this General Board Order shall sample and analyze a representative effluent sample for the constituents identified in Table B-4. The results of the analyses shall be submitted with the completed NOI.

Table B-4. Screening Levels for TSS, Oil and Grease, pH, and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons

Parameter	Units	Screening Level
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) ¹	mg/L	95
Oil and Grease ¹	mg/L	25
pH ¹	standard units	Range 6 -9
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons ^{1,2}	mg/L	0.1

¹ Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

² Applies only to dewatering/discharge operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering/discharge operations.

III. ANALYSES REQUIRED FOR DISCHARGES FROM WATER SYSTEM-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND OTHER LOW THREAT DISCHARGE ACTIVITIES

A. Total Residual Chlorine. All Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities seeking authorization to discharge under this General Board Order shall sample and analyze a representative effluent sample for total residual chlorine or dechlorinating agent and compare the result to the screening level contained in Table B-5 below. Dischargers of wastewater from dewatering activities and groundwater extraction activities that do not add or use chlorine in the discharge are not required to sample for total residual chlorine.

Table B-5 Screening Level for Total Residual Chlorine

Parameter	Units	Screening Level
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	0.011 ¹

¹ Total residual chlorine shall be analyzed with a method sensitive to and accurate at a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L, or any more stringent reporting level included in a final statewide policy or standard for total residual chlorine. Any excursion above the screening level and greater than or equal to a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L or a future reporting level included in a statewide policy adopted by the State Water Board shall be considered an exceedance of the screening level.

IV. ANALYSES REQUIRED FOR HYDROSTATIC TEST WATER DISCHARGES

A. Hydrostatic Water Discharges. All Dischargers of wastewater from hydrostatic test water discharges shall sample and analyze a representative effluent sample and compare the results to the screening level contained in Table B-6 below. Dischargers of wastewater that do not add or have chlorine in the discharge are not required to sample for total residual chlorine.

Table B-6 Screening Level for Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges

Parameter	Units	Screening Level
Suspended Solids, Total	mg/L	95
BOD ₅ @ 20° C or CBOD ₅ @ 20° C	mg/L	55 for BOD ₅ or 50 for CBOD ₅
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25
Turbidity	NTU	75
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.2
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	0.011 ¹

¹ Total residual chlorine shall be analyzed with a method sensitive to and accurate at a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L, or any more stringent reporting level included in a final statewide policy or standard for total residual chlorine. Any excursion above the screening level and greater than or equal to a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L or a future reporting level included in a statewide policy adopted by the State Water Board shall be considered an exceedance of the screening level.

V. ANALYSES REQUIRED FOR DISCHARGES TO SPECIFIC WATERBODIES AND WATERBODIES WITH SPECIFIC DESIGNATED USES

A. Section 303(d) Parameters. If the proposed receiving water is listed as impaired on the latest Clean Water Act section 303(d) List, the Discharger shall analyze a representative sample of the discharge for the parameter(s) causing the impairment and submit the results with the completed NOI. The latest section 303(d) List may be found at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml. The 2006 section 303(d) List for the Colorado River Basin includes the following impaired waters:

Table B-7. 2006 Section 303(d) Parameters

Impaired Waterbody	Parameter
Alamo River	Chlorpyrifos, DDT, dieldrin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), selenium, and toxaphene
Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel (CVSWC) ¹²	Pathogens, toxaphene
Colorado River (Imperial Reservoir to California-Mexico Border)	Selenium
Imperial Valley Drains	DDT, dieldrin, endosulfan, PCBs, selenium, toxaphene
New River (Imperial County)	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, chlordane, chloroform, chlorpyrifos, copper, DDT, diazinon, dieldrin, mercury, meta-para xylenes, nutrients, organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen, o-xylenes, PCBs, p-cymene, p-dichlorobenzene/DCB, pesticides, selenium, toluene, toxaphene, toxicity, and trash
Palo Verde Outfall Drain and Lagoon	DDT and pathogens

¹² See Region 7 Basin Plan for applicable segments of the CVSWC.

Impaired Waterbody	Parameter
Salton Sea	Nutrients, salinity, and selenium

B. Waterbody or Designated Use-Specific Analyses. The *Water Quality Control Plan, Colorado River Basin* (the Basin Plan) establishes receiving water limitations for the discharge of certain pollutants to specific waterbodies. Dischargers proposing to discharge low threat wastewater under this General Board Order to waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II, segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I or REC-II, or the New River shall analyze a representative sample of the effluent for the parameters indicated in Tables B-8 through B-10 below, as applicable, and compare the results to the screening levels noted. The Discharger shall submit the results of all analyses performed with the completed NOI.

Table B-8. Screening Level for E. coli for Discharges to Waterbodies Designated as REC-I and Segments of the Colorado River Designated as REC-I

Parameter	Units	Screening Level
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (E. coli)	MPN/100 mL	126

Table B-9. Screening Level for E. coli for Discharges to Waterbodies Designated as REC-II and Segments of the Colorado River Designated as REC-II

Parameter	Units	Screening Level
E. coli	MPN/100 mL	630

Table B-10. Screening Level for E. coli, Enterococci, Fecal Coliform Organisms, and Total Suspended Solids for Discharges to the New River

Parameter	Units	Screening Level
E. coli	MPN/100 mL	126
Enterococci	MPN/100 mL	33
Fecal Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	200
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	95 ¹

¹ The TSS effluent limitation of 95 mg/L for TSS from hydrostatic test water discharges is more stringent and shall be in effect

ATTACHMENT C – NOTICE OF INTENT

**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF
GENERAL BOARD ORDER NO. R7-2009-0300
FOR DISCHARGES OF LOW THREAT WASTEWATERS TO SURFACE WATER**

To obtain coverage under this General Board Order, which also serves as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, the Discharger must submit a complete application, including the following requirements. Additional information may be requested by the Regional Water Board for specific sites / projects.

I. REASON FOR FILING

New Discharge(s) <input type="checkbox"/>	NPDES Permit Reissuance or amendments to existing NOI <input type="checkbox"/>	Change from Individual Permit to General Permit <input type="checkbox"/>
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II. EXISTING PERMITS/REQUIREMENTS (IF APPLICABLE)

List any active Board Orders or Permits adopted by this Regional Water Board for current discharge(s).
1. Board Order No. _____
2. NPDES Permit(s) _____

III. PROJECT / AGENCY NAME AND PROJECT / AGENCY SITE ADDRESS

INFORMATION *(If additional projects are involved, provide information in a supplemental letter.)*

Project/Agency Name			
Project Site or Agency Address			
Mailing Address for Project Site or Agency			
City	State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person for Project or Agency	Phone number for Contact	Email for Contact	
For specific project provide the following			
1. Assessor's Parcel Numbers: <i>Facility:</i>	2. Latitude: <i>Facility:</i>	3. Longitude: <i>Facility:</i>	

IV. CONTRACTOR/OPERATOR

(If the discharger is not a public agency and a contractor or operator is applying for permit, complete this section, if necessary provide additional information in a supplemental letter.)

Name				
Mailing Address				
City	State	Zip	License Number	
Contact Person	Contractor <input type="checkbox"/>		Operator <input type="checkbox"/>	
Owner Type <i>(check one)</i>	1. Individual <input type="checkbox"/>	2. Corporation <input type="checkbox"/>	3. Government Agency <input type="checkbox"/>	4. Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>
				5. Other <input type="checkbox"/>

V. PROPERTY OWNER *(For project specific discharges where property owner is different from applicant. If additional property owners are involved, provide information in a supplemental letter.)*

Name					
Mailing Address					
City	State	Zip	License Number		
Contact Person					
Owner Type <i>(check one)</i>	1. Individual <input type="checkbox"/>	2. Corporation <input type="checkbox"/>	3. Government Agency <input type="checkbox"/>	4. Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	5. Other <input type="checkbox"/>

VI. ADDRESS WHERE LEGAL NOTICE MAY BE SERVED

Name			
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person	Email for Contact Person		

VII. BILLING ADDRESS *(where annual fee invoices should be sent)*

Name			
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person	Email for Contact Person		

VIII. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Provide a full description on official letterhead of the proposed project, BMP or Control Strategy Plan, and discharge(s). Include the proposed maximum daily discharge volume in gallons per day (gpd), the approximate start-up date for the project and discharge, and the projected discharge duration.

Start Date _____ Estimated Stop Date _____ Discharge or Design Flow Rate *(in gpd)* _____

Is the discharge continuous or intermittent?

Are additives in the discharge? Yes No

If yes, please specify the additive and/or sample results: _____

Agencies having multiple discharges shall include in the project description estimates of the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges expected to the receiving water(s). Locations shall be provided for continuous discharges greater than 24 hours.

Dischargers of wastewater from drainage of ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impounded water, provide verification that pesticides, insecticides, biocides, and/or other chemicals that may have been applied to the wastewater are not present in the discharge (e.g., results of wastewater analyses or certification that chemicals have not been applied to the wastewater).

IX. DISCHARGE LOCATION AND RECEIVING WATER INFORMATION

1.	Name of Receiving Water(s): _____
2.	Receiving Water is tributary to (name major <i>downstream</i> water body(ies)): _____
3.	Receiving Water Designation <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal and Domestic Supply <input type="checkbox"/> Water Contact Recreation (<i>check all that apply</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Contact Water Recreation
4.	Discharge Point Latitude (Deg, Min, Sec) _____ Longitude (Deg, Min, Sec) _____ Dischargers or Agencies having multiple discharges shall provide the latitude and longitude of known discharge locations in a supplemental letter for continuous discharges exceeding 24 hours.
5.	Identify and describe the proposed effluent (EFF-001), upstream receiving water (RSW-001), and downstream receiving water monitoring locations. If upstream and/or downstream receiving water monitoring cannot be conducted either because receiving water is not present or because the discharge is to a storm drain channel and does not contribute to a downstream receiving waterbody, indicate in the space below or in a supplemental letter. _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attach a map of at least 1:24000 (1"=2000') showing the discharge site (e.g., USGS 7.5' topographic map). The map should also show the treatment system, discharge point, and surface waters. Agencies having more than one discharge location may submit a service area map or regional map.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide a copy of the letter of acceptance or permit from the agency (e.g., municipality, water district, or other special district) responsible for the discharge location to allow the discharge into their drainage system, if applicable.

X. SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS

Analyses Required of All Dischargers

- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent for the priority pollutants listed in Table B-2 and Table B-3 of Attachment B. *(Required of all Dischargers. Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities may pursue any or all of the following three options to satisfy this requirement.)*
 - Complete section XIV of this NOI if applying for a categorical exception for meeting the priority pollutant criteria / objectives as authorized under section 5.3 of the SIP¹. Dischargers granted a categorical exception are not required to perform wastewater sampling for the priority pollutants contained in Tables B-2 and B-3 of Attachment B. *(Optional for Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities.)*
 - Provide the summary results of monitoring for applicable parameters reported in the annual Consumer Confidence Report as required by Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 20 of the California Code of Regulations to satisfy the sampling requirements contained in Tables B-2 and/or B-3 for applicable parameters. *(Optional for Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities.)*
 - Provide a copy of the waiver(s) for monitoring requirements granted by the California Department of Public Health, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management for the monitoring requirements contained in Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15 of the California Code of Regulations. Dischargers granted a waiver may be exempt from the sampling requirements for the applicable parameter(s) contained in Tables B-2 and/or B-3 of Attachment B. *(Optional for Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities.)*
- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent and the receiving water for conventional and non-conventional pollutants as specified in Table B-4 of Attachment B. *(Required of all Dischargers.)*

Analyses Required for Discharges from Water System-Related Activities and Other Low Threat Discharge Activities

- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent for total chlorine residual or a dechlorinating agent as specified in Table B-5 of Attachment B. *(Required only of Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities containing chlorine.)*

Analyses Required for Discharges of Hydrostatic Test Water

- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent as specified in Table B-6 of Attachment B.

Analyses Required for Discharges to Specific Waterbodies or Waterbodies with Specific Designated Uses

- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent for pollutants causing impairment under the current Clean Water Act section 303(d) list. The list of impaired surface water may be found at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml. *(Required of all Dischargers proposing to discharge to an impaired surface water)*
- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent for E. coli as specified in Table B-8 of Attachment B. *(Required only of Dischargers to waterbodies designated as REC-I and segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I)*
- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent for E. coli as specified in Table B-9 of Attachment B. *(Required only of Dischargers to waterbodies designated as REC-II and segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-II)*
- Provide the results of analysis of the proposed effluent for E. coli, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, and TSS as specified in Table B-10 of Attachment B. *(Required only of Dischargers to the New River)*
- Provide the analytical data from the laboratory or reports provided to regulatory agencies.

Were the screening levels for Tables B-4 through B-10 in Attachment B exceeded?

Yes No →If No, skip to section XII below.

If "yes," identify the parameters for which screening levels were exceeded:

¹ Policy for the Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP).

XI. ABILITY TO COMPLY WITH EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

How will you comply with the effluent limitations in this General Board Order for the pollutants that exceeded the applicable screening levels in Tables B-4 through B-10 Attachment B? *[Please describe the best management practices (BMP) and/or control strategies you will employ to ensure compliance with proposed discharge(s)]*

XII. BMP OR CONTROL STRATEGY PLAN

Do you have a BMP or Control Strategy Plan in place for your proposed discharge(s)?
 Yes No

If yes, is the BMP Plan consistent with the general guidance contained in the USEPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004)?
 Yes No

Check applicable item below.

If you exceeded a screening level in Attachment B for any parameter, you must submit a BMP or Control Strategy Plan with your completed NOI. The BMP Plan must be consistent with the general guidance contained in the USEPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004).
 Check here if a BMP or Control Strategy Plan is included in the NOI package.

If you did not exceed a screening level in Attachment B for any parameter, you must develop and implement a BMP Plan and have it available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. The BMP Plan must be consistent with the general guidance contained in the USEPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004).

XIII. CATEGORICAL EXCEPTION FOR PRIORITY POLLUTANT CRITERIA / OBJECTIVES

Is the discharge necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code? Yes No → If No skip to section XIV below.

If "yes," the Discharger shall submit the following for the approval of the Executive Officer:

A detailed description of the proposed action, including the proposed method of completing the action;

A time schedule;

A discharge and receiving water quality monitoring plan (before project initiation, during the project, and after project completion, with the appropriate quality control procedures); include summary results of monitoring for applicable parameters reported in the annual Consumer Confidence Report as required by Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 20 of the California Code of Regulations

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation;

Contingency plans;

Identification of alternate water supply (if needed); and

Residual waste disposal plans.

XIV. EVALUATION OF RECLAMATION OPTIONS

To obtain coverage under this General Board Order, the Discharger is required to evaluate reclamation options.

Provide proof that discharge to the local municipal wastewater treatment plant is not viable or explain why it is infeasible to connect to the wastewater treatment plant. The Discharger may submit any denial or restrictive flow letter from the wastewater treatment plant as proof that this is not a viable option.

