

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

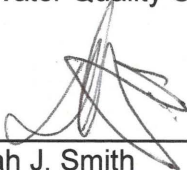
**ORDER NO. R4-2018-0086
GENERAL NPDES PERMIT NO. CAG834001**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
DISCHARGES OF TREATED GROUNDWATER AND OTHER WASTEWATERS FROM
INVESTIGATION
AND/OR CLEANUP OF PETROLEUM FUEL-CONTAMINATED SITES
TO SURFACE WATERS
IN
COASTAL WATERSHEDS OF LOS ANGELES AND VENTURA COUNTIES**

This Order was adopted by the Regional Water Board on:	June 14, 2018
This Order shall become effective on:	August 13, 2018
This Order shall expire on:	August 13, 2023
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Regional Water Quality Control Board have classified discharges covered under this General NPDES Permit as a minor discharge.	

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. R4-2013-0042 is rescinded upon the effective date of this Order except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order. This action in no way prevents the Regional Water Board from taking enforcement action for violations of the previous Order.

I, Deborah J. Smith, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the following is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on June 14, 2018.



Deborah J. Smith
Executive Officer

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I. DISCHARGE INFORMATION

This Order (hereafter, General Permit) is intended to authorize similar discharges from groundwater treatment facilities (Facilities) at sites that have been impacted by release of petroleum-fuel¹ related organic compounds. Discharges from Facilities to waters of the United States that do not cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above any applicable State or federal Water quality objectives/criteria or cause acute or chronic toxicity in the receiving water are authorized to discharge in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Order.

II. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. General Permit Application

To be authorized to discharge under this Order, the Discharger must apply for enrollment under the General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit by submitting to the Regional Water Board a Notice of Intent (NOI). The definitions, acronyms and abbreviations used in this Order are listed in Attachment A and the Basin Plan mineral effluent limitations for stream reaches are listed in Attachment B.

1. Notice of Intent

- a. Both Existing and New Dischargers eligible to seek coverage under the General NPDES Permit shall submit to the Executive Officer a complete NOI, including all information required by the NOI. The NOI is incorporated as Attachment C to this Order.
- b. The Discharger must obtain and analyze (using appropriate sampling and laboratory methods) a representative sample(s) of the untreated groundwater to be treated and discharged under this Order. The analytical method(s) used shall be capable of achieving a detection limit at or below the minimum level², otherwise, a written explanation shall be provided. The analytical results shall be submitted with the NOI. The data shall be tabulated and shall include the results for every constituent listed on Attachment E.
- c. The NOI for a New Discharger shall be accompanied by an enrollment fee in accordance with the Section 2200 Annual Fee Schedules of California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9. The check or money order shall be made payable to the "State Water Resources Control Board".
- d. This Regional Water Board encourages, wherever practical, water conservation and/or reuse of wastewater. To obtain coverage under this Order, the Discharger shall first investigate the feasibility of conservation, reuse, injection of the groundwater, and/or alternative disposal methods of the wastewater. The Discharger shall include this feasibility study with the NOI.
- e. Upon request, the Discharger shall submit any additional information that the Executive Officer deems necessary to determine whether the discharge meets the criteria for

¹ Petroleum fuel or petrol is one of the byproducts of crude oil fractional distillation consisting mainly of hydrocarbons.

² The minimum levels are those published by the State Water Quality Control Board in the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005. See attached Appendix A.

coverage under this Order, or to prescribe an appropriate monitoring and reporting program, or both.

2. Deadline for Submission

- a. Renewal of NPDES permits for existing Dischargers currently covered under individual permits, that meet the eligibility requirement for coverage under the General NPDES Permit and that have submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) or an NOI will consist of a letter of determination from the Executive Officer of coverage under this Order.
- b. Existing Dischargers that were authorized to discharge under Order R4-2013-0042 will be sent an NOI form that must be completed and returned to the Regional Water Board within 60 days of receipt; otherwise, permit coverage may be revoked. Existing Dischargers enrolling under this Order are required to collect representative untreated groundwater sample(s) and analyze the samples for all the constituents listed on Attachment E. Dischargers shall conduct this analysis and submit the result with the NOI; otherwise, the existing authorization may be terminated. The discharge will be considered ineligible for enrollment, if the analytical test results of any constituent other than the pollutants with effluent limitations in Section V.A. exceeds the screening criteria in Attachment E. The discharger will be enrolled under another appropriate General NPDES Permit or an individual permit and the existing enrollment will be terminated.
- c. New Dischargers shall file a complete NOI at least 45 days before commencement of the discharge.

3. Failure to Submit a NOI

Existing Dischargers who fail to submit a complete NOI by the deadline established herein will be deemed out of compliance with the General NPDES Permit and subject to all penalties allowable pursuant to applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act and the California Water Code including but not limited Section 13261.

4. Authorization of Coverage

Upon receipt of the complete NOI, the Executive Officer shall determine the applicability of this Order to such a discharge. If the discharge is eligible, the Executive Officer shall notify the Discharger that the discharge is authorized under the terms and conditions of this Order and prescribe an appropriate monitoring and reporting program. For New Dischargers, the discharge shall not commence until receipt of the Executive Officer's written determination of eligibility for coverage under this General NPDES Permit. If necessary, for an existing Discharger, the Executive Officer may require a Discharger to comply with the conditions of this General NPDES Permit even if the Discharger has not submitted an NOI to be covered by the General NPDES Permit.

5. Notice of Start-Up

New Dischargers shall notify the Regional Water Board staff of the time and date for commencement of the discharge(s) authorized under the General NPDES Permit at least seven days prior to initiating a discharge.

B. Eligibility Requirements

1. Eligibility

- a. This Order covers discharges to surface waters of treated groundwater and other wastewaters from the investigation, cleanup, or dewatering of petroleum fuel related contamination arising from current and former leaking underground storage tanks sites or similar operations.
- b. To be covered under this Order, a Discharger must demonstrate that:
 - 1) Pollutant concentrations in the treated discharge do not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard for the receiving water, including discharge prohibitions;
 - 2) The treated discharge does not exceed applicable water quality objectives and criteria for the pollutants listed in Section V.A (including Attachment B) of this Order, and there will be no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above the applicable water quality objectives or criteria.
 - 3) Pollutant concentrations in a representative sample of the contaminated groundwater to be treated and discharged do not exceed the screening criteria in Attachment E, other than those constituents for which effluent limitations are established in Section V.A.
 - 4) The discharge does not cause acute or chronic toxicity in receiving waters;
 - 5) The discharge will be routed through a treatment system designed and operated to reduce the concentration of pollutants to meet the effluent limitations in this Order; and
 - 6) The Discharger is able to comply with the terms and conditions of this General NPDES Permit.

2. Ineligibility

The discharge of groundwater contaminated with petroleum fuel compounds mixed with other toxic pollutants with no effluent limitations in this permit are not eligible for enrollment under this General Permit.

C. Exclusion of Coverage

1. Notice of Termination

Dischargers shall submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) when coverage under this General NPDES Permit is no longer needed. An NOT is a letter or form that lists the Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID), the Compliance Inspection # (CI #) the name and address of the owner of the facility, and is signed and dated by the owner certifying that the discharge associated with the General NPDES Permit has been eliminated. Upon submission, the Discharger is no longer authorized to discharge wastewater associated with this General NPDES Permit.

2. Change from Authorization under General Permit to Individual Permit

Dischargers already covered under the NPDES program, whether by general or individual permit, may elect to continue coverage under the existing permit or may submit a complete NOI for coverage under this General NPDES Permit. Dischargers who submit a complete NOI under this General NPDES Permit are not required to submit an individual permit application. The Regional Water Board may request additional information, may determine that a Discharger is not eligible for coverage under this General NPDES Permit, and should be regulated under an individual or other general NPDES permit or, for discharges to land, under waste discharge requirements (WDRs). If the Regional Water Board issues a NPDES permit or WDRs, then the applicability of this General NPDES Permit to the discharge is immediately terminated on the effective date of such NPDES permit or WDRs.

3. Change of Ownership

Coverage under this Order may be transferred in case of change of ownership of land or discharge facility provided the current owner/operator notifies the Executive Officer at least 30 days before the proposed transfer date, and the notice includes a written agreement between the current and new owner/operator containing a specific date of transfer of coverage, responsibility for compliance with this Order, and liability between them.

D. Basis for Fee

Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Division 3, Chapter 9, Article 1, section 2200, *Annual Fee Schedule*, requires that all discharges subject to a specific general permit shall pay an annual fee.

Discharges covered under this General NPDES Permit have a Threat to Water Quality rating of 1.A. Discharge coverage requires treatment systems to meet priority toxic pollutant effluent limitations that could impair the designated beneficial uses of the receiving water if limits are violated.

E. Notification of Interested Parties

The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of notification are provided in Attachment F - Fact Sheet of this Order.

III. FINDINGS

A. Background

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has been authorized by the USEPA, pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), to administer the NPDES program in California since 1973. The procedures for the State Water Board and the Regional Water Board to issue NPDES permits pursuant to NPDES regulations at section 122 & 123,

title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations³, were established through the NPDES Memorandum of Agreement between the USEPA and the State Water Board on September 22, 1989.