Provide an explanation why land disposal is not a viable option.

Provide an explanation why underground injection is not a viable option.

XV. FEES

Provide the current State Water Board adopted permit fee, plus applicable surcharge(s). The current fees for Category 3 discharges (i.e., those discharges that require minimal or no treatment systems to meet limits and pose no significant threat to water quality) is \$1,200. The applicable surcharge is 21%. Consult <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees> to verify current fees.

XVI. CERTIFICATION

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

The Regional Water Board will be immediately notified of any violation, or threatened violation, of this General Board Permit.

Signature of Contractor/Operator/Responsible Party		Signature of Property Owner	
Print or Type Name		Print or Type Name	
Title	Date	Title	Date

XVII. OTHER

Attach additional sheets to explain any responses which need clarification. List attachments with titles and dates below:

A representative of the Regional Water Board will notify you within 30 days of receipt of your Notice of Intent. The notice will state if your discharge meets the criteria for this General Board Order, whether the Notice of Intent is complete, or if additional information must be submitted to complete your application, pursuant to division 7, section 13260 of the California Water Code.

The completion date of your application is normally the date when all required information, including the correct fee, is received by the Regional Water Board.

FOR REGIONAL WATER BOARD OFFICE USE ONLY

Date NOI Received:	Letter to Discharger Sent:	Fee Amount Received:	Check #:
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ATTACHMENT D – STANDARD PROVISIONS

I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE

A. Duty to Comply

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the conditions of this General Board Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a).)
2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this General Board Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this General Board Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this General Board Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

E. Property Rights

1. This General Board Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)

2. The issuance of this General Board Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. (40 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

F. Inspection and Entry

The Discharger shall allow the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, § 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this General Board Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1));
2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this General Board Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2));
3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this General Board Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3)); and
4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring General Board Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4).)

G. Bypass

1. Definitions

- a. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).)
 - b. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)
2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)

3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Regional Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):
 - a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A));
 - b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and
 - c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Regional Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)
4. The Regional Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Regional Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)

5. Notice

- a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)
- b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

H. Upset

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Discharger. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.H.2 below are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was

caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).)

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):
 - a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));
 - b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));
 - c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and
 - d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)
3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION

A. General

This General Board Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any General Board Order condition. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(f).)

B. Duty to Reapply

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this General Board Order after the expiration date of this General Board Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

C. Transfers

This General Board Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Regional Water Board. The Regional Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the General Board Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(3); § 122.61.)

III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING

- A. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)
- B. Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures under Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under Part 136 unless otherwise specified in Part 503 unless other test procedures have been specified in this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(4); § 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS

- A. Except for records of monitoring information required by this General Board Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by Part 503), the Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this General Board Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this General Board Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)

B. Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
3. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
5. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
6. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)

C. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):

1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING

A. Duty to Provide Information

The Discharger shall furnish to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this General Board Order or to determine compliance with this General Board Order. Upon request, the Discharger shall also furnish to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA copies of records required to be kept by this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Wat. Code, § 13267.)

B. Signatory and Certification Requirements

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, and/or USEPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, and V.B.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)
2. All permit applications shall be signed by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means: (i) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision-making functions for the corporation, or (ii) the manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(1).)
3. All reports required by this General Board Order and other information requested by the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
 - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(1));
 - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of

- equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and
- c. The written authorization is submitted to the Regional Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)
4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Regional Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c).)
5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.3 above shall make the following certification:
- “I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.” (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

C. Monitoring Reports

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(l)(4).)
2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Regional Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)
3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this General Board Order using test procedures approved under Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under Part 136 unless otherwise specified in Part 503, or as specified in this General Board Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Regional Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)

4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

D. Compliance Schedules

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this General Board Order, shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting

1. The Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
 - a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
 - b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this General Board Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)
3. The Regional Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

F. Planned Changes

The Discharger shall give notice to the Regional Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in section 122.29(b) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or
2. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing

permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

G. Anticipated Noncompliance

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Regional Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with General Board Order requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

H. Other Noncompliance

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

I. Other Information

When the Discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT

- A.** The Regional Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS

A. Non-Municipal Facilities

Existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural Dischargers shall notify the Regional Water Board as soon as they know or have reason to believe (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)):

- 1.** That any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in this General Board Order, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels" (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)):
 - a.** 100 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(i));
 - b.** 200 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for acrolein and acrylonitrile; 500 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for 2,4-dinitrophenol and 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and 1 milligram per liter (mg/L) for antimony (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(ii));

- c.** Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the Report of Waste Discharge (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(iii)); or
 - d.** The level established by the Regional Water Board in accordance with section 122.44(f). (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(iv).)
- 2.** That any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in the discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in this General Board Order, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels" (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)):
 - a.** 500 micrograms per liter (µg/L) (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(i));
 - b.** 1 milligram per liter (mg/L) for antimony (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(ii));
 - c.** Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the Report of Waste Discharge (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(iii)); or
 - d.** The level established by the Regional Water Board in accordance with section 122.44(f). (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(iv).)

ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

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ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)

The *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR), section 122.48 requires that all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. California Water Code (CWC) sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) to require technical and monitoring reports. This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements, which implement the federal and California regulations.

I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS

- A.** Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be collected at the monitoring locations specified below and in the Notice of Authorization (NOA) granted by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer, and, unless otherwise specified, at the most representative sampling point available before the monitored flow joins the receiving water. Monitoring locations shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of this Regional Water Board.

- B.** Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to ensure that the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. Devices selected shall be capable of measuring flows with a maximum deviation of less than ± 10 percent from true discharge rates throughout the range of expected discharge volumes. Guidance in the selection, installation, calibration, and operation of acceptable flow measurement devices may be obtained from the following references:
 - 1. "A Guide to Methods and Standards for the Measurement of Water Flow," U.S. Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards, NBS Special Publication 421, May 1975, 96 pp. (Available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Order by SD Catalog No. C13.10:421.)
 - 2. "Water Measurement Manual," U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Second Edition, Revised Reprint, 1974, 327 pp. (Available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Order by Catalog No. 172.19/2:W29/2, Stock No. S/N 24003-0027.)
 - 3. "Flow Measurement in Open Channels and Closed Conduits," U.S. Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards, NBS Special Publication 484, October 197, 982 pp. (Available in paper copy or microfiche from National Technical Information Services (NTIS) Springfield, VA 22151. Order by NTIS No. PB-273 535/5ST.)

4. "NPDES Compliance Sampling Manual," U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Office of Water Enforcement, Publication MDC-51, 1977, 140 pp. (Available from the General Services Administration (8FFS), Centralized Mailing Lists Services, Building 41, Denver Federal Center, CO 80225.)
- C. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year, or more frequently, to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.
- D. All analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Public Health. Laboratories analyzing monitoring samples shall be certified by the Department of Public Health, in accordance with the provision of CWC section 13176, and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports.
- E. Chemical and bacteriological analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Public Health (DPH; formerly the Department of Health Services).
- F. All analyses shall be performed in a laboratory certified to perform such analyses by the California DPH, with the exception of total residual chlorine, pH, electrical conductivity and temperature. Laboratories that perform sample analyses shall be identified in all monitoring reports. A quality control and assurance manual containing steps for sampling and analysis for total residual chlorine, pH, electrical conductivity, and temperature shall be maintained and available for inspection by Regional Board staff. A Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program must conform to USEPA guidelines and instituted by the laboratory for these analyses.
- G. The collection, preservation, and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with the test procedures under 40 CFR Part 136 (revised as of May 14, 1999) "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants," promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), unless otherwise specified in this MRP. In addition, the Regional Water Board and/or USEPA, at their discretion, may specify test methods that are more sensitive than those specified in 40 CFR Part 136.
- H. Monitoring results, including noncompliance, shall be reported at intervals and in a manner specified in this MRP.
- I. If the facility is not in operation, or there is no discharge during a required reporting period, the Discharger shall forward a letter to the Regional Water Board indicating that there has been no activity during the required reporting period.
- J. Except for data determined to be confidential under the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 308, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this General Board Order shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Regional Water Board and the Regional Administrator of USEPA. As required by the CWA, effluent data shall not be

considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statements on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in CWA section 309 and CWC section 13387.

II. MONITORING LOCATIONS

Each Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this General Board Order.

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
001 ¹	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected.
--	RSW-001	Immediately upstream of the discharge point to obtain a representative sample of the background conditions of the upstream flow.
--	RSW-002	Downstream of the discharge point to obtain a representative sample of the combined flow.

¹ Dischargers with more than one discharge point must comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements of this General Board Order at each discharge point as identified in the Notice of Applicability (NOA).

III. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – Not Applicable

IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location EFF-001

1. All Dischargers shall monitor their low threat wastewater at EFF-001 according to the requirements in Table E-2. Dischargers with more than one discharge point must comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in this General Board Order at each discharge point as specified in the NOA.

Table E-2. Effluent Monitoring for All Discharges

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow ¹⁰	gpd	Estimate	1X/Day	3
TSS ⁴	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Oil and Grease ⁴	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
pH ⁴	standard units	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 6
Total Dissolved Solids ⁴	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 7
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons ⁵	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃) ⁹	mg/L	Grab	1X/Year	3
Priority Pollutant listed in Table B-2 and B-3 ⁹	µg/L	Grab	1X/Year	3, 8

¹ gpd = gallons per day

µg/L = micrograms per liter

² If the discharge is intermittent rather than continuous, then on the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-2 above, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.

³ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board.

⁴ Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

⁵ Applies only to dewatering/discharge operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering/discharge operation.

⁶ A handheld field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this MRP shall be maintained by the Discharger.

⁷ Electrical conductivity data (µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter) can be used for total dissolved solids if the discharger can produce a correlation between the two parameters.

⁸ If the priority pollutants were monitored at the onset during the application process, the discharger may submit the analytical results in lieu of the first sampling results.

⁹ Dischargers approved for a categorical exception for meeting the priority pollutant criteria/objectives as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP are not required to perform wastewater sampling for priority pollutants and hardness.

¹⁰ Not applicable to untreated discharges from groundwater wells used as drinking water sources.

- Discharges of wastewater from water system-related activities shall monitor their low threat wastewater at EFF-001 according to the requirements in Table E-2 through E3. Dischargers with more than one discharge point must comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in this General Board Order at each discharge point as specified in the NOA.

Table E-3. Effluent Monitoring for Water System-Related Activities Discharges

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
Chlorine, Total Residual ⁶	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 4, 5

¹ mg/L = milligrams per liter

² If the discharge is intermittent rather than continuous, then on the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-3 above, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.

³ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board.

⁴ A handheld field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this MRP shall be maintained by the Discharger.

⁵ Total chlorine residual shall be monitored with a method sensitive to and accurate at a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L, or any more stringent reporting level included in a final statewide policy or standard for total residual chlorine.

⁶ Not applicable to discharges from groundwater wells before chlorine is added to the water delivered to the potable water system.

- Discharges of wastewater from hydrostatic test water-related activities shall monitor their low threat wastewater at EFF-001 according to the requirements in Table E-2 through E4. Dischargers with more than one discharge point must comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in this General Board Order at each discharge point as specified in the NOA.

Table E-4. Effluent Monitoring for Hydrostatic Test Water-Related Activities Discharges

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
BOD ₅ @ 20 °C or CBOD ₅ @ 20 °C	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Oil and Grease	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 4
Settleable Solids	ml/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 4, 5

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
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- ¹ mg/L = milligrams per liter
ml/L = milliliter per liter
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- ² If the discharge is intermittent rather than continuous, then on the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-4 above, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.
- ³ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board.
- ⁴ A handheld field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this MRP shall be maintained by the Discharger.
- ⁵ Total chlorine residual shall be monitored with a method sensitive to and accurate at a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L, or any more stringent reporting level included in a final statewide policy or standard for total residual chlorine.

4. Discharges of wastewater to Specific Waterbodies shall monitor their low threat wastewater at EFF-001 according to the requirements provided in subsection IV.A.1 through 3 and Table E-5. Dischargers with more than one discharge point must comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in this General Board Order at each discharge point as specified in the NOA

Table E-5. Effluent Monitoring for Discharges to Specific Waterbodies¹

Parameter	Units ²	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ³	Required Analytical Test Method
<i>Eschericia coli</i> (E. coli) ⁶	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1X/Discharge ⁴	5
Enterococci ⁶	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1X/Discharge ⁴	5
Fecal Coliform Organisms ⁶	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1X/Discharge ⁴	5

Parameter	Units ²	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ³	Required Analytical Test Method
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¹ Dischargers proposing to discharge low threat wastewater under this General Board Order to waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II, segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I or REC-II, or the New River shall analyze a representative sample of the effluent for the parameters as indicated in Tables B-8 through B-10.

² MPN/100 mL = most probable number per 100 milliliters

³ If the discharge is intermittent rather than continuous, then on the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-5 above, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.

⁴ If discharge period is over 30 calendar days a minimum of 5 samples are required within 30 days. At least one sample per week.

⁵ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board.

⁶ Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

V. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS – Not Applicable

VI. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – Not Applicable

VII. RECLAMATION MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – Not Applicable

VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location RSW-001 (Upstream Receiving Water)

The Discharger shall monitor the receiving water at monitoring location RSW-001, as in Table E-6 below. In the event that no receiving water is present at RSW-001, receiving water monitoring at RSW-001 is not required.

Table E-6. Upstream Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
Dissolved Oxygen ⁶	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Total Dissolved Solids ⁶	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 4
pH ⁶	standard units	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃) ⁵	mg/L	Grab	1X/Year	3
Temperature ⁶	°F	Grab	1X/Discharge	3

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
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¹ mg/L = milligrams per liter
°F = Degrees Fahrenheit

² If the discharge is intermittent rather than continuous, then on the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-6 above, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.

³ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board

⁴ Electrical conductivity data (µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter) can be used for total dissolved solids if the discharger can produce a correlation between the two parameters.

⁵ Dischargers approved for a categorical exception for meeting the priority pollutant criteria/objectives as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP are not required to perform wastewater sampling for hardness.

⁶ Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

B. Monitoring Location RSW-002 (Downstream Receiving Water)

The Discharger shall monitor the receiving water at monitoring location RSW-002, as in Table E-7 below. In the event that no receiving water is present at RSW-002, receiving water monitoring at RSW-002 is not required. Similarly, if the discharge is to a storm drain system, monitoring is not required unless the discharge flow is contributing to the downstream receiving waterbody.

Table E-7. Downstream Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units ¹	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency ²	Required Analytical Test Method
Dissolved Oxygen ⁵	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Total Dissolved Solids ⁵	mg/L	Grab	1X/Discharge	3, 4
pH ⁵	standard units	Grab	1X/Discharge	3
Temperature ⁵	°F	Grab	1X/Discharge	3

¹ mg/L = milligrams per liter
°F = Degrees Fahrenheit

² If the discharge is intermittent rather than continuous, then on the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-7 above, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.

³ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board

⁴ Electrical conductivity data (µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter) can be used for total dissolved solids if the discharger can produce a correlation between the two parameters

⁵ Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

IX. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – Not Applicable

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

1. New Dischargers who have received an NOA for coverage under this General Board Order shall inform the Regional Water Board 24 hours before the start of the initial discharge.
2. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.
3. Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted by the Executive Officer to a less frequent basis if a Discharger makes a request and the request is backed by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted.

B. Self Monitoring Reports (SMRs)

1. At any time during the term of this permit, the State or Regional Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) using the State Water Board’s California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) program Web site (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/). Until such notification is given, the Discharger shall submit hard copy SMRs. The CIWQS Web site will provide additional directions for SMR submittal in the event there will be service interruption for electronic submittal.
2. Authorized Dischargers shall report in the SMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections II through VIII. The Discharger shall submit monthly, quarterly, semiannual, annual SMRs including the results of all required monitoring using USEPA-approved test methods or other test methods specified in this General Board Order. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this General Board Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR.
3. Monitoring periods and reporting for project specific required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

Table E-8. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
1 / Discharge Event	NOA effective date	All	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
1 / Day	NOA effective date	Midnight through 11:59 pm or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for the purposes of sampling	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
2 / Week	Sunday following NOA effective date <i>or</i> on NOA effective date if a Sunday	Sunday through Saturday	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
1 / Month	First day of calendar month following NOA effective date <i>or</i> on NOA effective date if that date is the first day of the month	First day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
2 / Month	First day of calendar month following NOA effective date <i>or</i> on NOA effective date if that date is the first day of the month	First day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
1 / Quarter	Closest of January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 following (<i>or on</i>) NOA effective date	January 1 through March 31 April 1 through June 30 July 1 through September 30 October 1 through December 31	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
1 / Year	January 1 following (<i>or on</i>) NOA effective date	January 1 through December 31	February 1
2 / Year	Closest of January 1 or July 1 following (<i>or on</i>) NOA effective date	January 1 through June 30 July 1 through December 31	February 1 August 1

4. Monitoring periods and reporting for agencies with categorical exception shall be annually.

C. Reporting Protocols

Authorized Dischargers shall report with each sample result the applicable reported ML and the current Method Detection Limit (MDL), as determined by the procedure in 40 CFR Part 136.

The Discharger shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

1. Sample results greater than or equal to the reported ML shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).

2. Sample results less than the reporting level (RL), but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported.

For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ as well as the words "Estimated Concentration" (may be shortened to "Est. Conc."). The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy (+ a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.

3. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or ND.
4. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.
5. **Multiple Sample Data.** If the permit contains an average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) for a priority pollutant and more than one sample result is available for the pollutant, the Discharger shall report the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the Discharger shall report the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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.
6. Authorized Dischargers shall submit SMRs in accordance with the following requirements:
 - a. The Discharger shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with interim and/or final effluent limitations. The Discharger is not required to duplicate the submittal of data that is entered in a tabular format within CIWQS. When electronic submittal of data is required and CIWQS does not provide for

entry into a tabular format within the system, the Discharger shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.

- b. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the SMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the waste discharge requirements (WDRs); discuss corrective actions taken or planned; and the proposed time schedule for corrective actions. Identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation.
- c. SMRs shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board, signed and certified as required by the Standard Provisions (Attachment D), to the address listed below in Table E-9:

Table E-9. Self-Monitoring Report – Mailing Address

Standard Mail/FedEx/UPS/Other Private Carriers
California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region 73-720 Fred Waring, Suite 100 Palm Desert, CA 92260

D. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) – Not Applicable

E. Other Reports

- 1. **Annual Report.** By February 1 of each year, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer containing the following:
 - a. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the facility/project for emergency and routine situations.
 - b. A statement certifying whether the current Best Management Practices (BMP) or Control Strategy Plan, reflect the Discharger’s operations as currently constructed and operated, and the date when the BMP or Control Strategy Plan was last revised and last reviewed for adequacy.
 - c. Dischargers shall provide a summary report that includes the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges to the receiving water(s).
 - d. For those dischargers with a project specific NOA, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were in compliance with this General Board Order.

- e. For those dischargers granted a categorical exception under 5.3 of the SIP, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code and were in compliance with this General Board Order.

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

As described in section II of this General Board Order, this Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this General Board Order.

This General Board Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for Dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this General Board Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this Discharger. Sections or subsections of this General Board Order not specifically identified as “not applicable” are fully applicable to this Discharger.

I. PERMIT INFORMATION

For the purposes of this General Board Order, references to the terms, Discharger, Permittee or Enrollee, in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to the term, Discharger, herein.

A. Background

In 1972, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (also referred to as the Clean Water Act or CWA) was amended to provide that the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States from any point source is effectively prohibited unless the discharge is in compliance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

On September 22, 1989, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) granted the State of California, through the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards), the authority to issue general NPDES permits pursuant to Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Parts 122 and 123.

Section 122.28 (40 CFR 122.28) provides for issuance of general permits to regulate a category of point sources if the sources involve the same or substantially similar types of operations, discharge the same type of waste, require the same type of effluent limitations or operating conditions, require similar monitoring, and would more appropriately be regulated under a *general* rather than an *individual* permit.

Individuals, public agencies, private business, and other legal entities occasionally need to discharge treated or untreated wastewaters directly into surface waters of the United States that pose an insignificant or minimal (i.e., low threat) to water quality. The activities that generate these low threat wastewaters are similar in that they generate wastewater flows that are similar in volume and quality. Therefore, the Regional Water Board considers it appropriate to issue General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and a General NPDES Permit for Dischargers of such flows.

B. General Criteria

1. Individuals or entities proposing to discharge treated or untreated wastewaters containing little or no pollutants to waters of the United States must apply for coverage under this General Board Order **except** those whose discharges that are covered under other Regional Board or Statewide General Permit or individual permit.

This General Board Order is designed to cover low threat wastewater discharges to surface waters of the United States in the following activity categories:

- a. **Water System-Related Activities**¹. This category includes discharges from water treatment (including water recycling) facilities, industries, and other entities that maintain and operate potable or non-potable water systems.

Examples:

- Maintenance and repairs to uncontaminated water supply wells, vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances;
- Hydrostatic testing (*see also item I.B.9 below*) of vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances (includes testing of newly constructed potable or non-potable pipelines, tanks, and vessels);
- Disinfection of wells, vessels, pipelines, tanks, reservoirs, and appurtenances;
- Discharges from water (including recycled water) systems resulting from designed or planned pressure releases, backwashing, flushing, or similar operational activities; and
- Fire hydrant testing or flushing.

- b. **Dewatering Activities**². This category includes discharges from entities undertaking dewatering activities. *See also items I.B.3 through I.B.8 below.*

Examples:

- Treated or untreated groundwater from permanent or temporary dewatering operations to construct or protect pipelines and structures from groundwater infiltration or flotation; and
- Subterranean seepage dewatering, such as water extracted from crawl space pumps.

- c. **Groundwater Extraction Activities**³. This category includes discharges from entities that extract groundwater when investigating or cleaning up sites with soil and

¹ This General Board Order is not intended to cover releases to surface water from water systems used to transport and deliver surface water for groundwater replenishment, irrigation or other municipal, industrial or agricultural uses.

² This General Board Order is not intended to cover releases to surface water from subsurface drainage systems installed to reclaim lands for beneficial uses.

³ This General Board Order is not intended to cover releases to surface waters from untreated groundwater wells when operated as drinking water sources.

groundwater pollution or as a result of drilling, constructing, developing, and purging wells. *See also items I.B.3 through I.B.8 below.*

Examples:

- Groundwater pumped as an aid in the containment and/or cleanup of a containment plume or groundwater from cleanup sites (except for volatile organic constituents (VOC) contaminated groundwater);
- Groundwater generated from well drilling, construction, and development purging of wells;
- Groundwater extracted during aquifer tests;
- Equipment wash water;
- Geothermal well testing; and
- Groundwater infiltration (e.g., seepage, foundation or footage drainage, and seawater infiltration).

- d. **Other Low Threat Discharge Activities.** This category includes discharges from public and private entities that engage in other miscellaneous activities.

Examples:

- Pilot treatment discharges (less than 2 years in duration and where water is removed, treated, and discharged into the same water body at points having similar water characteristics);
- Evaporative condensate (e.g., discharges associated with atmospheric condensates including refrigeration, air conditioners, compressor condensate, and cooling towers);
- Equipment washing and spill wash water;
- Discharges from drainage of swimming or ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impounded water bodies⁴;
- Discharges that have same types of waste. Although they pose a low threat to water quality, they still require WDRs since they are not covered by other Statewide or Regional Water Board-wide General Orders or an individual permit.

2. This General Board Order is intended to cover individuals or entities that discharge low threat wastewaters to surface waters of the United States. Dischargers of low threat wastewaters to surface waters that have been enrolled for coverage and whose discharge is allowed under an existing individual permit, or State Water Board-wide or Regional Water Board-wide General Permit contained in Table F-1 are not required to apply for coverage under this General Board Order and may continue to discharge pursuant to the existing permit.

Table F-1. Related State Water or Regional Water Board-Wide General Permits

⁴ For these types of water bodies discharges, a full characterization of the wastewater for presence of pesticides, priority pollutants, and or other chemicals that have been applied to the wastewater needs to be provided. There must be a demonstration that there are no pollutants present at levels of concern

General Permit	Water Quality Order No. (NPDES General Permit No.)	Coverage
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity	99-08-DWQ (CAS000002)	Statewide permit that applies to construction activities (clearing, grading, stockpiling, or excavation) that result in soil disturbances of at least 1 acres of total land.
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities Excluding Construction Activities	97-03-DWQ (CAS000001)	Statewide permit that applies to new or existing industrial storm water discharges and authorized non-storm water discharges.
WDRs for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)	2003-0005-DWQ (CAS000004)	Statewide permit that applies to storm water discharges from small MS4s.
WDRs for the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	99-06-DWQ (CAS000003)	Statewide permit that applies to municipal storm water activities by Caltrans, in areas that require a MS4 permit and in areas that do not require a permit. Also applies to all Caltrans construction activities that require a permit under federal regulations.
Treated Groundwater from Cleanup of Petroleum-related and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Regional Water Board General Permit	R7-2009-0400 (CAG917001)	Regional Water Board-wide permit that applies to discharges resulting from the cleanup of groundwater polluted by releases of petroleum related organic compounds and other VOCs associated with chemical releases.
Statewide General NPDES Permit for Utility Vaults and Underground Structures	2006-0008-DWQ (CAG990002)	Statewide permit that applies to utility companies with short-term, intermittent discharges from utility vaults and underground structures.

- The State Water Board adopted General Board Order No. 99-08-DWQ (NPDES Permit No. CAS000002) specifying WDRs for discharges of storm water associated with construction activities. Special Provision No. C.3 of General Board Order No. 99-08-DWQ also allows for the limited discharge of non-storm water discharges where such discharges do not cause or contribute to a violation of any water quality standard. Receiving water limitations in General Board Order No. 99-08-DWQ require compliance with all applicable water quality standards, including those contained in the *Water Quality Control Plan, Colorado River Basin* (hereinafter Basin Plan). Non-storm water discharges include, but are not limited to, (a) irrigation of vegetative erosion control measures; (b) pipe flushing and testing; (c) street cleaning; (d) dewatering; and (e) other miscellaneous discharges necessary for the completion of the construction project. The Regional Water Board finds that Statewide General Board Order No. 99-08-DWQ provides adequate water quality protection and compliance monitoring for the covered non-storm water discharges related to construction activities. Such discharges may continue to be regulated under General Board Order No. 99-08-DWQ.

4. The State Water Board adopted General Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ (NPDES Permit No. CAS000001) specifying WDRs for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities, excluding construction activities, and some non-storm water discharges. Special Condition No. D.1 of General Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ authorizes such non-storm water discharges as (a) fire hydrant flushing; (b) potable water sources, including potable water related to the operation, maintenance, or testing of potable water systems; (c) drinking fountain water; (d) atmospheric condensates including refrigeration, air conditioners, and compressor condensate; (e) irrigation drainage; (f) landscape watering; (g) springs; (h) groundwater; (i) foundation or footage drainage; (j) sea water infiltration; and (k) discharges from fire fighting activities. General Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ further allows the Regional Water Board to establish additional monitoring and reporting requirements for these non-storm water discharges. The Regional Water Board finds that Statewide General Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ provides adequate water quality protection and compliance monitoring for the covered non-storm water discharges related to industrial activities. Such discharges may continue to be regulated under General Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ.
5. The State Water Board adopted General Board Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ (NPDES Permit No. CAS000004) specifying WDRs (Phase II storm water regulations) for discharges of storm water associated with small MS4s, and for limited discharges of non-storm water. Section D.2.c of General Board Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ authorizes such non-storm water discharges as (a) water line flushing; (b) landscape irrigation; (c) diverted stream flows; (d) rising ground waters; (e) uncontaminated ground water infiltration as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005, to separate storm sewers; (f) uncontaminated pumped ground water; (g) discharges from potable water sources; (h) foundation drains; (i) air conditioning condensation; (j) irrigation water; (k) springs; (l) water from crawl space pumps; (m) footing drains; (n) lawn watering; (o) individual residential car washing; (p) flows from riparian habitats and wetlands; and (q) dechlorinated swimming pool discharges. Discharges or flows from fire fighting activities are excluded from the effective prohibition against non-storm water and need only be addressed where they are identified as significant sources of pollutants to waters of the United States. General Board Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ allows the Regional Water Board to establish additional monitoring and reporting requirements for the non-storm water discharges. The Regional Water Board finds that Statewide General Board Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ provides adequate water quality protection and compliance monitoring for the covered non-storm water discharges related to MS4 activities. Such discharges may continue to be regulated under General Board Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ.
6. In 1999, the State Water Board adopted General Board Order No. 99-06-DWQ (NPDES Permit No. CAS000003) to cover all municipal storm water activities by Caltrans in California and all Caltrans construction activities in the state that require a permit under federal regulations. The Regional Water Board finds that General Order No. 99-06-DWQ provides adequate water quality protection and compliance monitoring for

covered low threat discharges. Such covered discharges may continue to be regulated under General Board Order No. 99-06-DWQ.

7. The Regional Water Board adopted General Board Order No. R7-2009-0400 (NPDES Permit No. CAG917001) on September 17, 2009 to regulate discharges of treated groundwater resulting from the cleanup of groundwater polluted by VOCs into surface waters. The Regional Water Board finds that General Board Order No. R7-2009-0400 provides adequate water quality protection and compliance monitoring for the applicable low threat discharges and that such discharges may continue to be regulated under that General Board Order or a subsequent updated General Board Order.
8. On July 19, 2006, the State Water Board adopted General Board Order No. 2006-0008-DWQ (NPDES Permit No. CAG990002) to regulate discharges from utility vaults and underground structures to surface waters. Utility companies include, but are not limited to, suppliers of natural gas, electricity, and telephone services. Utility companies with short-term, intermittent discharges from utility vaults and underground structures to surface water that do not cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above any applicable state of federal water quality objective / criteria or cause acute or chronic toxicity in the receiving water are authorized to discharge under the conditions set forth in the General Board Order. The Regional Water Board finds that General Board Order No. 2006-0008-DWQ provides adequate water quality protection and compliance monitoring for utility vault and underground structure discharges and that such discharges may continue to be regulated under that General Board Order.
9. On May 14, 1998 the Regional Water Board adopted General Board Order No. 98-300 (NPDES Permit No. CAG677001) to regulate discharges of hydrostatic test water to surface waters. The Regional Water Board recently rescinded this General Board Order via Board Order No. R7-2009-0029. Entities or individuals seeking to discharge hydrostatic test waters shall apply for coverage under this new General Board Order (R7-2009-0300).

II. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. General Permit Application Requirements.** Dischargers seeking coverage under this General Board Order shall submit the following information to the Regional Water Board: (1) Notice of Intent (NOI); (2) results of wastewater sampling; (3) proposed practices to comply with effluent limitations, if applicable; (4) Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan or Control Strategy Plan; (5) categorical exception data, if applicable; and (6) filing fee, plus applicable surcharge(s). Dischargers expecting to have multiple discharges over an established period need only submit one NOI but must specify in the NOI the project description, estimates of the number, frequency, rate and types of discharges expected to the receiving water body(ies). The Discharger's annual report as described in section X.E of the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) shall provide information on the actual discharges.

- 1. Notice of Intent.** Dischargers eligible to seek coverage under this General Board Order shall submit to the Executive Officer a completed NOI, as detailed in Attachment C. The NOI requires the Discharger to submit the following information:
 - a. General project or facility information;
 - b. Indication of discharge type(s), discharge period(s) (duration), proposed rate of discharge(s), and whether the discharge(s) is/are continuous or intermittent;
 - c. Indication that the wastewater discharges from drainage of ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impounded water do not contain pesticides, insecticides, biocides, and/or other chemicals that may have been applied to the wastewater;
 - d. Description of the discharge location;
 - e. Information concerning the receiving water body(ies);
 - f. Map (local and/or regional) showing project location(s), discharge points with latitude and longitude, the receiving waterbody with identifying information, and the location of any treatment or disposal systems;
 - g. A copy of the letter of acceptance or permit from the agency (e.g., municipality, water district, or other special district) responsible for the discharge location to allow the discharge into their drainage system, if applicable;
 - h. List of primary pollutants / parameters likely to be contained in the discharge(s);
 - i. Indication that a representative sample of the proposed effluent was taken and whether screening level for any parameter analyzed was exceeded;
 - j. Indication of ability to continuously comply with effluent limits and other requirements of the General Board Order;
 - k. Description of treatment or disposal system, BMPs, or other control strategies;
 - l. Categorical exception information (if applicable);
 - m. Explanation of why a discharge to surface water is the only feasible method for disposing of the effluent supported by a letter from the local publicly owned treatment works (POTW) stating that they cannot accept the discharge; and
 - n. The appropriate filing fee, plus applicable surcharge(s).
- 2. Sampling Requirements.** All Dischargers are required to analyze the proposed discharge for the priority pollutants regulated under the California Toxics Rule (CTR), which are specified in Attachment B, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. Dischargers may also be

required to analyze their discharges for a few conventional and non-conventional pollutants the Regional Water Board believes are likely to be present in low threat discharges regulated by this General Board Order. These pollutants are also listed in Attachment B. Dischargers of wastewater from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities must also sample for total residual chlorine (or dechlorinating agent). If the surface waterbody to receive the proposed direct discharge is impaired, as identified in the latest CWA section 303(d) List,⁵ the Discharger shall also analyze for the constituent(s) causing the impairment(s). Finally, applicants proposing to discharge low threat wastewaters to specific waterbodies and waterbodies with certain beneficial use designations must also sample the effluent, upstream receiving water, and downstream receiving water for a few additional parameters specified in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin* (Basin Plan) and summarized in Attachment B.

Attachment B contains screening levels for priority pollutants with applicable water quality criteria. Since this General Board Order covers low threat discharges to all surface waters in the Colorado River Basin Region, the screening levels are based on the most restrictive water quality objectives / criteria. Dischargers who exceed a screening level for a priority pollutant, where they are provided in Attachment B, will not be eligible for coverage under this General Board Order and will need to apply for an individual NPDES permit.

Attachment B also contains screening levels for total residual chlorine for discharges from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities; pathogens for discharges to waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II, segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I or REC-II, and the New River; and TSS for dischargers to the New River. Dischargers who exceed applicable screening levels or whose discharge appears to the Regional Water Board to have the potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard will be subject to effluent limitations. The Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board will specify the effluent limitations as listed in section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of this permit to which the Discharger is subject in the Notice of Applicability (NOA).

If the results of analysis for a discharge to an impaired water body listed on the 303(d) List indicate that pollutant concentrations in the discharge have the reasonable potential to contribute to the impairment, the discharge will not be authorized by this General Board Order.

- 3. Proposed Approach to Comply.** Dischargers who exceed an applicable screening level in Attachment B, are required to indicate how they will comply with section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications in the General Board Order for the applicable parameters, either through BMPs, or other control strategies.
- 4. Best Management Practices Plan or Control Strategy Plan.** To ensure that all enrollees are implementing practices to protect water quality, all Dischargers are

⁵ The list of WQLSs may be found under the CWA section 303(d) List at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml.

required to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan and have it available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. The elements of the Discharger's BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004). Dischargers may also consult the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at <http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/>, and other documents for guidance on addressing site-specific discharge situations. Dischargers exceeding the applicable screening levels for discharges from water system-related activities, hydrostatic test water discharges and other low threat discharge activities and screening levels for pathogens and TSS for discharges to specific waterbodies contained in Attachment B are required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI.

5. Categorical Exceptions for Priority Pollutant Criteria and Objectives. Section 5.3 of the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP) allows the Regional Water Board to allow certain Dischargers short-term or seasonal exceptions from meeting priority pollutant criteria and objectives for discharges that are necessary to implement control measures that fulfill statutory requirements regarding drinking water. Dischargers applying for a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives, as authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP, must notify potentially affected public and governmental agencies and must submit the following information with a completed NOI to the Regional Water Board:

- a. A detailed description of the proposed action, including the proposed method of completing the action;
- b. A time schedule;
- c. A discharge and receiving water quality monitoring plan (before project initiation, during the project, and after project completion, with the appropriate quality assurance and quality control procedures);
- d. CEQA documentation;
- e. Contingency plans;
- f. Identification of alternate water supply (if needed); and
- g. Residual waste disposal plans.

To prevent unnecessary delays in taking emergency actions or to expedite the approval process for expected or routine activities that fall under categorical exceptions, the Discharger is advised to file with the Regional Water Board, in advance of seeking Regional Water Board approval, the information required in items (a)-(g) above, to the extent possible.

The Regional Water Board will review the above submitted information and will determine whether the Discharger qualifies and meets the requirements in section 5.3 of the SIP for a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria. If no exception is granted, the Discharger will be required to analyze the proposed discharge for all of the CTR constituents listed in Tables B-2 and B-3 of Attachment B and submit the analytical test results to the Regional Water Board.

Upon Executive Officer determination that the Discharger has submitted the information necessary for qualification under section 5.3 of the SIP for a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria, the submitted information will be made available for public review and comment for 30 days.

- i. If there is no objection after the public review and comment period, the Executive Officer will issue an authorization letter to the Discharger making the approved application for categorical exception an enforceable part of the General Board Order.
- ii. If a written request for a hearing on the application for categorical exception is received within the 30-day public review and comment period, which includes the reason(s) the hearing is being requested (e.g., why the application for categorical exception is inadequate), the item will be placed on the next available Regional Water Board meeting agenda. Because of the need to comply with certain minimum noticing requirements, placement of this item on the agenda will be at least 30 days from the date when a hearing is requested plus the additional time necessary to follow the administrative procedures involved in preparing for the meeting.
- iii. If possible, the Regional Water Board staff will attempt to resolve the issues of concern by arranging a meeting with the applicant and the interested person(s) requesting the hearing. If an agreement is reached in the meeting, a hearing may not be required. If the agreement reached requires significant changes to be made to the submitted application, however, a new public notice and comment period will be required. If an agreement is not reached with the interested person(s) requesting the hearing, the hearing will proceed as scheduled. After testimony is taken at the hearing, the Regional Water Board will decide whether permit coverage shall commence or whether the submitted application for categorical exception needs to be revised.

6. Filing Fee. In addition to the material outlined in items II.A.1 through 5 above, Dischargers shall submit the current State Water Board adopted permit fee, plus applicable surcharge(s). Information concerning current annual permit fees may be found at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees>.

7. Application Period and Notice of Applicability. Dischargers seeking coverage under this General Board Order shall file a completed NOI (with appropriate attachments) at least 45 days prior to the proposed discharge. Upon receipt of the NOI, the Executive

Officer shall determine the applicability of this General Board Order to the discharge. If the discharge is deemed eligible for coverage, the Executive Officer shall issue a NOA to the Discharger specifying whether the discharge is authorized under the terms and conditions of this General Board Order. Discharges shall not commence until after receiving the Executive Officer's written NOA or until the Regional Water Board has issued an individual NPDES permit for the discharge. The NOA will be written to apply to a project for those Dischargers that propose in their NOIs to have more than one discharge of the same type, rate, and duration to the same water body over an established time period.

B. Discharge Description

Individuals and miscellaneous public and private entities often need to discharge clean or relatively pollutant-free wastewater. This wastewater poses an insignificant or minimal (i.e., *low threat*) to water quality. This General Board Order is designed to cover low threat discharges to surface waters of the United States.

C. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

There may be multiple discharge points and receiving waters under this General Board Order. Therefore, the Regional Water Board is requesting information regarding discharge points and receiving waters in the NOI. Agencies with multiple discharge points may submit a regional or service area map. Locations for discharges that are continuous for more than 24 hours will need to be provided in the NOI or in a supplemental letter. The Executive Officer will specify specific discharge points and receiving water information in each NOA.

D. Eligible Discharges

This General Board Order covers discharges to surface waters within the Colorado River Basin Region of low threat wastewaters occurring in the following activity categories: (1) Water System-Related, (2) Dewatering, (3) Groundwater Extraction, and (4) Other. Section I.B of this Fact Sheet provides examples of specific activities within each of these categories.

To be authorized under this General Board Order, a Discharger must demonstrate the following:

1. Pollutant concentrations in the discharge shall not (i) cause, (ii) have the reasonable potential to cause, or (iii) contribute to an excursion above any applicable water quality objective;
2. A representative sample of the discharge does not exceed the screening levels contained in Attachment B or that the Discharger can comply with the effluent limitations for constituents contained in section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications;
3. The discharge does not include water added for the purpose of diluting pollutant concentrations; and

4. The Discharger is able to comply with all the terms and provisions of this General Board Order.

E. Summary of Existing Requirements

This General Board Order is designed to cover low threat discharges to surface waters (see section I.B of this Fact Sheet for examples) to the extent the discharges are not already covered under an individual NPDES permit or other State Water Board or Regional Water Board-wide General Board Order (see Table F-1 under section I.B.2 above). As discussed under section I.B.9 of this Fact Sheet, General Board Order No. 98-300 covering the discharges of hydrostatic test waters to surface waters was rescinded on March 19, 2009 (Board Order No. R7-2009-0029). Going forward, dischargers of hydrostatic test waters shall apply for coverage under this proposed General Board Order (R7-2009-0300, NPDES Permit No. CAG997001).

The effluent limitations contained in General Board Order No. 98-300 are summarized in Table F-2 below and continued in this permit for hydrostatic test water discharges.

Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Maximum Value
pH	standard units	6.0 – 9.0
Suspended Solids	mg/L	95
BOD ₅ @ 20° C	mg/L	55
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25
Turbidity	NTU	75
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.2
Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.1

mg/L = milligrams per liter

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

ml/L = milliliters per liter

III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

The requirements contained in the proposed General Board Order are based on the requirements and authorities described in this section.

A. Legal Authorities

This General Board Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal CWA and implementing regulations adopted by USEPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the California Water Code (CWC), commencing with section 13370. It shall serve as a general NPDES permit for point source discharges of low threat wastewaters to surface waters. This

General Board Order also serves as WDRs pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the CWC, commencing with section 13260.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under CWC section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA, Public Resources Code, sections 21100 through 21177.

To satisfy the categorical exception requirements of section 5.3 of the SIP, Dischargers seeking enrollment under this General Board Order are required to submit project-specific information to the Executive Officer on the discharge and its water quality effects. This information is specified in section II.A.4 of this Fact Sheet and in Attachment C (NOI Form).

C. State and Federal Regulations, Policies, and Plans

1. Water Quality Control Plans. The Regional Water Board adopted the Basin Plan on November 17, 1993 that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan (includes amendments adopted by the Regional Water Board to date). In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. The existing and potential beneficial uses of the various surface waters that could be impacted by the discharge of low threat wastewaters in the Colorado River Basin Region include one or more of the following:

- Agricultural supply (AGR)
- Aquaculture (AQUA)
- Cold freshwater habitat (COLD)
- Freshwater replenishment (FRSH)
- Ground water recharge (GWR)
- Hydropower generation (POW)
- Industrial service supply (IND)
- Municipal and domestic supply (MUN)
- Non-contact water recreation (REC-II)
- Preservation of rare, threatened, or endangered species (RARE)
- Warm freshwater habitat (WARM)
- Water contact recreation (REC-I)
- Wildlife habitat (WILD)

Requirements of this General Board Order implement the Basin Plan.

2. Thermal Plan. The State Water Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Water and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (Thermal Plan) on May 18, 1972 and amended this plan on September 18, 1975. This plan contains temperature objectives for surface waters. The Regional Water Board does not consider the low threat wastewaters regulated by this

General Board Order to contain thermal or elevated temperature wastes. Additionally, because agricultural drainage channels do not have a “natural” receiving water temperature, the Thermal Plan is not applicable to them. The channels comprise a significant number of receiving waterbodies in the Colorado River Basin. This General Board Order, therefore, does not implement the Thermal Plan.

3. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** USEPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About 40 criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, USEPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain water quality criteria for priority pollutants.
4. **State Implementation Policy.** On March 2, 2000, the State Water Board adopted the SIP. The SIP became effective on April 28, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the USEPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005 that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control.

Section 5.3 of the SIP authorizes the Regional Water Board, after compliance with CEQA, to allow certain dischargers short-term or seasonal exceptions from meeting the priority pollutant criteria and objectives if the Regional Water Board determines the discharge is necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code.