Section 122.28 provides for issuance of General NPDES permits to regulate a category of point sources if the sources: a) involve the same or substantially similar types of operations; b) discharge the same type of waste; c) require the same type of effluent limitations or operating conditions; d) require similar monitoring; and e) are more appropriately regulated under a general permit rather than individual permits. General NPDES permits enable Regional Water Board staff to expedite the processing of requirements, simplify the application process for Dischargers, better utilize limited staff resources, and avoid the expense and time involved in repetitive public noticing, hearings, and permit adoptions.

On March 7, 2013, this Regional Water Board adopted the General NPDES Permit and WDRs for Discharges of Petroleum Fuel Contaminated Groundwater to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (NPDES No. CAG834001, Order No. R4-2013-0042). The General NPDES Permit covered discharges of groundwater to surface waters resulting from the cleanup of petroleum fuel contaminated-groundwater and similar discharges. Currently there are 3 dischargers enrolled under the General NPDES Permit.

B. Incorporation of Attachments

The Regional Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the permit application, through monitoring and reporting reports, and other available information. The background information and rationale for the Order requirements are contained in Attachment F, Fact Sheet and constitutes part of the Findings for this Order, which is hereby incorporated into this Order. Attachments A through E are also incorporated into this Order.

IV. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

1. Discharges of any waste at a location different from that described in this Order are prohibited.
2. Discharges of any waste, other than those, which meet eligibility requirements in Section II.B of this Order, are prohibited, unless the Discharger is regulated for such discharges by another NPDES permit or discharges into a permitted facility.
3. Discharges of extracted and/or treated groundwater in excess of the flow rates authorized by the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board are prohibited.
4. Discharges that contain any substances in concentrations toxic to human, animal, plant, or aquatic life are prohibited.
5. Discharges causing a violation of any applicable water quality standards for receiving waters as required by the CWA and regulations adopted thereunder are prohibited.
6. Pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined by Section 13050 of the CWC, which are created by the treatment or the discharge of pollutants authorized under this Order, are prohibited.

³ All further regulatory references are to title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (or 40 CFR) unless otherwise indicated.

7. Discharges of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent or high-level radiological waste are prohibited.
8. Bypass or overflow of untreated or partially treated contaminated groundwater to waters of the State either at the treatment system or from any of the collection or transport systems or pump stations tributary to the treatment system is prohibited.

V. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Discharge of an effluent from the outfall location(s) listed in the enrollment authorization factsheet in excess of the following limitations is prohibited. In the authorization letter, when a Discharger is enrolled under this permit, the Executive Officer shall list in the factsheet each constituent from the appropriate effluent limitation table(s) below which is applicable to the Discharger's effluent.

a. General Effluent Limitations

Table 1. Effluent Limitations Applicable to All Discharges

Parameters	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	50	75
Turbidity	NTU	50	75
BODs 20°C	mg/L	20	30
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.1	0.3
Sulfides	mg/L	NA	1.0
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	µg/L	NA	100
Benzene	µg/L	NA	1.0
Toluene	µg/L	NA	150
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	NA	700
Xylene	µg/L	NA	1750
Ethylene dibromide	µg/L	NA	0.05 ⁴
Lead	µg/L	2.6 ^{5,6}	5.2 ^{5,6}
Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether(MTBE)	µg/L	NA	5
Naphthalene	µg/L	NA	21
Di-isopropyl ether (DIPE)	µg/L	NA	0.8
Tertiary Butyl Alcohol (TBA)	µg/L	NA	12

⁴ If the reported MDL is greater than the effluent limitation, then a non-detect result, using an MDL of 0.5 µg/L is deemed to be in compliance.

⁵ If the reported MDL is greater than the effluent limitation, then a non-detect result, using an MDL of 0.5 µg/L is deemed to be in compliance.

⁶ Applicable to all Dischargers to surface waters with no applicable lead TMDL limitation.

b. QWBELs based on TMDL WLAs

Table 2. QWBELs based on Basin Plan section 7-13 - Los Angeles River and Tributaries Metals TMDL Wasteload Allocations (WLAs), Dry Weather

Reach	Units	Copper, TR		Lead, TR ⁷		Zinc, TR		Selenium, TR	
		Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly
Reach 5 & 6 & Bell Creek	µg/L	49	25	31	16	NA	NA	8.2	4.1
Reach 4	µg/L	170	84	16	8.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tujunga Wash	µg/L	270	140	20	9.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Reach 3 above LA-Glendale WRP	µg/L	150	75	20	9.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Verdugo Wash	µg/L	82	41	20	9.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Reach 3 below LA-Glendale WRP	µg/L	170	84	20	9.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Burbank Western Channel (above Burbank WRP)	µg/L	200	100	23	11	NA	NA	NA	NA
Burbank Western Channel (below Burbank WRP)	µg/L	150	74	15	7.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Reach 2	µg/L	140	71	18	9	NA	NA	NA	NA
Arroyo Seco	µg/L	48	24	18	9	NA	NA	NA	NA
Reach 1	µg/L	150	75	20	9.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Compton Creek	µg/L	100	52	15	7.3	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rio Hondo Reach. 1	µg/L	210	100	8.2	4.1	210	110	NA	NA

Table 3. QWBELs based on Basin Plan section 7-13 – All Reaches of Los Angeles River and Tributaries Metals TMDL WLAs, Wet Weather

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Cadmium, TR	µg/L	3.1	1.5
Copper, TR	µg/L	67	34
Lead, TR ⁷	µg/L	62	31
Zinc, TR	µg/L	160	79

⁷ The new lead TMDL based limitations are still undergoing regulatory review and are therefore, not in effect or applicable. In the interim, the existing lead limitations in the previous Order R4-2013-0042, as shown in this Table, apply to all discharges to Los Angeles River.

Table 4. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-39 - Los Angeles River Watershed Bacteria TMDL WLAs

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Geometric Mean Monthly	Maximum Daily
<i>E.coli</i> density	MPN/100 mL	126	235

Table 5. WQBELs based on Basin Plan section 7-12 - Ballona Creek Metals TMDL WLAs

Constituents	Units	Dry Weather Effluent Limitations		Wet Weather Effluent Limitations	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Copper, TR	µg/L	58	29	14	7
Lead, TR	µg/L	32	16	77	38
Zinc, TR	µg/L	730	360	105	52

Table 6. WQBELs based on USEPA's Los Cerritos Channel Metal TMDL

Constituents	Units	Dry Weather Effluent Limitations		Wet Weather Effluent Limitations	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Copper, TR	µg/L	31	16	9.8	4.8
Lead, TR	µg/L			59	28
Zinc, TR	µg/L			96	48

Table 7. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-40 – Dominguez Channel and Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Waters Toxic Pollutants TMDL WLAs, WET Weather⁸

Constituent	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Copper, TR	µg/L (water, unfiltered)	9.7	4.8
Lead, TR	µg/L (water, unfiltered)	43	21
Zinc, TR	µg/L	70	35

⁸ Exceedances of California Toxic Rule (CTR) criteria for metals were only observed in freshwaters of Dominguez Channel during wet weather; therefore, WQBELs are set for wet weather only.

Table 8. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-40 – Dominguez Channel and Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Waters Toxic Pollutants TMDL WLAs

Constituent	Units	Dominguez Channel Estuary		Greater Harbor Waters	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Copper, TR	µg/L	6.1	3	6.1	3
Lead, TR	µg/L	14	7	14	7
Zinc, TR	µg/L	140	70	140	70
PAHs	µg/L	0.098	0.049	NA	NA
Chlordane	µg/L	0.0012	0.00059	NA	NA
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	0.0012	0.00059	0.0012	0.00059
Dieldrin	µg/L	0.00028	0.00014	NA	NA
Total PCBs	µg/L	0.00034	0.00017	0.00034	0.00017

Table 9. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-20 - San Gabriel River and Impaired Tributaries Metals and Selenium TMDL WLAs, Dry Weather

Reaches	Units	Copper, TR		Selenium	
		Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly
SJC R-1, 2 ^a	µg/L	NA	NA	8.2	4.1
SGR R-1 ^b	µg/L	30	15	NA	NA
Coyote Creek	µg/L	33	16	NA	NA
Estuary	µg/L	6.1	3	NA	NA

a. San Jose Creek Reach 1 (Confluence to Temple Street) and San Jose Reach 2 (Temple Street to I-10 Freeway at White Avenue)

b. San Gabriel River Reach 1 (Firestone Avenue to Estuary).

Table 10. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-20 - San Gabriel River and Impaired Tributaries Metals and Selenium TMDL WLAs, Wet-Weather⁹

Reaches	Units	Copper, TR		Lead, TR		Zinc, TR	
		Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly
SGR R 2 ^a	µg/L	NA	NA	170	83	NA	NA
Coyote Creek	µg/L	27	13	110	53	160	79

a. San Gabriel River Reach 2 (Whittier Narrows to Firestone Avenue).

⁹ Defined in the Footnote 4.