This General Board Order contains a process for Regional Board and public review for those Dischargers who submit the information required by section 5.3 of the SIP for categorical exception to the criteria and objectives in the CTR and SIP, as outlined in Attachment C.

In addition, as required by the SIP, Dischargers authorized to discharge under this General Board Order with a categorical exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the receiving water beneficial uses have been restored upon cessation of the discharge and prior to termination of the permit. This General Board Order requires full compliance with the requirements of the CTR and SIP for all other authorized discharges. Requirements of this General Board Order implement the SIP.

5. **Endangered Species Act.** This General Board Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now

prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (California Fish and Game Code section 2050 to 2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. Sections 1531 to 1544). This General Board Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limitations, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state. The Discharger is responsible for meeting all applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act.

6. **Alaska Rule.** On March 30, 2000, USEPA revised its regulation that specifies when new and revised state and tribal water quality standards (WQS) become effective for CWA purposes [40 CFR. 31.21, 65 Fed. Reg. 24641 (April 27, 2000)]. Under the revised regulation (also known as the Alaska rule), new and revised standards submitted to USEPA after May 30, 2000, must be approved by USEPA before being used for CWA purposes. The final rule also provides that standards already in effect and submitted to USEPA by May 30, 2000, may be used for CWA purposes, whether or not approved by USEPA.
7. **Antidegradation Policy.** Section 131.12 (40 CFR 131.12) requires that state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies. The permitted discharge must be consistent with the antidegradation provision of 40 CFR 131.12 and Resolution No. 68-16. As discussed in section IV.D.5 of this Fact Sheet, the discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.
8. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed. Compliance with the anti-backsliding requirements is discussed in section IV.D.6 of this Fact Sheet.

D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List

Under section 303(d) of the CWA, states, territories, and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of water quality limited segments (WQLSs). The waters on these lists do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology. On November 30, 2006, USEPA gave final approval to California's 2006 section 303(d) list of impaired waters (303(d) List). CWA section 303(d) further mandates that once waters are impaired by a particular constituent, the NPDES permitting authority is to develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for the impaired water body. A TMDL is the maximum amount of pollution that a waterbody can assimilate without violating state water quality standards.

The 2006 303(d) List classifies the Imperial Valley Drains as impaired by five pesticides and one metal. Respectively, the pollutants include dieldrin, DDT, endosulfan, PCBs, toxaphene, and selenium. The Regional Water Board has not yet developed TMDLs for these parameters.⁶ The Imperial Valley Drains had previously been listed as impaired for sedimentation / siltation. USEPA has approved a sedimentation / siltation TMDL for the Imperial Valley Drains. The TMDL requires discharges from point sources to not exceed the TSS limits and corresponding mass loading rates as specified at 40 CFR 122, *et seq.* It also requires monitoring for TSS during each discharge event. Imperial Valley Drains discharge to two major water bodies: the New River and the Alamo River.

The New River is listed as impaired by the following: (1) toxic organics (1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, chloroform, cymene, and toluene); (2) pesticides (chlordane, chlorpyrifos, DDT, diazinon, dieldrin, PCBs, and toxaphene); (3) xylenes (m,p-xylenes and o-xylenes); (4) metals (copper and mercury); (5) nutrients; (6) dissolved oxygen; (7) toxicity; and (8) trash. TMDLs for these various parameters are under development by the Regional Water Board. The New River is also listed as impaired for bacteria and sediment / siltation. USEPA has approved the Regional Water Board's TMDLs for these parameters. These TMDLs establish waste load allocations (WLAs) for fecal coliform, E. coli, enterococci, and sediment. The established receiving water limitations for fecal coliform, E. coli, enterococci, and TSS in this General Board Order comply with the WLAs established in the New River TMDLs. A Trash TMDL for the New River has been approved by the Regional Water Board and State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law and USEPA. The TMDL essentially establishes a prohibition on the discharge of any trash to the New River by point sources. This General Board Order prohibits discharges of trash to the New River.

The Alamo River is listed as impaired by: (1) pesticides (chlorpyrifos, DDT, dieldrin, PCBs, and toxaphene); (2) metals (selenium); and (3) sediment / silt. USEPA has approved a sedimentation / siltation TMDL for the Alamo River. The requirements of this General Board Order are consistent with the WLAs contained in the sedimentation / siltation TMDL for the Alamo River.

The 303(d) List classifies segments of the Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel as impaired by pathogens and toxaphene. A TMDL has not yet been developed for toxaphene, but one is under development for pathogens.

The Colorado River (Imperial Reservoir to California-Mexico border) is listed as impaired for selenium (metal). The Palo Verde Outfall Drain and Lagoon is listed as impaired for pathogens and DDT (pesticide). TMDLs have not yet been developed for these parameters.

Finally, the Salton Sea is listed as impaired by: (1) nutrients, (2) salt, and (3) metals (selenium). No TMDLs have been developed to date for the Salton Sea, although a nutrient TMDL is under development. Tributaries to the Salton Sea, including the Coachella Valley Storm Channel and Imperial Valley Drains, may be affected by the

⁶ The schedule for TMDL development may be found at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml.

nutrient TMDL and any others developed for the Salton Sea. Furthermore, the Basin Plan establishes selenium objectives for tributaries to the Salton Sea.

E. Other Plans, Polices and Regulations – Not Applicable

IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

Effluent limitations and toxic and pretreatment effluent standards established pursuant to sections 301 (effluent limitations), 302 (water quality related effluent limitations), 304 (information and guidelines), and 307 (toxic and pretreatment effluent standards) of the CWA and amendments thereto are applicable to discharges under this General Board Order.

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements via NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations in the *Code of Federal Regulations*: sections 122.44(a) and 122.44(d). Section 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards, and section 122.44(d) requires that permits include water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. Where receiving water has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, WQBELs may be established.

Effluent and receiving water limitations in this General Board Order are based on the federal CWA, Basin Plan, State Water Board's plans and policies, USEPA guidance and regulations, and best practicable waste treatment technology. While developing effluent limitations and receiving water limitations, monitoring requirements, and special conditions for the draft permit, the following information sources were used:

1. Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*;
2. Water Quality Control Plan (Colorado River Basin – Region 7) as amended to date;
3. General Board Order No. 98-300 (*NPDES Permit and General WDRs for Discharge of Hydrostatic Test Water to Surface Waters*); and
4. Other State Water Board-wide or Regional Water Board-wide General Orders regulating low threat discharges to surface waters.

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. This General Board Order prohibits the following:
 - a. The discharge of treated wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described by the Discharger in the NOI application or as authorized by the Executive Officer;

- b. The bypass or overflow of low threat wastewaters to waters of the United States, except as allowed under the Standard Provisions for NPDES permits (hereinafter Standard Provisions), which are included as Attachment D to this General Board Order;
- c. The Discharger from extracting, accepting, or treating waste in excess of the BMPs or Control Strategy Plan or disposal capacity of the system as specified in the Discharger's NOA from the Executive Officer;
- d. The discharge of wastes causing degradation of any water supply unless in compliance with Resolution No. 68-16;
- e. The treatment or disposal of wastes from the facility or project site that cause pollution or nuisance as defined in section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), respectively, of the California Water Code;
- f. The discharge of any substances in concentrations toxic to animal or plant life; and
- g. The discharge of trash to the New River.

These prohibitions are based on the requirements of the CWA, Basin Plan, State Water Board plans and policies, and USEPA guidance and regulations.

- 2. The discharge prohibitions contained in General Board Order No. 98-300 (*NPDES Permit and General WDRs for Discharge of Hydrostatic Test Water to Surface Waters*) are encompassed by the prohibitions outlined in section IV.A.1 above. Therefore, the prohibitions of Order No. 98-300 are carried forward in this General Board Order.

B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at 40 CFR 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary, to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharges authorized by this General Board Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with section 125.3.

The CWA requires that technology-based effluent limitations be established based on several levels of controls:

- a. Best practicable treatment control technology (BPT) represents the average of the best performance by plants within an industrial category or subcategory. BPT standards apply to toxic, conventional, and non-conventional pollutants.
- b. Best available technology economically achievable (BAT) represents the best existing performance of treatment technologies that are economically achievable

within an industrial point source category. BAT standards apply to toxic and non-conventional pollutants.

- c. Best conventional pollutant control technology (BCT) represents the control from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅), TSS, fecal coliform, pH, and oil and grease. The BCT standard is established after considering the *cost reasonableness* of the relationship between the cost of attaining a reduction in effluent discharge and the benefits that would result, and also the cost effectiveness of additional industrial treatment beyond BPT.
- d. New source performance standards (NSPS) represent the best available demonstrated control technology standards. The intent of NSPS guidelines is to set limitations that represent state-of-the-art treatment technology for new sources.

The CWA requires USEPA to develop effluent limitations, guidelines and standards (ELGs) representing application of BPT, BAT, BCT, and NSPS. CWA section 402(a)(1) and 40 CFR 125.3 authorize the use of best professional judgment to derive technology-based effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis where ELGs are not available for certain industrial categories and/or pollutants of concern. Where BPJ is used, the permit writer must consider specific factors outlined in 40 CFR 125.3.

2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

The low threat discharges authorized by this General Board Order are considered high-quality wastewaters that are relatively pollutant-free and pose a low threat to water quality. Because of the potential diversity of low threat discharges, this General Board Order does not establish technology-based effluent limitations based on any specific treatment technologies. According to 40 CFR 122.44(k), BMPs can be required in lieu of technology-based effluent limitations when numeric effluent limitations are infeasible. Therefore, based on BPJ, BMPs will serve as the equivalent of technology-based effluent limitations in order to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA. All Dischargers under this General Board Order shall develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan and have it available for review by the Regional Water Board. The elements of the Discharger's BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004). Dischargers may also consult the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at <http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/>, and other documents for guidance on addressing site-specific discharge situations. Any Discharger that exceeds an applicable screening level in Attachment B is required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan to the Regional Water Board with the completed NOI.

C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and 40 CFR 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards.

Section 122.44(d)(1)(i) mandates that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, WQBELs must be established using: (1) USEPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBELs, when necessary, is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan. It is also intended to achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies or in the CTR and NTR.

2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

- a. **Receiving Waters.** Low threat wastewaters may potentially be discharged to all surface waters in the Colorado River Basin. The designated beneficial uses of surface waters throughout the Basin Region are summarized in section III.C.1 of this Fact Sheet.
- b. **Hardness.** While no effluent limitation for hardness is necessary in this General Board Order, hardness is critical to the assessment of reasonable potential for certain metals. The CTR, at section (c)(4), states the following:

“Application of metals criteria. (i) For purposes of calculating freshwater aquatic life criteria for metals from the equations in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, for waters with a hardness of 400 mg/L or less as calcium carbonate, the actual ambient hardness of the surface water *shall* be used in those equations.”
[Emphasis added]

The State Water Board, in footnote 19 to Water Quality Order No. 2004-0013,⁷ stated, “*We note that...the Regional Water Board...applied a variable hardness value whereby effluent limitations will vary depending on the actual, current*

⁷ State of California, State Water Resources Control Board, Order WQO 2004-0013, *In the Matter of the Petition of Yuba City for Review of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2003-0085 and Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2003-0086 Issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, SWRCB/OCC FILE A-1580.*

hardness values in the receiving water. We recommend that the Regional Water Board establish either fixed or seasonal effluent limitations for metals, as provided in the SIP, rather than 'floating' effluent limitations."

This General Board Order does not authorize discharges that have the reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives for priority pollutants. Therefore, screening levels must be set to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water for all discharge conditions. In the absence of the option of including condition-dependent, "floating" screening levels that are reflective of actual conditions at the time of discharge, effluent limitations must be set using a reasonable worst-case condition in order to protect beneficial uses for all discharge conditions. Dependent on receiving water conditions, use of either the lowest observed effluent hardness or the lowest observed receiving water hardness may be more protective of aquatic life beneficial uses. For example, under effluent dominated discharge conditions, use of the lowest observed effluent hardness is the most protective.

This General Board Order includes screening levels for cadmium, chromium III, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc, each of which is dependent on water hardness. The CTR expresses the objectives for these metals through equations where the hardness of the receiving water is a variable. To simplify the permitting process, it was necessary to use fixed hardness values in these equations. To calculate screening levels for waters with hardness concentrations less than 200 mg/L, a hardness value of 100 mg/L was used. To calculate screening levels for waters with hardness concentrations greater than or equal to 200 mg/L but less than 300 mg/L, a hardness value of 250 mg/L was used. To calculate screening levels for waters with hardness concentrations greater than or equal to 300 mg/L but less than 400 mg/L, a hardness value of 350 mg/L was used. Finally, to calculate screening levels for waters with hardness concentrations greater than or equal to 400 mg/L, a hardness value of 400 mg/L was used.

This General Board Order requires the Discharger to analyze the proposed effluent and the receiving water for hardness. The Discharger shall submit the analytical results with the NOI and propose an appropriate hardness concentration based on the analytical results and site-specific receiving water conditions. Upon approval of the Executive Officer, this hardness value will be used to determine the appropriate screening levels contained in Attachment B.

- c. Assimilative Capacity / Mixing Zone.** The effluent limitations for low threat discharges were calculated assuming no dilution. In general, the low threat discharges covered by this General Board Order do not flow directly into receiving waters with significant volume to consider a dilution credit or to allocate a mixing zone. Many creeks and streams in the Colorado River Basin Region are dry during the summer months. Therefore, for many months of the year, these discharges may represent all or nearly all of the flow in some portions of the receiving creeks or streams. Because this General Board Order is intended to serve as a General NPDES Permit and covers discharges to all surface waters in the Colorado River Basin, the effluent limitations established pursuant to this General Board Order are established to achieve the most protective water quality objective for the surface

water beneficial uses in the Colorado River Basin. Therefore, the Regional Water Board has assumed no assimilative capacity and, thus, has not granted any dilution credits.

An exception to this assumption may be applied based on the demonstration of a mixing zone in accordance with section 1.4.2 of the SIP and an approved mixing zone study demonstrating compliance with water quality objectives in the receiving water as prescribed in the Basin Plan. This exception process is more appropriate for an individual rather than a general board order. A general board order should be protective of the most stringent water quality objectives and beneficial uses. If a Discharger requests that a dilution credit be included in the computation of an effluent limitation or that a mixing zone be allowed, an individual order will be required. However, if no mixing zone is proposed, this General Board Order provides coverage for all low threat discharges to receiving waters in the Colorado River Basin Region.