Table 11. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-19 - Calleguas Creek Watershed Metals and Selenium TMDL WLAs – Dry Weather

Reaches	Units	Copper		Nickel		Selenium	
		Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly
1-Mabu Lagoon	µg/L	6.1	3	13	6.7	NA	NA
2-Calleguas Creek South	µg/L	6.1	3	13	6.7	NA	NA
3-Revolon Slough	µg/L	44	22	240	120	NA	NA
4-Calleguas Creek North	µg/L	6.1	3	14	6.8	8.2	4.1
5-Beardsley Channel	µg/L	6.1	3	14	6.8	8.2	4.1
9-Conejo Creek	µg/L	48	24	260	130	NA	NA
10-Hill Canyon reach of Conejo Creek	µg/L	48	24	260	130	NA	NA
11-Arroyo Santa Rosa	µg/L	48	24	260	130	NA	NA
12-North Fork Conejo Creek	µg/L	48	24	260	130	NA	NA
13-Arroyo Conejo (S.Fork Conejo Cr)	µg/L	48	24	260	130	NA	NA

Table 12. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-19 - Calleguas Creek Watershed Metals and Selenium TMDL WLAs –Wet Weather

Reaches	Units	Copper		Nickel		Selenium	
		Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly
1-Mabu Lagoon	µg/L	5.8	2.9	74	37	NA	NA
2-Calleguas Creek South	µg/L	5.8	2.9	74	37	NA	NA
3-Revolon Slough	µg/L	27	14	860	430	NA	NA
4-Calleguas Creek North	µg/L	5.8	2.9	75	37	290	140
5-Beardsley Channel	µg/L	5.8	2.9	75	37	290	140
6-Arroyo Las Posas	µg/L	31	15	960	480	NA	NA
7-Arroyo Simi	µg/L	31	15	960	480	NA	NA
8-Tapo Canyon Creek	µg/L	31	15	960	480	NA	NA
9-Conejo Creek	µg/L	43	22	1300	640	NA	NA
10-Hill Canyon reach of Conejo Creek	µg/L	43	22	1300	640	NA	NA
11-Arroyo Santa Rosa	µg/L	43	22	1300	640	NA	NA

Reaches	Units	Copper		Nickel		Selenium	
		Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly	Max. Daily	Avg. Monthly
12-North Fork Conejo Creek	µg/L	43	22	1300	640	NA	NA
13-Arroyo Conejo	µg/L	43	22	1300	640	NA	NA

Table 13. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-17 - Calleguas Creek Organochlorine Pesticides, Polychlorinated Biphenyls, and Siltation TMDL WLAs

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Chlordane	ng/L	1.2	0.59
4,4-DDD	ng/L	1.7	0.84
4,4-DDE	ng/L	1.2	0.59
4,4-DDT	ng/L	1.2	0.59
Dieldrin	ng/L	0.28	0.14
PCBs	ng/L	0.34	0.17
Toxaphene	ng/L	0.33	0.16

Table 14. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-19 - Calleguas Creek Watershed Metals and Selenium TMDL WLAs –Dry and Wet Weather

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Maximum Daily	Average Monthly
Mercury	µg/L	0.1	0.051

Table 15. Calleguas Creek, Its Tributaries, and Magu Lagoon Toxicity TMDL

Pollutant	Units	Effluent Limitations
Toxicity	Toxicity Unit (TUC)	1

Table 16. Calleguas Creek, Its Tributaries, and Magu Lagoon TMDL for organophosphate pesticides (Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon)

Parameters	Units	Effluent Limitations		
		4 Day Average	Acute	Chronic
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	0.014	NA	NA
Diazinon	µg/L	NA	0.10	0.10

Table 17. WQBELs based on Basin Plan section 7-10 Malibu Creek and Lagoon, section 7-11 Los Angeles Harbor (Inner Cabrillo Beach and Main Ship Channel), section 7-5 Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basin, section 7-28 Harbor Beaches of Ventura County (Kiddie Beach and Hobie Beach), section 7-36 Santa Clara River Estuary and Reaches 3,5,6, and 7, and USEPA's Long Beach City Beaches and Los Angeles River Estuary Bacteria TMDL WLAs

Parameters	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Geometric Mean Monthly	Maximum Daily
Total Coliform (T)	MPL/100 mL	1,000	10,000
Fecal Coliform (F)	MPL/100 mL	200	400
Enterococcus	MPL/100 mL	35	104
If ratio of F/T > 0.1	MPL/100 mL	NA	1,000

Table 18. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-14 - Ballona Creek Estuary Toxic Pollutants TMDL WLAs in Sediment

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations*
Cadmium	mg/kg dry	1.2
Copper	mg/kg dry	34
Lead	mg/kg dry	46.7
Silver	mg/kg dry	1.0
Zinc	mg/kg dry	150
Chlordane	µg/kg dry	1.3
DDTs	µg/kg dry	1.9
Total PCBs	µg/kg dry	3.2

*: See Section VIII. H. for compliance determination.

Table 19. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-40 – Dominguez Channel and Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Waters Toxic Pollutants TMDL WLAs in Sediment

Waterbody	Effluent Limitations (mg/kg)*		
	Lead	Zinc	PAHs
Long Beach Outer Harbor (inside breakwater)	46.7	150	4.022
Los Angeles Outer Harbor (inside breakwater)	46.7	150	4.022
Los Angeles River Estuary	46.7	NA	4.022
Los Angeles Harbor–Inner Cabrillo Beach Area	46.7	NA	4.022

*: See Section VIII. H. for compliance determination.

Table 20. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-18 - Marina del Rey Harbor Toxic Pollutants TMDLWLAs in Sediment

Constituent	Units	Effluent Limitations*
Copper	mg/kg	34
Lead	mg/kg	46.7
Zinc	mg/kg	150
Chlordane	µg/kg	0.5
Total PCBs	µg/kg	22.7
Total DDTs	µg/kg	1.58
p,p' -DDE	µg/kg	2.2

*: See Section VIII. H. for compliance determination.

Table 21. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-35 –TMDL for Algae, Eutrophic Conditions, and Nutrients in the Ventura River and its Tributaries

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Daily Max	Monthly Avg.
Total Nitrogen (nitrate-N + nitrite-N)	mg/L	1.15	NA
Total Phosphorous	mg/L	0.115	NA

Table 22. WQBELs based on Basin Plan Section 7-8 –TMDL for Los Angeles River Nitrogen Compounds and related Effects –Nitrogen TMDL

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Daily Max	30 day Average
Nitrate (NO ₃ -N)	mg/L	NA	8
Nitrite (NO ₂ -N)	mg/L	NA	1.0
Total Nitrogen (nitrate-N + nitrite-N)	mg/L	NA	8

2. The pH of the discharge shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 and 8.5.
3. The temperature of the discharge shall not exceed 86°F.
4. The discharge of an effluent with mineral and nitrogen constituents in excess of applicable limits given in Attachment B is prohibited. In the letter of determination, the Executive Officer shall indicate the WQBELs in Attachment B for watershed/stream reach mineral objectives applicable to the particular discharge.
5. Pass-through or uncontrollable discharges of PCBs shall not exceed daily average concentrations of 14 ng/L into fresh waters or 30 ng/L into estuarine waters.

6. The acute toxicity of the effluent shall be such that the average monthly survival in the undiluted effluent for any three (3) consecutive 96-hour static or continuous flow bioassay tests shall be at least 90%, with no single test less than 70% survival.
7. The discharge shall meet effluent limitations and toxic and effluent standards established pursuant to sections 301, 302, 304, 306, and 307 of the CWA, and amendments thereto.

B. Land Discharge Specifications (Not Applicable)

C. Recycling Specifications (Not Applicable)

VI. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations

Receiving water limitations are based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this Order. The discharge shall not cause the following in the receiving waterbody.

1. The normal ambient pH to fall below 6.5 nor exceed 8.5 units nor vary from normal ambient pH levels by more than 0.2 units.
2. Surface water temperature to rise greater than 5° F above the natural temperature of the receiving waters at any time or place. At no time shall the temperature be raised above 80°F as a result of waste discharged.
3. The waste discharged shall not cause the log mean limits of bacteria to be exceeded in Table 23 for freshwater receiving water and in Table 24 for saltwater receiving water with REC-1 and LRCE-1 designated beneficial use.

Table 23. Freshwater Bacteria Limitations

Parameters	Units	Receiving Water Limitations	
		Geometric Mean	Single Sample
E. coli ¹⁰	MPN/100 mL	126	235
E. coli (Ballona Creek only) ¹¹	MPN/100 mL	126	576

¹⁰ Applies also to Ballona Creek Reach 2, Centinela Creek and Del Rey Lagoon with designated beneficial use of Water Contact Recreation (REC-1).

¹¹ Applies to Ballona Creek Reach 1 and Benedict Canyon Channel with designated beneficial use of Limited Water Contact Recreation (LREC-1).

Table 24. Saltwater Water Bacteria Limitations

Parameters	Units	Receiving Water Limitations	
		Geometric Mean	Single Sample
Total Coliform	MPN/100 mL	1,000	10,000
Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 mL	200	400
Enterococcus	MPN/100 mL	35	104
If Fecal/Total Coliform > 0.1	MPN/100 mL	- - -	1,000

4. Depress the concentration of dissolved oxygen to fall below 5.0 mg/L anytime, and the median dissolved oxygen concentration for any three consecutive months shall not be less than 80 percent of the dissolved oxygen content at saturation.
5. Exceed total ammonia (as N) concentrations specified in the Regional Water Board Resolution No. 2004-022. Resolution No. 2004-022 revised the ammonia water quality objectives for inland surface waters not characteristic of freshwater in the 1994 Basin Plan, to be consistent with USEPA's "Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Ammonia (Saltwater) - 1989". Adopted on March 4, 2004, Resolution No. 2004-022 was approved by State Water Board, OAL and USEPA on July 22, 2004, September 14, 2004, and May 19, 2005, respectively and is now in effect.
6. The presence of visible, floating, suspended or deposited macroscopic particulate matter or foam.
7. Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the receiving water or on objects in the water.
8. Suspended or settleable materials, chemical substances or pesticides in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect any designated beneficial use.
9. Toxic or other deleterious substances in concentrations or quantities that cause deleterious effects on aquatic biota, wildlife, or waterfowl or render any of these unfit for human consumption either at levels created in the receiving waters or as a result of biological concentration.
10. Accumulation of bottom deposits or aquatic growths.
11. Biostimulatory substances at concentrations that promote aquatic growth to the extent that such growth causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
12. The presence of substances that result in increases of BOD that adversely affect beneficial uses.
13. Taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that alter the natural taste, odor, and/or color of fish, shellfish, or other edible aquatic resources; cause nuisance; or adversely affect beneficial uses.
14. Alteration of turbidity, or apparent color beyond present natural background levels.
15. Damage, discolor, nor cause formation or sludge deposits on flood control structures or facilities nor overload the design capacity.

16. Degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species.
17. Problems associated with breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests.
18. Create nuisance, or adversely affect beneficial uses of the receiving water.
19. Violation of any applicable water quality standards for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Water Board or State Water Board. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to section 303 of the CWA, or amendments thereto, the Regional Water Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such standards.

B. Groundwater Limitations (Not Applicable)

VII. PROVISIONS

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with Section 122.41 & 122.42, are included in this Order. 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 provided in this Order special provisions applicable to the Discharger. A rationale for the special provisions contained in this Order is provided in the attached Fact Sheet.

A. Standard Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D of this Order.
2. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions:
 - a. The Executive Officer may require any discharger authorized under this Order to apply for and obtain an individual NPDES permit with more specific requirements. The Executive Officer may require any discharger authorized to discharge under this permit to apply for an individual permit only if the discharger has been notified in writing that a permit application is required. This notice shall include a brief statement of the reasons for this decision, an application form, a statement setting a deadline for the discharger to file the application, and a statement that on the effective date of the individual permit, the authority to discharge under this general permit is no longer applicable.
 - b. The discharger shall comply with all the applicable items of the Standard Provisions and Reporting for Waste Discharge Requirements (Standard Provisions), which are part of this general permit (Attachment D). If there is any conflict between provisions stated herein and the Standard Provisions, those provisions stated herein prevail.
 - c. Prior to application, the discharger shall submit for Executive Officer's approval the list of chemicals and proprietary additives that may affect the discharge, including rates/quantities of application, compositions, characteristics, and material safety data sheets, if any.
 - d. Oil or oily materials, chemicals, refuse, or other materials that may cause pollution in storm water and/or urban runoff shall not be stored or deposited in areas where they may be picked up by rainfall/urban runoff and discharged to surface waters. Any spill of such materials shall be contained, removed and cleaned immediately.

- e. This Order neither exempts the discharger from compliance with any other laws, regulations, or ordinances that may be applicable, nor legalizes the waste disposal facility.
- f. The discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems installed or used to achieve compliance with this Order.
- g. Any discharge authorized under this Order may request to be excluded from the coverage of this Order by applying for an individual permit.
- h. Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from treatment facility, 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.

B. Monitoring and Reporting Program Requirements

The Executive Officer is hereby authorized to prescribe a Monitoring and Reporting Program for each authorized discharger. The Discharger shall comply with the MRP accompanying the transmittal for enrollment under this General NPDES permit, and future revisions thereto. If there is any conflict between provisions stated in the MRP and the Regional Water Board Standard Provisions, those provisions stated in the MRP shall prevail.

C. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

Pursuant to 40 CFR sections 122.62 and 122.63, this Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. Reasons for modification may include new information on the impact of discharges regulated under this Order become available, promulgation of new effluent standards and/or regulations, adoption of new policies and/or water quality objectives, and/or new judicial decisions affecting requirements of this Order. In addition, if receiving water quality is threatened due to discharges covered under this permit, this permit will be reopened to incorporate more stringent effluent limitations for the constituents creating the threat. TMDLs have not been developed for all the parameters and receiving waters on the 303(d) list. When TMDLs are developed, this permit may be reopened to incorporate appropriate limits. In addition, if a TMDL identifies that, a particular discharge covered under this permit is a load that needs to be reduced; this permit will be reopened to incorporate appropriate TMDL based limit and/or to remove any applicable exemptions.

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

3. Best Management Practices of Pollution Prevention

All Dischargers are encouraged to implement Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention Plans to minimize pollutant concentrations in the discharge.

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications

All owners or operators authorized discharge under the General Permit shall maintain and update, as necessary, a Groundwater Treatment System Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual to assure efficient and effective treatment of contaminated groundwater (pollutants concentrations above water quality criteria and goals). The O&M Manual shall address, but not limited to, the following.

- a. The O&M manual shall specify both normal operating and critical maximum or minimum values for treatment process variables including influent concentrations, flow rates, water levels, temperatures, time intervals, and chemical feed rates.
- b. The O&M manual shall specify an inspection and maintenance schedule for active and reserve system and shall provide a log sheet format to document inspection observations and record completion of maintenance tasks.
- c. The O&M manual shall include a Contingency and Notification Plan. The plan shall include procedures for reporting personnel to assure compliance with this General Permit, as well as authorization letters from the Executive Officer.
- d. The O&M manual shall specify safeguards to prevent noncompliance with limitations and requirements of the General Permit resulting from equipment failure, power loss, vandalism, or ten-year return frequency rainfall.

5. Engineering Design Report

For all new dischargers and existing dischargers where significant changes have made since prior submittals to the Regional Water Board, the NOI shall be accompanied by treatment flow schematic diagram and a certification, which demonstrates that the treatment process and the physical design of the treatment components will ensure compliance with the prohibitions, effluent limitations, and other conditions of the General Permit.

6. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)

Not Applicable

7. Other Special Provisions

a. Expiration and Continuation of this Order

This Order expires on August 14, 2023; however, for those dischargers authorized to discharge under this Order, it shall continue in full force and effect until a new order is adopted. Notwithstanding Provision L (Expiration Date and Continuation of this Order) of Order No. R4-2013-0042, discharges regulated under Order No. R4-2013-0042 on or before sixtieth day of notification of adoption of this Order, which has submitted a completed NOI may continue under Order No. R4-2013-0042 until enrolled under this General Permit.

b. Reauthorization

Upon reissuance of a new general permit order, dischargers authorized under this Order shall file a Notice of Intent or a new Report of Waste Discharge within 60 days of notification by the Executive Officer.

c. Rescission

Except for enforcement purposes, Order No. R4-2013-0042, adopted by this Regional Board on March 7, 2013, is rescinded effective June 14, 2018.

8. Compliance Schedules

Not Applicable

VIII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Compliance with the effluent limitations contained in section IV of this Order will be determined as specified below:

A. General

Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined using sample reporting protocols defined in the MRP and Appendix A of this Order. For purposes of reporting and administrative enforcement by the Regional and State Water Boards, the Discharger shall be deemed out of compliance with effluent limitations if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reporting level (RL).

B. Multiple Sample Data

When determining compliance with an AMEL or MDEL for priority pollutants and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

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

C. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)

If the average (or when applicable, the median determined by subsection B above for multiple sample data) of daily discharges over a calendar month exceeds the AMEL for a given parameter, this will represent a single violation, though the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for each day of that month for that parameter (e.g., resulting in 31 days of non-compliance in a 31-day month). If only a single sample is taken during the calendar month and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the AMEL, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that calendar month. 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.

D. Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)

If the average < (or when applicable, the median determined by subsection B above for multiple sample data)> of daily discharges over a calendar week exceeds the AWEL for a given parameter, this will represent a single violation, though the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for each day of that week for that parameter, resulting in 7 days of non-compliance. If only a single sample is taken during the calendar week and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the AWEL, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that calendar week. The Discharger will only be considered out of compliance for days when the discharge occurs. For any one-calendar week during which no sample (daily discharge) is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar week.

E. 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.

F. 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 (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both are lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation).

G. 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 (e.g., 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).

H. Limitations Based on Sediment TMDLs

Where sediment based effluent limitations are applicable, the discharger is allowed to demonstrate compliance with sediment TMDL limitations by complying with the TSS effluent limitation and CTR based toxic effluent limitation for the sediment based TMDL toxics of concern.

If the effluent analysis satisfies Condition A or B as listed below, the Discharger has demonstrated compliance with the sediment limitations. Therefore, no further sediment monitoring is required.