3. Determining the Need for WQBELs

- a. CWA section 301(b)(1) requires NPDES permits to include WQBELs if technology-based effluent limitations are not sufficiently stringent to meet applicable water quality criteria. Water quality standards include Regional Water Board Basin Plan beneficial uses and narrative and numeric water quality objectives, State Water Board adopted standards, and federal standards, including the CTR and NTR. The Basin Plan establishes narrative and numeric objectives for a variety of parameters or receiving water conditions for: (i) all waterbodies; (ii) specific beneficial uses; and (iii) specific waterbodies.
- b. Federal regulations require effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at a level that will cause or have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above a narrative or numerical water quality standard.
- c. **All Low Threat Discharges**
 - i. **pH.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for surface waters that *“Since the regional waters are somewhat alkaline, pH shall range from 6.0-9.0. Discharges shall not cause any changes in pH detrimental to beneficial uses.”* Effluent Limitations for pH are included in this General Board Order for all low threat discharges based on the Basin Plan objectives for pH.
 - ii. **Priority Pollutants.** This General Board Order is not intended to regulate discharges that have the reasonable potential to exceed water quality standards for priority pollutants, which would be more appropriately regulated by an individual board order. Since this is a general board order for all low threat discharges to surface waters in the Colorado River Basin of California, this General Order establishes screening levels in Attachment B that are protective of beneficial uses under all discharge conditions and are based on the most protective water quality criteria for priority pollutants contained in the CTR.

Dischargers enrolling under this General Board Order are required to analyze the proposed discharge for constituents regulated under the CTR and submit the results as part of the NOI, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. If the analytical data demonstrate that any constituent concentrations in the discharge exceed the water quality screening levels listed in Attachment B, the discharge will not be allowed under this General Board Order. If all constituent concentrations are below the screening levels listed in Attachment B, the discharge will be authorized for coverage under this General Board Order.

Given the wide range of uses throughout the Colorado River Basin Region, this General Board Order establishes screening levels for discharges based on the beneficial uses of the receiving waters: (1) those where the receiving waters are designated to support domestic and municipal supply (MUN) and (2) those where the receiving waters are designated for all other uses except domestic and municipal supply (non-MUN). The screening levels for discharges to receiving waters designated as MUN are based on the more stringent of (1) human health water quality criteria based on consumption of water and organisms as contained in the CTR and (2) freshwater aquatic life water quality criteria as contained in the CTR. The screening levels for discharges to receiving waters designated as non-MUN are based on the more stringent of (1) human health water quality criteria based on consumption of organisms only as contained in the CTR and (2) freshwater aquatic life water quality criteria as contained in the CTR.

The Discharger is required to analyze a representative sample of the discharge. The Regional Water Board shall conduct a Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA) of the priority pollutants in accordance with section 1.3, step 7, of the SIP by comparing the analytical results to the screening levels contained in Attachment B. If the analytical data demonstrate that constituent concentrations in the discharge exceed the water quality screening levels listed in Attachment B (Tables B-2 and B-3), the Discharger will not be covered by this General Board Order and will need to apply for an individual permit.

Several priority pollutants do not have CTR criteria. These pollutants include asbestos (non-MUN only), beryllium, chloroethane, 2-chloroethylvinyl ether, chloroform, 1,1-dichloroethane, methyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 2-nitrophenol, 4-nitrophenol, 3-methyl-4-chlorophenol, acenaphthylene, benzo(ghi)perylene, bis(2-chloroethoxy)methane, 4-bromophenyl phenyl ether, 4-chlorophenyl phenyl ether, 2,6-dinitrotoluene, di-n-octyl phthalate, naphthalene, phenanthrene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, and delta-BHC. Due to the generally short-term and low volume nature of the discharges covered by this General Board Order and the lack of applicable criteria, screening levels for these pollutants are not established in this General Board Order.

d. Discharges from Water System-Related Activities and Other Low Threat Discharge Activities

- i. Chlorine, Total Residual.** Discharges from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities may contain chlorine, which is extremely toxic to aquatic organisms. USEPA's *National Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life (NAWQC)* recommend 4-day average (chronic) and 1-hour average (acute) criteria for chlorine of 0.019 mg/L and 0.011 mg/L, respectively. Table B-5 of Attachment B contains a screening level of 0.011 mg/L for discharges from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities. Discharges that exceed the screening level for chlorine will be subject to effluent limitations, as specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

The Regional Water Board calculates effluent limitations for CTR and non-CTR parameters using the procedures outlined in the SIP and the USEPA *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (EPA/505/2-90-001)*, which contain statistical methods for converting chronic (4-day) and acute (1-hour) aquatic life criteria to average monthly and maximum daily effluent limitations based on the variability of the existing data and the expected frequency of monitoring. However, because projects likely to be granted coverage under this General Board Order will typically be short in duration, reasonable potential exists for acute toxicity, and average 1-hour and 4-day limitations for chlorine are more appropriate than average monthly and maximum daily effluent limitation for such discharges. In order to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters throughout the Colorado River Basin Region, this General Board Order establishes an average 1-hour effluent limitation of 0.019 mg/L and an average 4-day effluent limitation of 0.011 mg/L for chlorine for discharges from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities.

Regional Water Board General Order No. 98-300 established an effluent limitation for total residual chlorine of 0.1 mg/L as a maximum. Based on the rationale above, the Regional Water Board is revising the effluent limitation to be consistent with the NAWQC, resulting in more stringent effluent limitations.

The San Francisco Regional Water Board included a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L to determine compliance with the effluent limitations contained in the General Order for Discharges from Surface Water Treatment Facilities for Potable Supply (Order No. R2-2003-0062, NPDES No. CAG382001). The reporting level of 0.08 mg/L represents a level that handheld field meters are capable of achieving. The Regional Water Board concurs with the approach used by the San Francisco Regional Water Board. Therefore, this Order requires Dischargers to use a method capable of achieving a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L, consistent with the reporting level required by the San Francisco Regional Water Board, until the State Water Board adopts a statewide policy with a specified reporting level achievable in the field and laboratory. A reopener provision has been included in

this General Board Order that will allow the Regional Water Board to reopen and modify the permit if a statewide policy for total residual chlorine takes effect.

- e. **Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges and Dewatering Activities.** This General Board Order carries forward the effluent limitations set in the previous General Board Order 98-300 for hydrostatic test water discharges.

An effluent limitation for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons has been added for activities where diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering activities.

- f. **Low Threat Discharges to Specific Waterbodies.** The Basin Plan establishes water quality objectives for E. coli in waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II and segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I or REC-II. The Basin Plan also contains waste load allocations (WLAs) for E. coli, enterococci, and fecal coliform organisms and TSS applicable to discharges to the New River based on the New River Pathogen TMDL and the New River Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL. All applicants proposing to discharge to one of the applicable receiving waters shall sample their effluent for the identified parameters as specified in Attachment B. If the analytical data demonstrate that constituent concentrations in the discharge exceed the water quality screening levels listed in Tables B-8 through B-10 of Attachment B, or appear to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard in the receiving water, the Discharger shall submit their plan for compliance and a BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI demonstrating how the Discharger will comply with the effluent limitations in this General Board Order. The Executive Officer will specify the effluent limitations applicable to a Discharger in the NOA.

- i. **Discharges to Waters Designated as REC-I.** The Basin Plan contains a water quality objective that specifies that the geometric mean bacterial density for E. coli (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 126 Most Probable Number (MPN) per 100 milliliters (mL), nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 400 MPN/100 mL in waters designated as REC-I. Effluent limitations for E. coli for discharges to waters designated as REC-I are included in this General Board Order based on Basin Plan objectives. A screening level of 126 MPN/100 mL is included in Attachment B.

- ii. **Discharges to Waters Designated as REC-II.** The Basin Plan specifies that the geometric mean bacterial density for E. coli (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 630 MPN/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 2,000 MPN/100 mL in waters designated as REC-II. Effluent limitations for E. coli for discharges to waters designated as REC-II are included in this General Board Order based on Basin Plan objectives. A screening level of 630 MPN/100 mL is included in Attachment B.

- iii. **Discharges to Segments of the Colorado River Designated as REC-I.** The Basin Plan specifies that the geometric mean bacterial density for E. coli (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period)

shall not exceed 126 MPN/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 235 MPN/100 mL in segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I. Effluent limitations for E. coli for discharges to segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I are included in this General Board Order based on Basin Plan objectives. A screening level of 126 MPN/100 mL is included in Attachment B.

iv. Discharges to Segments of the Colorado River Designated as REC-II. The Basin Plan specifies that the geometric mean bacterial density for E. coli (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 630 MPN/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 1,175 MPN/100 mL in segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-II. Effluent limitations for E. coli for discharges to segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-II are included in this General Board Order based on Basin Plan objectives. A screening level of 630 MPN/100 mL is included in Attachment B.

v. Discharges to the New River. The New River Pathogen TMDL contained in the Basin Plan specifies that the geometric mean bacterial density for E. coli (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 126 MPN/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 400 MPN/100 mL; the geometric mean bacterial density for enterococci (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 33 MPN/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 100 MPN/100 mL; and that the geometric mean bacterial density for fecal coliform (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 200 MPN/100 mL, nor shall more than 10 percent of the total samples during any 30-day period exceed 400 MPN/100 mL for discharges to the New River. The New River Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL contained in the Basin Plan specifies that the concentration of TSS in the New River shall not exceed 200 mg/L as an annual average. Since the TSS effluent limitation is 95 mg/L for the hydrostatic test water discharge, this TSS effluent limitation will also be in effect for the New River. Effluent limitations for E. coli, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, and TSS for discharges to the New River are included in this General Board Order based on the TMDLs contained in the Basin Plan. Screening levels for E. coli, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, and TSS are been included in Attachment B.

4. WQBEL Calculations

- a.** The effluent limitations for total chlorine residual are based on the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective and are applied directly as 4-day and 1-hour average effluent limitations, as discussed in section IV.C.3.d of this Fact Sheet. The effluent limitations for pH are based on the Basin Plan's specific objectives for pH and are applied in this General Board Order as instantaneous effluent limitations.

- b. The effluent limitations based on waterbody specific objectives and TMDLs in the Basin Plan, as presented in section IV.C.3.e above, are applied as specified in the Basin Plan.

5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

Whole effluent toxicity protects the receiving water quality from the aggregate toxic effect of a mixture of pollutants in the effluent. WET tests measure the degree of response of exposed aquatic test organisms to an effluent. The WET approach allows for protection of the narrative “no toxics in toxic amounts” criterion while implementing numeric criteria for toxicity. There are two types of WET tests: acute and chronic. An acute toxicity test is conducted over a shorter time period and measures mortality. A chronic toxicity test is conducted over a longer period of time and measures mortality, reproduction, and growth.

The Basin Plan specifies a narrative objective for toxicity, requiring that all waters be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that are lethal to or produce other detrimental response on aquatic organisms. Detrimental responses include, but are not limited to, decreased growth rate; decreased reproductive success of resident or indicator species; and/or significant alterations in population, community ecology, or receiving water biota.

The discharges authorized by this General Board Order pose a low threat to water quality. Because the discharges authorized by this General Board Order are generally low volume and/or short-term in nature and are not expected to contribute to acute or chronic toxicity, effluent limitations for acute and chronic toxicity and requirements for acute and chronic WET testing are not specified by this General Board Order.

D. Final Effluent Limitations

1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

2. **Averaging Periods for Concentration-based Effluent Limitations.** Section 122.45(d) [40 CFR 122.45(d)] requires maximum daily and average monthly discharge limitations for all dischargers other than publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) unless impracticable. The Basin Plan objectives for pH and pathogens and the waste load allocations in TMDLs for pathogens and TSS in the New River have been established directly as effluent limitations. The rationale for using alternative averaging periods for chlorine residual is discussed in section IV.C.3.d.i of this Fact Sheet.

3. Final Effluent Limitations

a. Final Effluent Limitations – Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

- i. **pH.** The hydrogen ion (pH) of the treated effluent shall be maintained within the limits of 6.0 to 9.0 standard units.

b. Final Effluent Limitations – Applicable to Discharges from Water System-Related Activities and Other Low Threat Discharge Activities

- i. **Chlorine, Total Residual.** The effluent limitations in Table F-3 may be applied to low threat wastewaters discharged to surface waters from water system-related activities and other low threat discharge activities in the Colorado River Basin Region. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

Table F-3. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations for Total Residual Chlorine

Parameter	Units	1-Hour Average	4-Day Average	Basis ¹
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	0.019	0.011	BP, NAWQC

¹ BP = Basin Plan

² NAWQC = National Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life

c. Final Effluent Limitations – Applicable to Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges

- i. **TSS, BOD, Oil and Grease, Turbidity, Settleable Solids, TPH and TRC.** The effluent limitations in Table F-4 may be applied to low threat wastewater discharged to surface waters from hydrostatic test water discharges in the Colorado River Basin Region. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

Table F-4. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations for Hydrostatic Test Water Activities

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations
Suspended Solids, Total	mg/L	95
BOD ₅ @ 20° C or CBOD ₅ @ 20° C	mg/L	55 for BOD ₅ or 50 for CBOD ₅
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25
Turbidity	NTU	75
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.2
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	mg/L	0.1
Chlorine Total Residual	mg/L	See Table F-3

d. Final Effluent Limitations – Applicable to Discharges to Specific Waterbodies

- i. **Discharges to Waters Designated as REC-I.** In addition to the effluent limitations identified in section IV.D.3.a through c above, Dischargers that discharge to waterbodies designated as REC-I that exceed the screening level for E. coli contained in Table B-8 of Attachment B shall be subject to the following effluent limitations. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

(a) **E. coli.** The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed

a MPN of 126/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 400/100 mL.

ii. Discharges to Waters Designated as REC-II. In addition to the effluent limitations identified in section IV.D.3.a through c above, Dischargers that discharge to waterbodies designated as REC-II that exceed the screening level for E. coli contained in Table B-9 of Attachment B shall be subject to the following effluent limitations. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

(a) E. coli. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 630/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 2,000/100 mL.

iii. Discharges to Segments of the Colorado River Designated as REC-I. In addition to the effluent limitations identified in section IV.D.3.a through c above, Dischargers that discharge to segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I that exceed the screening level for E. coli contained in Table B-8 of Attachment B shall be subject to the following effluent limitations. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

(a) E. coli. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed 126 MPN/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 235/100 mL.

iv. Discharges to Segments of the Colorado River Designated as REC-II. In addition to the effluent limitations identified in section IV.D.3.a through c above, Dischargers that discharge to segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-II that exceed the screening level for E. coli contained in Table B-9 of Attachment B shall be subject to the following effluent limitations. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

(a) E. coli. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 630/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 1,175/100 mL.

v. Discharges to the New River. In addition to the effluent limitations identified in section IV.D.3.a through c above, Dischargers that discharge to the New River that exceed a screening level(s) for E. coli, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, or TSS contained in Table B-10 of Attachment B shall be subject to the following

effluent limitations. The effluent limitations applicable to a given Discharger will be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

(a) Pathogens

(1) E. Coli. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 126/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 400/100 mL.