Condition A: Does not exceed TSS effluent limits and the CTR values of the sediment TMDL priority pollutants (Sediment-CTR Values). Table showing the CTR values of the priority pollutants targeted in the TMDLs covered in this Order is in the Appendix B of the Order.

Condition B: Exceeds TSS effluent limits, but does not exceed the Sediment-CTR Values.

When both TSS and the Sediment-CTR Values are exceeded, an accelerated monitoring program for TSS and the exceeded priority pollutant(s) shall be implemented in the following week when the exceedances are observed.

If two consecutive effluent sampling events show exceedance for both TSS and the Sediment-CTR value(s), the discharger is determined to be non-compliant with the sediment based effluent limitation. Thereafter, sediment based effluent monitoring shall be implemented as prescribed in the Monitoring and Reporting Program for the rest of the permitting cycle.

However, if two successive sampling events show compliance with TSS and the sediment-CTR value(s), the discharge shall continue with regular effluent monitoring in accordance with the MRP.

APPENDIX A

SWRCB Minimum Levels in ppb (µg/L)

The 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 SWRCB and become effective. The following tables (Tables 2a - 2d) present MLs for four major chemical groupings: volatile substances, semi-volatile substances, inorganics, and pesticides and PCBs. The analytical method that are used should be sufficiently sensitive in accordance with 40 CFR part 136.

Table 2a - VOLATILE SUBSTANCES*	GC	GCMS
1,1 Dichloroethane	0.5	1
1,1 Dichloroethene	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
Bromomethane	1.0	2
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.5	2
Chlorobenzene	0.5	2
Chlorodibromo-methane	0.5	2
Chloroethane	0.5	2
Chloroform	0.5	2
Chloromethane	0.5	2
Dichlorobromo-methane	0.5	2
Dichloromethane	0.5	2
Ethylbenzene	0.5	2
Tetrachloroethene	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 2b - SEMI-VOLATILE SUBSTANCES*	GC	GCMS	LC	COLOR
1,2 Benzanthracene	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		
3,4 Benzofluoranthene		10	10	
4 Chloro-3-methylphenol	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(3,4 Benzopyrene)		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		
Hexachlorobutadiene	5	1		
Hexachloroethane	5	1		

Table 2b - SEMI-VOLATILE SUBSTANCES*	GC	GCMS	LC	COLOR
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 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 2d – PESTICIDES – PCBs*	GC
4,4'-DDD	0.05
4,4'-DDE	0.05
4,4'-DDT	0.01
a-Endosulfan	0.02
a-Hexachloro-cyclohexane	0.01
Aldrin	0.005
b-Endosulfan	0.01

b-Hexachloro-cyclohexane	0.005
Chlordane	0.1
d-Hexachloro-cyclohexane	0.005
Dieldrin	0.01
Endosulfan Sulfate	0.05
Endrin	0.01
Endrin Aldehyde	0.01
Heptachlor	0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.01
Lindane(g-Hexachloro-cyclohexane)	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

APPENDIX- B

Effluent Limitations based on CTR and State Implementation Policy (SIP) procedures for the those Metals and Organics Listed in TMDLs; Ballona Creek Estuary Toxics TMDLs, Dominguez Channel Estuary, Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbors TMDLs and Marina Del Rey Harbor Toxics TMDLs that requires sediment analysis¹²

Constituents	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		Daily Max.	Monthly Avg.
Cadmium	µg/L	5	NA
Copper	µg/L	5.8	2.9
Lead	µg/L	14	7
Silver	µg/L	2.2	1.1
Zinc	µg/L	95	47
Chlordane	µg/L	0.00126	0.00059
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	0.00126	0.00059
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	0.00126	0.00059
4,4'-DDD	µg/L	0.0017	0.00084
Total PCBs	µg/L	0.00034	0.00017
Total PAHs	µg/L	NA	NA

¹² Compliance for TSS and the toxics pollutants in the effluent must be demonstrated to satisfy the compliance requirements for sediment Waste Load allocations for toxic pollutants listed in the respective TMDLs.

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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

I. PERMIT INFORMATION

A. Background

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has been authorized by the USEPA, pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA, to administer the NPDES program in California since 1973. The procedures for the State Water Board and the Regional Water Board to issue NPDES permits pursuant to NPDES regulations at section 122 & 123, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations¹, were established through the NPDES Memorandum of Agreement between the USEPA and the State Water Board on September 22, 1989.

Section 122.28 provides for issuance of General NPDES permits to regulate a category of point sources if the sources a) involve the same or substantially similar types of operations; b) discharge the same type of waste; c) require the same type of effluent limitations or operating conditions; d) require similar monitoring; and e) are more appropriately regulated under a general permit rather than individual permits. General NPDES permits enable Regional Water Board staff to expedite the processing of requirements, simplify the application process for Dischargers, better utilize limited staff resources, and avoid the expense and time involved in repetitive public noticing, hearings, and permit adoptions.

On April 5, 2007, this Regional Water Board adopted the General NPDES Permit and WDRs for Discharges of Treated Groundwater and Other Wastewaters from Investigation and/or Cleanup of Petroleum Fuel-Contaminated Sites to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (NPDES No. CAG834001, Order No. R4-2007-0021). The General NPDES Permit covered discharges of groundwater to surface waters resulting from the cleanup of Petroleum Fuel-Contaminated Sites and similar discharges. The permit was subsequently renewed by the Regional Water Board Order R4-2013-0042 on March 7, 2013. Currently there are 3 dischargers enrolled under the General NPDES Permit.

In accordance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), the Regional Water Board must meet general program requirements prior to the re-issuance and adoption of a general NPDES permit. General program requirements include preparing a draft General NPDES Permit, public noticing, allowing a public comment period, and conducting a public hearing. To meet these requirements, the Regional Water Board prepared a draft General NPDES Permit. The draft General NPDES Permit was sent to interested parties on April xx, 2018 for comments. A public hearing to receive testimony from interested parties was scheduled for June 14, 2018. The Notice of Public Hearing was sent to the interested party list at the same time the draft General NPDES Permit was sent. A public hearing notice was also posted in major newspapers in the counties of Los Angeles and Ventura.

Major conditions in the expiring Order No. R4-2013-0042 General NPDES Permit CAG914001 remain in this Order, including Effluent Limitations and Discharge Provisions. TMDL requirements approved so far in the jurisdiction of the Region Water Board are considered and corresponding limits are applied. This Order is formatted consistent with the State Water Board

¹ All further statutory references are to title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations unless otherwise indicated.

NPDES permit template. In addition, this Order requires filing of Notice of Intent for all dischargers under this General NPDES Permit to streamline the permit application process.

B. General Criteria for Coverage

This General NPDES Permit is intended to cover new or existing discharges of treated groundwater to surface waters, resulting from cleanup activities of Petroleum Fuel contaminated sites. To be covered by this General NPDES Permit, discharges must meet the following criteria:

1. The discharge is a minor discharge as classified by the U.S. EPA and the Regional Water Board;
2. The discharge from the treatment facility shall contain no pollutants exceeding the discharge effluent limits;
3. The discharge shall not adversely affect the beneficial uses of the receiving water;
4. The discharge is necessary because a polluted groundwater cleanup operation is required;
5. The discharge is necessary because no feasible alternative to the discharge (re injection, reclamation, evaporation, discharge to a community wastewater treatment and disposal system, etc.) is available; and
6. The discharge is in the public interest.

This General NPDES Permit does **not** cover discharges of treated groundwater impacted by heavy metals² excluding lead or other toxic pollutants not limited in this permit, although applicable mandatory discharge limits on heavy metals and other toxic pollutants required by TMDL are imposed on all dischargers.

II. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of this General NPDES Permit is to facilitate regulation of discharges from the new or existing discharges of treated groundwater to surface waters, resulting from cleanup activities for petroleum fuel-contaminated sites. To obtain coverage under this General NPDES Permit, the Discharger must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) Form and pay a filing fee. An NOI Form must be signed to be valid. Signing the certification on the NOI Form signifies that the Discharger intends to comply with the provisions of this General NPDES Permit.

C. General Permit Application

To be authorized to discharge under this Order, the Discharger must apply for enrollment under the General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit by submitting to the Regional Water Board a Notice of Intent (NOI).

1. Notice of Intent

- a. Both Existing and New Dischargers eligible to seek coverage under the General NPDES Permit shall submit to the Executive Officer a complete NOI, including all information required by the NOI. The NOI is incorporated as Attachment C to this Order.

² Heavy metals have relatively high densities, atomic weights or atomic numbers and are toxic in nature if present in the water in the amounts above the California Toxic Rule (CTR) values and as specified in the 40 CFR Part 131.

- b. The Discharger must obtain and analyze (using appropriate sampling and laboratory methods) a representative sample(s) of the untreated groundwater to be treated and discharged under this Order. The analytical method(s) used shall be capable of achieving a detection limit at or below the minimum level³, otherwise, a written explanation shall be provided. The analytical results shall be submitted with the NOI. The data shall be tabulated and shall include the results for every constituent listed on Attachment E.
- c. The NOI for a New Discharger shall be accompanied by an enrollment fee in accordance with the Section 2200 *Annual Fee Schedules* of California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9. The check or money order shall be made payable to the "State Water Resources Control Board".
- d. The Regional Water Board encourages, wherever practical, water conservation and/or reuse of wastewater. To obtain coverage under this Order, the Discharger shall first investigate the feasibility of conservation, reuse, injection of the groundwater, and/or alternative disposal methods of the wastewater. The Discharger shall include this feasibility study with the NOI.
- e. Upon request, the Discharger shall submit any additional information that the Executive Officer deems necessary to determine whether the discharge meets the criteria for coverage under this Order, or to prescribe an appropriate monitoring and reporting program, or both.

2. Deadline for Submission

- a. Existing Dischargers that were authorized to discharge under Order R4-2013-0043 will be sent an NOI form that must be completed and returned to the Regional Water Board within 60 days of receipt; otherwise, permit coverage may be revoked. Existing Dischargers enrolling under this Order are required to collect representative untreated groundwater sample(s) and analyze the sample for all the constituents listed on Attachment E. Dischargers shall conduct this analysis and submit the result with the NOI; otherwise, the existing authorization may be terminated. The discharge will be considered ineligible for enrollment, if the analytical test results of any constituent other than the pollutants with effluent limitations in Section V.A. exceeds the screening criteria in Attachment E. The discharger will be enrolled under other appropriate General NPDES Permit or an individual permit and the existing enrollment will be terminated.
- b. New Dischargers shall file a complete NOI Form at least 45 days before commencement of the discharge.

3. Failure to Submit a NOI Form

Existing Dischargers who fail to submit a complete NOI Form by the deadline established herein will be deemed out of compliance with the General NPDES Permit and subject to all penalties allowable pursuant to applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act and the California Water Code including but not limited to Water Code Section 13261.

4. Authorization of Coverage

Upon receipt of the complete NOI, the Executive Officer shall determine the applicability of

³ The minimum levels are those published by the State Water Quality Control Board in the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005. See attached Appendix A.

this Order to such a discharge. If the discharge is eligible, the Executive Officer shall notify the Discharger that the discharge is authorized under the terms and conditions of this Order and prescribe an appropriate monitoring and reporting program. For new discharges, the discharge shall not commence until receipt of the Executive Officer's written determination of eligibility for coverage under this General NPDES Permit. The Executive Officer may require a Discharger to comply with the conditions of this General NPDES Permit even if the Discharger has not submitted an NOI Form to be covered by the General NPDES Permit, as specified in Section II. A. 1.a. of this Order.

Renewal of permits for existing Dischargers covered under individual permits that meet the eligibility requirement and that have submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) or an NOI Form will consist of a letter of determination from the Executive Officer of coverage under this Order.

5. Notice of Start-Up

New Dischargers shall notify the Regional Water Board staff of the time and date for commencement of the discharge(s) authorized under the General NPDES Permit at least seven days prior to initiating a discharge.

D. Eligibility Requirement

1. Eligibility

- a.** This Order covers discharges to surface waters of treated groundwater and other wastewaters from the investigation, cleanup of Petroleum Fuel-Contaminated Sites.
- b.** To be covered under this Order, a Discharger must demonstrate that:
 - 1) Pollutant concentrations in the treated discharge do not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard for the receiving water, including discharge prohibitions;
 - 2) The treated discharge does not exceed applicable water quality objectives and criteria for the pollutants listed in Section V.A (including Attachment B). of this Order, and there will be no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above the applicable water quality objectives or criteria.
 - 3) Pollutant concentrations in a representative sample of the contaminated groundwater to be treated and discharged do not exceed the screening criteria in Attachment E, other than those constituents for which effluent limitations are established in Section V.A.
 - 4) The discharge does not cause acute or chronic toxicity in receiving waters;
 - 5) The discharge will be routed through a treatment system designed and operated to reduce the concentration of pollutants to meet the effluent limitations in this Order; and
 - 6) The Discharger is able to comply with the terms and conditions of this General NPDES Permit.

2. Ineligibility

Groundwater containing priority toxic pollutants not regulated in this permit are not eligible for coverage under this General NPDES Permit and shall be covered under an another appropriate permit.

E. Exclusion of Coverage

1. Termination of Discharge

Dischargers shall submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) when coverage under this General NPDES Permit is no longer needed. An NOT is a letter that lists the Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID) or the Compliance Inspection Number (CI#), the name and address of the owner of the facility, and is signed and dated by the owner certifying that the discharge associated with the General NPDES Permit has been eliminated. Upon submission, the Discharger is no longer authorized to discharge wastewater associated with this General NPDES Permit.

2. Change from Authorization Under General Permit to Individual Permit

Dischargers already covered under the NPDES program, whether by general or individual permit, may elect to continue coverage under the existing permit or may submit a complete NOI for coverage under this General NPDES Permit. Dischargers who submit a complete NOI under this General NPDES Permit are not required to submit an individual permit application. The Regional Water Board may request additional information and may determine that a Discharger is not eligible for coverage under this General NPDES Permit and should be regulated under an individual or other general NPDES permit or, for discharges to land, under waste discharge requirements (WDRs). If the Regional Water Board issues such NPDES permit or WDRs, then the applicability of this General NPDES Permit to the discharge is immediately terminated on the effective date of such NPDES permit or WDRs.

3. Transferring Ownership

Coverage under this Order may be transferred in case of change of ownership of land or discharge facility provided the current owner/operator notifies the Executive Officer at least 30 days before the proposed transfer date, and the notice includes a written agreement between the current and new owner/operator containing a specific date of transfer of coverage, responsibility for compliance with this Order, and liability between them.

4. Basis for Fee

Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Division 3, Chapter 9, Article 1, section 2200, Annual Fee Schedule, requires that all discharges subject to a specific general permit shall pay an annual fee.

Discharges covered under this General NPDES Permit have a Threat to Water Quality rating of Category 1 as specified in the 2017-18 Fee Schedule Section 9. Discharge coverage requires treatment systems to meet priority toxic pollutant effluent limitations that could impair the designated beneficial uses of the receiving water if limits are violated.

III. DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Petroleum fuel contamination of soil and groundwater at various sites throughout the region causes or threatens to cause adverse impacts to existing and potential beneficial uses of the region's groundwater resources. Leaking underground storage tanks and surface spills from gasoline service station and similar sites pollutes the groundwater. Remediation of these sites includes

similar groundwater treatment and monitoring requirements, and waste discharges from these sites will be more efficiently regulated with a general permit rather than individual permits. This Order establishes requirements to regulate discharges of wastewaters generated from the investigation or cleanup of Petroleum fuel in the groundwater to surface waters under the jurisdiction of this Regional Water Board.

A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment or Controls (Not Applicable)

B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

Under the General NPDES Permit, there may be multiple discharge points. Information regarding the receiving waters and discharge location(s) will be incorporated in the Fact Sheet and Monitoring and Reporting Program that will be transmitted with the enrollment authorization letter.

1. Summary of Existing Requirements

a. Effluent Limitations

- 1) Effluent limitations/Discharge Specifications contained in the existing Order R4-2013-0042 for discharges from the discharge point of the treatment facility are as follows:

Table 1. Existing Effluent Limitations

Parameters	Units	Effluent Limitations		Rationale
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	
Total Suspended Solids	µg/L	50	75	Technology Based Limit
Turbidity	µg/L	50	75	Technology Based Limit
BOD ₅ 20°C	µg/L	20	30	Technology Based Limit
Settleable Solids	µg/L	0.1	0.3	Technology Based Limit
Sulfides	µg/L	NA	1.0	Technology Based Limit
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	µg/L	NA	100	Existing permit
Benzene	µg/L	NA	1.0	Existing permit, PMCL ⁴
Toluene	µg/L	NA	150	Existing permit, PMCL ³
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	NA	700	Existing permit, PMCL ³
Xylenes	µg/L	NA	1750	Existing permit, PMCL ³

⁴ PCML – Primary Maximum Contaminant Level, Department of Health Services, Title 22 California Code of Regulations.

Parameters	Units	Effluent Limitations		Rationale
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	
Ethylene dibromide	µg/L	NA	0.05*	Existing permit, PMCL ³
Lead	µg/L	2.6**	5.2**	CTR ⁵
Methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)	µg/L	5	5	SMCL ⁶
Naphthalene	µg/L	21	21	Taste and odor
Di-isopropyl Ether (DIPE)	µg/L	0.8	0.8	Taste and odor
Tertiary Butyl Alcohol (TBA)	µg/L	12	12	DPH action level
<p>NOTE: *. If reported detection level is greater than effluent limit, then a non-detect result using 0.5 µg/L detection level based on minimum level specified in Table Appendix A for Ethylene dibromide (Dichlorobromo-methane) is deemed to be in compliance.</p> <p>** . Toxicity of this chemical increases with decreasing hardness concentration. The figure in the table is determined based on effluent CaCO₃ concentration of 100 mg/L.</p>				

- 2) The pH of the discharge shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 and 8.5.
- 3) The temperature of the discharge shall not exceed 86°F.
- 4) The discharge of an effluent with mineral and nitrogen constituents in excess of applicable limits given in Attachment B is prohibited. In the letter of determination, the Executive Officer shall indicate the watershed/stream reach limitations in Attachment B applicable to the particular discharge.
- 5) Pass-through or uncontrollable discharges of PCBs shall not exceed daily average concentrations of 14 ng/L into fresh waters or 30 ng/L into estuarine waters.
- 6) The acute toxicity of the effluent shall be such that the average survival in the undiluted effluent for any three (3) consecutive 96-hour static or continuous flow bioassay tests shall be at least 90%, with no single test less than 70% survival.
- 7) The discharge shall meet effluent limitations and toxic and effluent standards established pursuant to sections 301, 302, 304, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, and amendments thereto.