(2) Enterococci. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 33/100 mL, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of a MPN of 100/100 mL.

(3) Fecal Coliform. The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a MPN of 200/100 mL, nor shall more than ten percent of the total samples during any 30-day period exceed a MPN of 400/100 mL.

(b) Total Suspended Solids. The annual average effluent concentration of total suspended solids in the effluent shall not exceed 200 mg/L⁸.

4. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements. Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and the federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions.

Discharges of hydrostatic test water that were previously authorized under Regional Board General Order No. 98-300, which was rescinded on March 19, 2009, may be authorized to discharge under this General Board Order. General Board Order No. 98-300 established effluent limitations for TSS, BOD₅, oil and grease, turbidity, settleable solids, and total residual chlorine. Effluent limitations for these parameters have been retained in this General Board Order. The discharges authorized by this General Board Order are low threat, high quality wastewaters and are not expected to negatively impact receiving water quality. This General Board Order requires Dischargers to analyze the discharge for conventional, non-conventional, and priority pollutants and submit the results with the NOI. If, based on sampling results, the Regional Water Board finds that concentrations of any of these parameters threaten to negatively impact receiving water quality, then authorization for coverage under this General Board Order will be denied and coverage under an individual permit will be required. This General Board Order also requires Discharger's to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan to control or abate the discharge of pollutants. The requirements of this General Board Order are protective of all water quality objectives.

⁸ The TSS effluent limitation of 95 mg/L for TSS from hydrostatic test water discharges is more stringent and shall be in effect.

5. Satisfaction of Antidegradation Policy

The federal regulations at 40 CFR 131.12 require that the state water quality standards include an anti-degradation policy consistent with federal policy. The State Water Board established California's anti-degradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal anti-degradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal anti-degradation policies. The permitted discharge is consistent with the anti-degradation provision of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. The Regional Water Board expects impacts to water quality to be insignificant based on the discharge types authorized under this General Permit. This General Board Order requires all Dischargers to screen for the presence of commonly-occurring conventional and non-conventional pollutants and for toxic priority pollutants as required by the SIP, , except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. Based the results of these analyses, the Regional Water Board will determine coverage under this General Board Order, and establish effluent limitations, if applicable, on a Discharger-specific basis. This General Board Order also requires Dischargers to have in place a BMP Plan with specified components. Those Dischargers that exceed one or more screening levels for conventional and/or non-conventional pollutants in Attachment B are further required to summarize their ability to comply with effluent limitations for those parameters in the NOI. Those Dischargers that exceed one or more screening levels for priority pollutants in Attachment B will not be enrolled under this General Board Order, but will need to apply for an individual permit.

E. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

F. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

G. Reclamation Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations – Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

Receiving water limitations are based on the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this General Board Order. All low threat discharges to any receiving water of the Colorado River Basin Region shall not:

1. Result in the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the receiving water to fall below 5.0 mg/L. When dissolved oxygen in the receiving water is already below 5.0 mg/L, the discharge shall not cause any further depression.
2. Result in the presence of oil, grease, floating material (liquids, solids, foam, and scum) or suspended material in amounts that create a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

3. Result in the deposition of pesticides or combination of pesticides detectable in concentrations that adversely affects beneficial uses.
4. Result in discoloration in the receiving water that adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. Result in the discharge of biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growths to the extent that such growths cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
6. Result in an increase of turbidity that adversely affects beneficial uses.
7. Result in the normal ambient pH of the receiving water to fall below 6.0 or exceed 9.0 standard units.
8. Result in altering the natural receiving water temperature that adversely affects beneficial uses.
9. Result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
10. Result in the discharge of an individual chemical or combination of chemicals in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
11. Result in toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments, or biota in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
12. Result in an increase in taste or odor-producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses.
13. Result in the violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Water Board or the State Water Board as required by the federal CWA and regulations adopted thereunder. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to CWA section 303 or amendments thereto, the Regional Water Board will revise and modify this General Board Order in accordance with the stricter standards.

B. Surface Water Limitations – Applicable to Discharges to Specific Waterbodies

Receiving water limitations to specific waterbodies are based upon the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this General Board Order. The waterbody-specific limitations are summarized below:

1. Discharges to the New River, Alamo River, and the Imperial Valley Drains shall not exceed an annual average of 4,000 mg/L and a daily maximum of 4,500 mg/L of TDS.
2. Discharges to the Coachella Valley and the Palo Verde Valley Drains shall not exceed an annual average of 2,000 mg/L and a daily maximum of 2,500 mg/L of TDS.

C. Groundwater Limitations – Not Applicable

VI. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Section 122.48 of Title 40 of the CFR requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. CWC sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E of this General Board Order, establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this facility.

A. Influent Monitoring – Not Applicable

B. Effluent Monitoring

The Discharger is required to conduct monitoring of the permitted discharges in order to evaluate compliance with permit conditions. Monitoring requirements are given in the proposed MRP. This provision requires compliance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program, and is based on Sections 122.44(i), 122.62, 122.63 and 124.5. The MRP is a standard requirement in almost all NPDES permits (including the proposed General Board Order) issued by the Regional Water Board. In addition to containing definitions of terms, it specifies general sampling/analytical protocols and the requirements of reporting of spills, violations, and routine monitoring data in accordance with NPDES regulations, the CWC, and Regional Water Board's policies. It defines the sampling stations and frequency, pollutants to be monitored, and additional reporting requirements.

The effluent monitoring requirements have been established as follows:

1. General Board Order No. 98-300 for discharges of hydrostatic test water required monitoring once per discharge event for TSS, BOD₅, oil and grease, turbidity, settleable solids and total residual chlorine. General Board Order No. 98-300 also required daily monitoring for temperature and dissolved oxygen. The monitoring requirements have been carried forward in this permit, monitoring frequencies may be adjusted by the Executive Officer to a less frequent basis if a Discharger makes a request and the request is backed by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted. The Executive Officer shall specify the monitoring frequency for these parameters in the NOA.
2. This General Board Order requires monitoring once per discharge for flow, fecal coliform organisms, pH, TSS, turbidity, settleable solids, enterococci, E. coli, Oil and Grease, TPH and TDS to characterize the effluent and determine compliance with effluent limitations, if applicable. Monitoring for priority pollutants is required yearly, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. Monitoring for flow and pH shall be performed daily. Since discharges from direct water releases do not exceed the water quality goals, discharges from potable water releases that do not exceed screening criteria do not need to monitor for constituents as listed in the Monitoring and Reporting Program. Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted by the Executive Officer to a less frequent basis if a Discharger makes

a request and the request is backed by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted. The Executive Officer shall specify the monitoring frequency for these parameters in the NOA.

3. For discharges that exceed the screening level for total residual chlorine contained in Attachment B, the monitoring frequency will be once per discharge. As discussed in section IV.C.3.d.i of this Fact Sheet, the Regional Water Board acknowledges the complications of achieving relatively low reporting levels in field locations. This General Board Order allows Dischargers to use handheld monitoring devices to monitor total residual chlorine in the effluent. This General Board Order also requires dischargers to utilize a method capable of achieving a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L until the State Water Board adopts a state-wide policy with a specified reporting level achievable in the field and laboratory. The reporting level of 0.08 mg/L represents a level that hand-held field meters are capable of achieving. Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted by the Executive Officer to a less frequent basis if a Discharger makes a request and the request is backed by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted. The Executive Officer shall specify the monitoring frequency for these parameters in the NOA

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

The discharges authorized by this General Board Order have a low threat to water quality. They are low volume and/or short-term in nature and are not expected to contribute to acute or chronic toxicity; therefore, effluent limitations for acute and chronic toxicity and requirements for acute and chronic WET testing are not required by this General Board Order.

D. Receiving Water Monitoring

1. Surface Water

Surface water monitoring once per discharge is required to determine compliance with receiving water limitations and to characterize the water quality of the receiving water pursuant to the Basin Plan. Upstream and downstream receiving water monitoring frequencies for dissolved oxygen, TDS, pH, and temperature, shall be specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer. Since discharges from direct water releases do not exceed the water quality goals, discharges from potable water releases that do not exceed screening criteria do not need to monitor for these constituents. Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted by the Executive Officer to a less frequent basis if a Discharger makes a request and the request is backed by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted.

2. Groundwater – Not Applicable

E. Other Monitoring Requirements

1. **Annual Report.** Dischargers enrolled under this General Board Order are required to submit an annual report including current contact information and the status of updates to the Discharger's BMP or Control Strategy Plan. Dischargers having multiple

discharges of the same type, rate, and duration, and into the same receiving water must report on the number, frequency, rate, types of discharges, and date/time of actual discharges in the annual report.

VII. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 CFR 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 CFR 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The Discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under section 122.42.

Sections 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) establish conditions that apply to all state-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the General Board Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with 40 CFR 123.25, this General Board Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in sections 40 CFR 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the CWC is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this General Board Order incorporates by reference CWC section 13387(e).

B. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

- a. **General.** Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 123, the Regional Water Board may reopen this General Board Order to modify conditions and requirements due to the promulgation of new regulations or the adoption of new regulations by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.
- b. **Total Residual Chlorine.** The State Water Board has developed the Draft Policy on Total Residual Chlorine and Chlorine-Produced Oxidants (TRC/CPO Draft Policy), which, when adopted, is intended to establish consistent standards and implementation procedures for regulating chlorine statewide. This provision allows the Regional Water Board to reopen this General Board Order to include a revised reporting level for determining compliance with effluent limitations for total residual chlorine if a statewide policy for such is adopted during the term of this General Board Order.

2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements – Not Applicable

3. Best Management Practices or Control Strategies

- a. **BMP or Control Strategy Plan.** Because of the expected diversity of low threat discharges covered by this General Board Order, specific technology-based effluent

limitations for the universe of compounds that could be found in wastewater have not been established. As allowed under 40 CFR 122.44(k), BMPs or control strategies will serve in lieu of technology-based effluent limitations, in order to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA. Each Discharger authorized under the General Board Order is required to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan to control or abate the discharge of pollutants. The Discharger shall develop a BMP Plan if the Discharger does not already have one in place. The BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the USEPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004). The Discharger may consult other handbooks for guidance, such as the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at <http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/>, to address the site-specific discharge situation. Dischargers exceeding the applicable screening levels for total residual chlorine, pathogens, and/or TSS contained in Attachment B are required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI.

- 4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications – Not Applicable**
- 5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only) – Not Applicable**
- 6. Other Special Provisions – Not Applicable**
- 7. Required Submittals and Reports**

This section specifies the deliverables and due dates for the annual report.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Regional Water Board is considering the issuance of WDRs that will serve as a NPDES permit for the discharge of low threat wastewaters to surface water. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Regional Water Board staff has developed tentative WDRs. The Regional Water Board encourages public participation in the WDR adoption process.

A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Regional Water Board has notified potential Dischargers and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for low threat discharges to surface waters and has provided interested parties an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided to interested parties through the *Imperial Valley Press*, *Palo Verde Valley Times*, *Press Enterprise* and *Desert Sun* newspapers.

B. Written Comments

The staff determinations are tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning these tentative WDRs. Comments must be submitted either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Regional Water Board at the address above on the cover page of this General Board Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Regional Water Board, written comments must be received at the Regional Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on October 15, 2009

C. Public Hearing

The Regional Water Board will hold a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: November 19, 2009
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: City of Palm Desert
City Council Chambers
73-510 Fred Waring Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will hear testimony, if any, pertinent to low threat discharges, WDRs, and NPDES permit. Oral testimony will be heard; however, for accuracy of the record, important testimony should be submitted in writing.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. The Regional Water Board's Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver>, where you may access the Regional Water Board's current agenda and determine if changes in hearing dates and locations have been made.

D. Waste Discharge Requirements Petitions

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and the California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this General Board Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this General Board Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality

or will be provided upon request.

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

E. Information and Copying

Related documents, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the Regional Water Board office at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Regional Water Board by calling (760) 346-7491.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding this general WDRs and NPDES permit should contact the Regional Water Board, reference the general WDRs and NPDES permit, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this General Board Order should be directed to John Carmona at (760) 340-4521.

ATTACHMENT G – LIST OF PRIORITY POLLUTANTS

Table G-1 List of Priority Pollutants

CTR Number	Parameter	CAS Number	Suggested Analytical Methods
1	Antimony	7440360	EPA 6020/200.8
2	Arsenic	7440382	EPA 1632
3	Beryllium	7440417	EPA 6020/200.8
4	Cadmium	7440439	EPA 1638/200.8
5a	Chromium (III)	16065831	EPA 6020/200.8
5a	Chromium (VI)	18540299	EPA 7199/1636
6	Copper	7440508	EPA 6020/200.8
7	Lead	7439921	EPA 1638
8	Mercury	7439976	EPA 1669/1631
9	Nickel	7440020	EPA 6020/200.8
10	Selenium	7782492	EPA 6020/200.8
11	Silver	7440224	EPA 6020/200.8
12	Thallium	7440280	EPA 6020/200.8
13	Zinc	7440666	EPA 6020/200.8
14	Cyanide	57125	EPA 9012A
15	Asbestos	1332214	EPA/600/R-93/116(PCM)
16	2,3,7,8-TCDD	1746016	EPA 8290 (HRGC) MS
17	Acrolein	107028	EPA 8260B
18	Acrylonitrile	107131	EPA 8260B
19	Benzene	71432	EPA 8260B
20	Bromoform	75252	EPA 8260B
21	Carbon Tetrachloride	56235	EPA 8260B
22	Chlorobenzene	108907	EPA 8260B
23	Chlorodibromomethane	124481	EPA 8260B
24	Chloroethane	75003	EPA 8260B
25	2-Chloroethylvinyl Ether	110758	EPA 8260B
26	Chloroform	67663	EPA 8260B
27	Dichlorobromomethane	75274	EPA 8260B
28	1,1-Dichloroethane	75343	EPA 8260B
29	1,2-Dichloroethane	107062	EPA 8260B
30	1,1-Dichloroethylene	75354	EPA 8260B
31	1,2-Dichloropropane	78875	EPA 8260B
32	1,3-Dichloropropylene	542756	EPA 8260B
33	Ethylbenzene	100414	EPA 8260B
34	Methyl Bromide	74839	EPA 8260B
35	Methyl Chloride	74873	EPA 8260B
36	Methylene Chloride	75092	EPA 8260B
37	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	79345	EPA 8260B
38	Tetrachloroethylene	127184	EPA 8260B
39	Toluene	108883	EPA 8260B
40	1,2-Trans-Dichloroethylene	156605	EPA 8260B