2. Monitoring Requirements

Order No. R4-2013-0042 requires the effluent monitoring in accordance with the following schedule.

⁵ California Toxics Rule and applicable TMDL Effluent Limitations.

⁶ SCML – Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level, Department of Public Health, Title 22 California Code of Regulations.

Table 2. Existing Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	gal/day	totalizer	continuously	1
pH	pH units	grab	monthly	1
Temperature	°F	grab	monthly	1
Total Suspended Solids	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Turbidity	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
BOD ₅ 20°C	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Settleable Solids	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Sulfides	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Benzene	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Toluene	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Xylenes	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Ethylene dibromide	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Lead	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Naphthalene	µg/L	grab	monthly	1
Di-isopropyl Ether (DIPE)	µg/L	grab	annually	1
Tertiary Butyl Alcohol (TBA)	µg/L	grab	annually	1
Acute Toxicity	% survival	grab	annually	1

Notes: 1: Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136; for priority pollutants the methods must meet the lowest minimum levels (MLs) specified in Attachment 4 of the SIP (and included as Attachment H of this Order), where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, by methods approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board.

3. Compliance Summary (Not Applicable)

4. Planned Changes (Not Applicable)

IV. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

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

A. Legal Authorities

This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the CWA and implementing regulations adopted by the USEPA and Chapter 5.5, Division 7 of the California Water Code (CWC) (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for point source discharges of wastewaters generated from the cleanup of petroleum fuel contaminated sites to surface waters under the jurisdiction of the California Water Quality Control Board-Los Angeles Regional (Regional Water Board). This Order also serves as Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) pursuant to Article 4, Chapter 4 of the CWC (commencing with section 13260).

States may request authority to issue general NPDES permits pursuant to 40 CFR 122.28. The State Water Board has been authorized by the USEPA to administer the NPDES program in California since 1973. The procedures for the State Board and the Regional Water Board to issue NPDES permits pursuant to 40 CFR 122 & 123 were established through the NPDES Memorandum of Agreement between the USEPA and the State Board on September 22, 1989.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

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

C. State and Federal Regulations, Policies, and Plans

- 1. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations** 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. 40 CFR 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 or criteria within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric objective or criterion 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).

The effluent limitations from groundwater cleanup projects regulated under this permit are calculated assuming no dilution. For most practical purposes, discharges from groundwater cleanups are intermittent and do not flow directly into receiving waters with enough volume to consider dilution credit or to allocate a mixing zone. Most discharges of treated groundwater regulated under this general permit are to storm drain systems that discharge to creeks and streams. Many of these creeks and streams 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. These discharges, therefore, have the potential to recharge ground waters protected as drinking waters.

Because this Order is intended to serve as a general NPDES permit and covers discharges to all surface waters in the Los Angeles Region, the effluent limitations established pursuant to this general order are established to protect the most protective water quality objective or

criterion for the designated surface water beneficial uses in the Los Angeles Region.

- 2. Watershed Management Approach and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)** The Regional Water Board has implemented the Watershed Management Approach to address water quality issues in the region. Watershed management may include diverse issues as defined by stakeholders to identify comprehensive solutions to protect, maintain, enhance, and restore water quality and beneficial uses. To achieve this goal, the Watershed Management Approach integrates the Regional Water Board's many diverse programs, particularly NPDES with TMDLs, to better assess cumulative impacts of pollutants from all point and nonpoint sources. A TMDL is a tool for implementing water quality standards and is based on the relationship between pollution sources and in-stream water quality conditions. The TMDL establishes the allowable loadings or other quantifiable parameters for a waterbody and thereby provides the basis to establish water quality based controls. These controls should provide the pollution reduction necessary for a waterbody to meet water quality standards. This process facilitates the development of watershed-specific solutions that balance the environmental and economic impacts within the watershed. Whenever the TMDLs were established and implemented, the waste load allocations (WLAs) and load allocations (LAs) for point and non-point sources will result in achieving water quality standards for the waterbody.

Certain receiving waters in the Los Angeles watershed do not fully support beneficial uses and therefore have been classified as impaired on the 2012 303(d) list and have been scheduled for TMDL development. The State Water Board has approved the proposed 303(d) List for Los Angeles region on October 3, 2017 in its Resolution No. 2017-0059. Upon approval by the State Water Board, the listing recommendations were compiled into the 303(d) List portion of the 2014 and 2016 California Integrated Report and submitted to USEPA for its approval.

- 3. Metals TMDL for Los Angeles River and Tributaries** The Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R05-006 on June 2, 2005, that amended the Basin Plan to incorporate a TMDL for metals in the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. The TMDL contains WLAs for copper, lead, cadmium, and zinc. The TMDL became effective on January 11, 2006 upon approval by USEPA. On September 6, 2007, the Regional Water Board re-adopted the TMDL (Resolution No. 2007-014) in compliance with a writ of mandate issued by the Los Angeles County Superior Court in the matter of *Cities of Bellflower et al v. State Water Resources Control Board et al.* (Case No. BS101732). The writ directed the Regional Water Board to consider alternatives to the project before re-adopting the TMDL. The writ was limited to this issue, and the TMDL was affirmed in all other aspects. The re-adopted TMDL replaced the previous implementation deadlines that were tied to "the effective date of the TMDL" with specific dates. The re-adopted TMDL was subsequently approved by the State Water Board in Resolution No. 2008-0046 on June 17, 2008 and by OAL on October 14, 2008. USEPA approved the re-adopted TMDL on October 29, 2008. On May 6, 2010, the Regional Water Board adopted revisions to the Metals TMDL by Resolution R10-003. The revisions included adjustments to the numeric targets for copper in Reaches 1-4 of the Los Angeles River and the Burbank Western Channel and the corresponding copper WLAs only for the three water reclamation plants (Burbank, DC Tillman and Los Angeles-Glendale) based on a water effect ratio (WER). The WLAs for other sources were not revised and remained based on the default WER of 1.0. The revised TMDL became effective on November 3, 2011 upon approval by USEPA.

On April 9, 2015, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R15-004, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Revise the Los Angeles River and Tributaries Metals TMDL*. Resolution No. 2015-004 amended the Basin Plan to adopt, for all sources, site-specific objectives (SSOs) for copper using Water Effect Ratios (WERs) and acute and chronic SSOs for lead based on recalculated lead criteria for Reaches 1-4 of the Los Angeles River and six tributaries. Corresponding revisions to the TMDL were also made to update the copper and lead numeric targets, loading capacities, and allocations to be consistent with the SSOs. On November 17, 2015, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2015-0069, *Approving an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan) to Adopt Site-Specific Objectives for Lead and Copper in the Los Angeles River Watershed and to Revise the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Metals in the Los Angeles River and Tributaries*. On July 11, 2016, the OAL approved Resolution No. R15-004. On December 12, 2016, USEPA approved Resolution No. R15-004 and it became effective on the same date.

In its approval of the Los Angeles River Metals TMDL, USEPA emphasized the significance of observing the CWA anti-backsliding and anti-degradation provisions while an amended TMDL is implemented. . The January 30, 2014 TMDL Staff Report titled "Revision of the Total Maximum Daily Load for Metals for the Los Angeles River and its Tributaries" discussed the Anti-Degradation analysis in accordance with the State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and concluded that:

"the reduction in water quality caused by application of the SSOs will not unreasonably affect actual or potential beneficial uses nor will water quality fall below water quality objectives set to protect beneficial uses as prescribed in the Basin Plan. While the proposed SSOs allow for an increase in copper and lead loading and higher in-stream concentrations above existing water quality objectives, the increased concentrations and loading will not adversely affect existing or potential beneficial uses of the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. The WER and recalculations procedures, developed by USEPA and used as the basis for the proposed modifications, are designed to result in SSOs that are equally protective of aquatic life and beneficial uses."

Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Revise the Los Angeles River and Tributaries Metals TMDL, Resolution No. 2015-004 will thus result in no effect, either individually or cumulatively, on wildlife resources. Section 303(d)(4) of the CWA allow for backsliding if the less stringent limitations are based on a TMDL with the cumulative effect being that the limitations assure attainment of water quality standards in the receiving water for those specific parameters.

The revised Los Angeles River TMDLs are established based on the analyses of the recent water quality data with reach site specific WERs for the river. The analyses were based on best available science which demonstrated that the TMDLs are protective of the water quality and designated beneficial uses of the Los Angeles River reaches.