CTR Number	Parameter	CAS Number	Suggested Analytical Methods
41	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	71556	EPA 8260B
42	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	79005	EPA 8260B
43	Trichloroethylene	79016	EPA 8260B
44	Vinyl Chloride	75014	EPA 8260B
45	2-Chlorophenol	95578	EPA 8270C
46	2,4-Dichlorophenol	120832	EPA 8270C
47	2,4-Dimethylphenol	105679	EPA 8270C
48	2-Methyl-4,6-Dinitrophenol	534521	EPA 8270C
49	2,4-Dinitrophenol	51285	EPA 8270C
50	2-Nitrophenol	88755	EPA 8270C
51	4-Nitrophenol	100027	EPA 8270C
52	3-Methyl-4-Chlorophenol	59507	EPA 8270C
53	Pentachlorophenol	87865	EPA 8270C
54	Phenol	108952	EPA 8270C
55	2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	88062	EPA 8270C
56	Acenaphthene	83329	EPA 8270C
57	Acenaphthylene	208968	EPA 8270C
58	Anthracene	120127	EPA 8270C
59	Benzidine	92875	EPA 8270C
60	Benzo(a)Anthracene	56553	EPA 8270C
61	Benzo(a)Pyrene	50328	EPA 8270C
62	Benzo(b)Fluoranthene	205992	EPA 8270C
63	Benzo(ghi)Perylene	191242	EPA 8270C
64	Benzo(k)Fluoranthene	207089	EPA 8270C
65	Bis(2-Chloroethoxy)Methane	111911	EPA 8270C
66	Bis(2-Chloroethyl)Ether	111444	EPA 8270C
67	Bis(2-Chloroisopropyl)Ether	108601	EPA 8270C
68	Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate	117817	EPA 8270C
69	4-Bromophenyl Phenyl Ether	101553	EPA 8270C
70	Butylbenzyl Phthalate	85687	EPA 8270C
71	2-Chloronaphthalene	91587	EPA 8270C
72	4-Chlorophenyl Phenyl Ether	7005723	EPA 8270C
73	Chrysene	218019	EPA 8270C
74	Dibenzo(a,h)Anthracene	53703	EPA 8270C
75	1,2-Dichlorobenzene	95501	EPA 8260B
76	1,3-Dichlorobenzene	541731	EPA 8260B
77	1,4-Dichlorobenzene	106467	EPA 8260B
78	3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	91941	EPA 8270C
79	Diethyl Phthalate	84662	EPA 8270C
80	Dimethyl Phthalate	131113	EPA 8270C
81	Di-n-Butyl Phthalate	84742	EPA 8270C
82	2,4-Dinitrotoluene	121142	EPA 8270C
83	2,6-Dinitrotoluene	606202	EPA 8270C
84	Di-n-Octyl Phthalate	117840	EPA 8270C
85	1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	122667	EPA 8270C
86	Fluoranthene	206440	EPA 8270C

CTR Number	Parameter	CAS Number	Suggested Analytical Methods
87	Fluorene	86737	EPA 8270C
88	Hexachlorobenzene	118741	EPA 8260B
89	Hexachlorobutadiene	87863	EPA 8260B
90	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	77474	EPA 8270C
91	Hexachloroethane	67721	EPA 8260B
92	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)Pyrene	193395	EPA 8270C
93	Isophorone	78591	EPA 8270C
94	Naphthalene	91203	EPA 8260B
95	Nitrobenzene	98953	EPA 8270C
96	N-Nitrosodimethylamine	62759	EPA 8270C
97	N-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine	621647	EPA 8270C
98	N-Nitrosodiphenylamine	86306	EPA 8270C
99	Phenanthrene	85018	EPA 8270C
100	Pyrene	129000	EPA 8270C
101	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	120821	EPA 8260B
102	Aldrin	309002	EPA 8081A
103	alpha-BHC	319846	EPA 8081A
104	beta-BHC	319857	EPA 8081A
105	gamma-BHC	58899	EPA 8081A
106	delta-BHC	319868	EPA 8081A
107	Chlordane	57749	EPA 8081A
108	4,4'-DDT	50293	EPA 8081A
109	4,4'-DDE	72559	EPA 8081A
110	4,4'-DDD	72548	EPA 8081A
111	Dieldrin	60571	EPA 8081A
112	alpha-Endosulfan	959988	EPA 8081A
113	beta-Endosulfan	33213659	EPA 8081A
114	Endosulfan Sulfate	1031078	EPA 8081A
115	Endrin	72208	EPA 8081A
116	Endrin Aldehyde	7421934	EPA 8081A
117	Heptachlor	76448	EPA 8081A
118	Heptachlor Epoxide	1024573	EPA 8081A
119	PCB-1016	12674112	EPA 8082
120	PCB-1221	11104282	EPA 8082
121	PCB-1232	11141165	EPA 8082
122	PCB-1242	53469219	EPA 8082
123	PCB-1248	12672296	EPA 8082
124	PCB-1254	11097691	EPA 8082
125	PCB-1260	11096825	EPA 8082
126	Toxaphene	8001352	EPA 8081A

ATTACHMENT H – STATE WATER BOARD MINIMUM LEVELS

The State Water Board Minimum Levels (MLs) in this appendix are for use in reporting and compliance determination purposes in accordance with section 2.4 of the State Implementation Policy. These MLs were derived from data for priority pollutants provided by State certified analytical laboratories in 1997 and 1998. These MLs shall be used until new values are adopted by the State Water Board and become effective. The following tables (Tables H-1 through H-4) present MLs for four major chemical groupings: volatile substances, semi-volatile substances, inorganics, and pesticides and PCBs. The MLs in this appendix are in parts per billion ($\mu\text{g/L}$).

Table H-1. Volatile Substances

Table 2a - VOLATILE SUBSTANCES*	GC	GCMS
1,1 Dichloroethane	0.5	1
1,1 Dichloroethylene	0.5	2
1,1,1 Trichloroethane	0.5	2
1,1,2 Trichloroethane	0.5	2
1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethane	0.5	1
1,2 Dichlorobenzene (volatile)	0.5	2
1,2 Dichloroethane	0.5	2
1,2 Dichloropropane	0.5	1
1,3 Dichlorobenzene (volatile)	0.5	2
1,3 Dichloropropene (volatile)	0.5	2
1,4 Dichlorobenzene (volatile)	0.5	2
Acrolein	2.0	5
Acrylonitrile	2.0	2
Benzene	0.5	2
Bromoform	0.5	2
Methyl Bromide	1.0	2
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.5	2
Chlorobenzene	0.5	2
Chlorodibromomethane	0.5	2
Chloroethane	0.5	2
Chloroform	0.5	2
Chloromethane	0.5	2
Dichlorobromomethane	0.5	2
Dichloromethane	0.5	2
Ethylbenzene	0.5	2
Tetrachloroethylene	0.5	2
Toluene	0.5	2
Trans-1,2 Dichloroethylene	0.5	1
Trichloroethene	0.5	2
Vinyl Chloride	0.5	2

*The normal method-specific factor for these substances is 1; therefore, the lowest standard concentration in the calibration curve is equal to the above ML value for each substance.

Table H-2. Semi-Volatile Substances

Table 2b - SEMI-VOLATILE SUBSTANCES*	GC	GCMS	LC	COLOR
Benzo (a) Anthracene	10	5		
1,2 Dichlorobenzene (semivolatile)	2	2		
1,2 Diphenylhydrazine		1		
1,2,4 Trichlorobenzene	1	5		
1,3 Dichlorobenzene (semivolatile)	2	1		
1,4 Dichlorobenzene (semivolatile)	2	1		
2 Chlorophenol	2	5		
2,4 Dichlorophenol	1	5		
2,4 Dimethylphenol	1	2		
2,4 Dinitrophenol	5	5		
2,4 Dinitrotoluene	10	5		
2,4,6 Trichlorophenol	10	10		
2,6 Dinitrotoluene		5		
2- Nitrophenol		10		
2-Chloroethyl vinyl ether	1	1		
2-Chloronaphthalene		10		
3,3' Dichlorobenzidine		5		
Benzo (b) Fluoranthene		10	10	
3-Methyl-Chlorophenol	5	1		
4,6 Dinitro-2-methylphenol	10	5		
4- Nitrophenol	5	10		
4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether	10	5		
4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether		5		
Acenaphthene	1	1	0.5	
Acenaphthylene		10	0.2	
Anthracene		10	2	
Benzidine		5		
Benzo(a) pyrene		10	2	
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene		5	0.1	
Benzo(k)fluoranthene		10	2	
bis 2-(1-Chloroethoxyl) methane		5		
bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	10	1		
bis(2-Chloroisopropyl) ether	10	2		
bis(2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate	10	5		
Butyl benzyl phthalate	10	10		
Chrysene		10	5	
di-n-Butyl phthalate		10		
di-n-Octyl phthalate		10		
Dibenzo(a,h)-anthracene		10	0.1	
Diethyl phthalate	10	2		
Dimethyl phthalate	10	2		
Fluoranthene	10	1	0.05	
Fluorene		10	0.1	
Hexachloro-cyclopentadiene	5	5		
Hexachlorobenzene	5	1		

Table 2b - SEMI-VOLATILE SUBSTANCES*	GC	GCMS	LC	COLOR
Hexachlorobutadiene	5	1		
Hexachloroethane	5	1		
Indeno(1,2,3,cd)-pyrene		10	0.05	
Isophorone	10	1		
N-Nitroso diphenyl amine	10	1		
N-Nitroso-dimethyl amine	10	5		
N-Nitroso -di n-propyl amine	10	5		
Naphthalene	10	1	0.2	
Nitrobenzene	10	1		
Pentachlorophenol	1	5		
Phenanthrene		5	0.05	
Phenol **	1	1		50
Pyrene		10	0.05	

*With the exception of phenol by colorimetric technique, the normal method-specific factor for these substances is 1,000; therefore, the lowest standard concentration in the calibration curve is equal to the above ML value for each substance multiplied by 1,000.

**Phenol by colorimetric technique has a factor of 1.

Table H-3. Inorganics

Table 2c – INORGANICS*	FAA	GFAA	ICP	ICPMS	SPGFAA	HYDRIDE	CVAA	COLOR	DCP
Antimony	10	5	50	0.5	5	0.5			1,000
Arsenic		2	10	2	2	1		20	1,000
Beryllium	20	0.5	2	0.5	1				1,000
Cadmium	10	0.5	10	0.25	0.5				1,000
Chromium (total)	50	2	10	0.5	1				1,000
Chromium VI	5							10	
Copper	25	5	10	0.5	2				1,000
Cyanide								5	
Lead	20	5	5	0.5	2				10,000
Mercury				0.5			0.2		
Nickel	50	5	20	1	5				1,000
Selenium		5	10	2	5	1			1,000
Silver	10	1	10	0.25	2				1,000
Thallium	10	2	10	1	5				1,000
Zinc	20		20	1	10				1,000

*The normal method-specific factor for these substances is 1; therefore, the lowest standard concentration in the calibration curve is equal to the above ML value for each substance.

Table H-4. Pesticides and PCBs

Table 2d – PESTICIDES – PCBs*	GC
4,4'-DDD	0.05
4,4'-DDE	0.05
4,4'-DDT	0.01
a-Endosulfan	0.02
alpha-BHC	0.01
Aldrin	0.005
b-Endosulfan	0.01
Beta-BHC	0.005
Chlordane	0.1
Delta-BHC	0.005
Dieldrin	0.01
Endosulfan Sulfate	0.05
Endrin	0.01
Endrin Aldehyde	0.01
Heptachlor	0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.01
Gamma-BHC (Lindane)	0.02
PCB 1016	0.5
PCB 1221	0.5
PCB 1232	0.5
PCB 1242	0.5
PCB 1248	0.5
PCB 1254	0.5
PCB 1260	0.5
Toxaphene	0.5

*The normal method-specific factor for these substances is 100; therefore, the lowest standard concentration in the calibration curve is equal to the above ML value for each substance multiplied by 100.

Techniques:

GC - Gas Chromatography

GCMS - Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry

HRGCMS - High Resolution Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (i.e., EPA 1613, 1624, or 1625)

LC - High Pressure Liquid Chromatography

FAA - Flame Atomic Absorption

GFAA - Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption

HYDRIDE - Gaseous Hydride Atomic Absorption

CVAA - Cold Vapor Atomic Absorption

ICP - Inductively Coupled Plasma

ICPMS - Inductively Coupled Plasma/Mass Spectrometry

SPGFAA - Stabilized Platform Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption (i.e., EPA 200.9)

DCP - Direct Current Plasma

COLOR – Colorimetric

ATTACHMENT I – NOTICE OF TERMINATION

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION
OF COVERAGE UNDER THE GENERAL PERMIT
FOR DISCHARGES OF LOW THREAT WASTEWATERS TO SURFACE WATER**

**ORDER NO. R7-2009-0300
NPDES NO. CAG997001**

Submission of this Notice of Termination (NOT) constitutes notice that the owner / operator of the facility / project identified on this form is no longer authorized to discharge low threat wastewater to surface water by Order No. R7-2009-0300, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG997001.

I. WDID Number

Enter your WDID No. in the space provided:
--

II. OWNER / OPERATOR INFORMATION

Name		Mailing Address	
City	County	State	Zip
Contact Person		Title	Phone

III. BASIS FOR TERMINATION

<p>A. Indicate the reason for termination of the discharge below. Provide additional explanation under item III.B below.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All discharges previously authorized by this General Board Order have ceased. Project has been completed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All discharges previously authorized by this General Board Order have been redirected to <i>(check one)</i>:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Effluent water is retained on site. <input type="checkbox"/> Effluent water is discharged to a municipal sanitary sewer system. <input type="checkbox"/> Effluent water is discharged to evaporation ponds or percolation ponds offsite. <input type="checkbox"/> Effluent water is reused/reclaimed. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Discharge of effluent is now subject to another NPDES general permit or an individual NPDES permit. <i>(Indicate NPDES permit number and date coverage began below.)</i> NPDES Permit No: _____ Date Coverage Began: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> There is a new owner / operator of the identified facility. <i>(Complete additional items below.)</i> Date of Owner / Operator Transfer: _____ Has the new owner / operator been notified of NPDES general permit requirements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </p>

New Owner / Operator Information			
Name		Mailing Address	
City	County	State	Zip
Contact Person	Title	Phone	
B. Provide additional detail regarding reason for termination below or in a supplemental letter.			
C. Dischargers using the Categorical Exception shall provide the following information: Dischargers authorized to discharge under this General Board Order with an exception to the priority pollutant criteria and objectives must provide certification by a qualified biologist that the receiving water beneficial uses have been restored upon completion of the project.			

IV. CERTIFICATION

"I certify under penalty of law that (a) I am not required to be permitted under the Low Threat General Permit No. CAG997001 and (b) this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction and supervision in accordance with a system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine or imprisonment."

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

V. MAILING ADDRESS

Send the completed Notice of Termination to the Regional Water Quality Board at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

FOR REGIONAL WATER BOARD USE ONLY

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved for Termination	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied and returned to Applicant
Printed Name: _____	Signature: _____ Date: _____
NOT Effective Date: _____ / _____ / _____	