The anti-degradation provision requires permittees to track trends in water quality, and where increases are predicted or observed, evaluate the cause and identify control measures to arrest increases. In addition to address anti-backsliding, if the effluent copper concentrations in the discharge reach 70 percent of the TMDL effluent limitations specified in Table 2 of the Order R4-2018-XXX, Dischargers are required to identify the cause of increase in concentrations and report the data in the quarterly monitoring reports. Also, Discharges are required to implement control measures to reduce the metal concentrations.

This renewed permit implements the updated copper TMDL based on the latest WERs for Los Angeles River. The updated TMDL for lead is undergoing regulatory review and therefore cannot become effective at this time. In the interim, the existing limitations for lead from the prior Order are carried over and remains in effect. When a new lead TMDL is approved based on regulatory review, this Order may be revised to include the updated lead effluent limitations.

4. **Los Angeles River Nutrient TMDL for Ammonia** Ammonia in the wastewater is typically found in the discharges emanating from domestic wastewater treatment plants but not found in the groundwater discharges from petroleum fuel contaminated sites. Therefore, the TMDL effluent limitations for ammonia are not appropriate to be prescribed in the permits for the groundwater discharges generated from petroleum fuel contaminated sources.
5. **Water Quality Control Plans** The Regional Water Board has adopted a revised basin plan, Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region: Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (Basin Plan) 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. The Basin Plan on Page 2-4 states that the beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Resources Control Board (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.
6. **Receiving Water Beneficial Uses** The Basin Plan lists the designated beneficial uses of, specific water bodies (receiving waters) in the Los Angeles Region. Typical beneficial uses covered by this Order include the following:
 - a. Inland surface waters above an estuary - municipal and domestic supply, industrial service and process supply, agricultural supply, groundwater recharge, freshwater replenishment, aquaculture, warm and cold freshwater habitats, inland saline water and wildlife habitats, water contact and noncontact recreation, fish migration, and fish spawning.
 - b. Inland surface waters within and below an estuary - industrial service supply, marine and wetland habitats, estuarine and wildlife habitats, water contact and noncontact recreation, commercial and sport fishing, aquaculture, migration of aquatic organisms, fish migration, fish spawning, preservation of rare and endangered species, preservation of biological habitats, and shellfish harvesting.
 - c. Coastal Zones (both nearshore and offshore) - industrial service supply, navigation, water contact and noncontact recreation, commercial and sport fishing, marine habitat, wildlife habitat, fish migration and spawning, shellfish harvesting, and rare, threatened, or endangered species habitat.

There are currently 60 USEPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for impaired waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region to reduce pollutants which are identified on California's 2010 303(d) list. These pollutants are classified into the categories of algae, bacteria, chloride, debris, metals, nutrients, salts, toxicity, toxics, and trash. All applicable TMDL requirements are implemented in this Order as effluent limitations and permit conditions.

- 7. 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.
- 8. 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 forty 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.
- 9. State Implementation Policy** On March 2, 2000, the State Water Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Policy or 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. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.
- 10. Compliance Schedules and Interim Requirements** The discharges covered under this Order applies exclusively to discharges from petroleum fuel-contaminated sites and as such the discharges from these sites are not expected to have issues in complying with the TMDLs prescribed effluent limitations in this Order. If a discharger cannot comply with the final TMDL limitations in this permit, then the discharger will be covered under an individual permit where compliance schedule is more appropriate. Therefore, this Order does not include either compliance schedule or Interim TMDLs and only appropriate final TMDLs have been prescribed.
- 11. Endangered Species Act** This 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 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.
- 12. 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 131.21; 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.

- 13. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants** This Order contains both technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for individual pollutants that are no more stringent than required by CWA. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements. Water quality-based effluent limitations 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 pollutant WQBELs were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to section 131.38. The scientific procedures for calculating the individual water quality-based effluent limitations 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.
- 14. Anti-degradation Policy** Section 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an anti-degradation policy consistent with the 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 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 anti-degradation policies. As discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet the permitted discharge is consistent with the anti-degradation provision of Section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.
- 15. Anti-Backsliding Requirements** Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and 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. Section 303(d)(4) of the CWA allow for backsliding if the less stringent limitations are based on a TMDL with the cumulative effect being that the limitations assure attainment of water quality standards in the receiving water for those specific parameters. Also, under 40 CFR 122.44(l)(2)(i)(B)(2) less stringent limitations are allowable when correcting technical mistakes or mistaken interpretations of law. This permit incorporates WQBELs based on TMDL WLAs for toxics and other pollutants adopted by the Regional Water Board and approved by USEPA under CWA section 303(d); these WQBELs supersede some effluent limits specified in the existing permit.
- 16. Monitoring and Reporting** 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. A monitoring and reporting program (MRP) is tailored to each Discharger's individual situation and is provided with the General NPDES Permit coverage authorization letter signed by the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board.
- 17. 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 Order.

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

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify specific water bodies where water quality standards are not expected to be met after implementation of technology-based effluent limitations on point sources. The USEPA has approved the State’s 303(d) list of impaired water bodies on July 25, 2003. Certain receiving waters in Los Angeles County watersheds do not fully support beneficial uses and therefore, have been classified as impaired on the 2012 303(d) list. For all 303(d)-listed water bodies and pollutants, the Regional Water Board plans to develop and adopt TMDLs that will specify waste load allocations (WLAs) for point sources and load allocations (LAs) for non-point sources, as appropriate.

The Regional Water Board has developed and adopted a number of TMDLs for impaired waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region to reduce pollutants which are identified in CWA section 303(d) list. The pollutants that these TMDLs target are categorized as bacteria, chloride, coliforms, metals, toxics, and trash TMDLs. Those applicable TMDL requirements are considered in this Order. Regional Board adopted TMDLs that have been approved by the State Water Resource Control Board Office of Administrative Law and by the USEPA have been incorporated in the Order for appropriate receiving water.

E. Other Plans, Polices and Regulations (Not Applicable)

V. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

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 in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations in the Code of Federal Regulations: 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 to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

A. Pollutants of Concern

The CWA requires that any discharge by a point source must be regulated through an NPDES permit. Further, the NPDES regulations require regulation of any pollutant that (1) causes; (2) has the reasonable potential to cause; or (3) contributes to the exceedance of a receiving water quality criteria or objective.

The following compounds are typically found in the petroleum fuel contaminated groundwater and are considered Pollutants of Concern under this General NPDES Permit.

Table 3. List of Pollutants of Concern*

total petroleum hydrocarbons	benzene	toluene
ethylbenzene	xylenes	ethylene dibromide
lead	methyl tertiary butyl ether	tertiary butyl alcohol
naphthalene	di-isopropyl ether	acute toxicity

*: Only those constituents that show reasonable potential will be limited in the discharge as specified in the Fact Sheet of the enrollment letter unless in cases where there is an applicable TMDL for a pollutant.

B. Discharge Prohibitions

Discharges under this Order are required to be not toxic and shall comply with California Toxic Rule and Basin Plan requirements. Toxicity is the adverse response of organisms to chemicals or physical agents. This prohibition is based on the Regional Water Boards' Basin Plans, which require that all waters be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that are lethal or produce other detrimental responses in aquatic organisms. Detrimental responses include, but are not limited to, decreased growth rate and decreased reproductive success of resident or indicator species. Basin Plans also require waters to be free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, or animal life. This objective applies regardless of whether the toxicity is caused by a single substance or the interactive effect of multiple substances.

C. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

1. Scope and Authority

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 nonconventional 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 nonconventional pollutants.
- c.** Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT) represents the control from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including BOD, 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 BPI.
- 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. Section 402(a)(1) of the CWA and 40 CFR Section 125.3 of the NPDES regulations authorize the use of Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) 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 Section 125.3.

NPDES permits for discharges to surface waters must meet all applicable provisions of sections 301 and 402 of the CWA. These provisions require controls of pollutant discharges that utilize BAT and BCT to reduce pollutant and any more stringent controls necessary to meet water quality standards.

2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at Section 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 discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with Section 125.3.

Either aeration processes or adsorption processes (or combination of the two) are the treatment processes typically used to remove the organic compounds in the groundwater. Other treatment technology enhancements such as bioaugmentation of granular activated carbon (BioGAC), air stripping with biofilm, bioreactors, advanced oxidation processes, and resin can be employed to remove petroleum compounds and gasoline additives from impacted groundwater. When designed properly and operated, most aeration and/or GAC systems can lower the concentration of petroleum pollutants and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to below the detection limits. Limits established in the tentative order for the petroleum pollutants and VOCs can be met consistently if GAC/air stripper (or enhancements thereto) treatment systems are properly operated and maintained.

The technology-Based Effluent Limitations in this General NPDES Permit for non-VOCs are established based on the use of BPJ and in accordance with the Anti-Backsliding Requirements in Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and 40 CFR 122.44(l).

The effluent limitations from groundwater cleanup projects regulated under this permit are calculated assuming no dilution. For most practical purposes, discharges from groundwater cleanups do not flow directly into receiving waters with enough volume to consider dilution credit or to allocate a mixing zone. Most discharges of treated groundwater regulated under this general permit are to storm drain systems that discharge to creeks and streams. Many of these creeks and streams 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. These discharges, therefore, have the potential to recharge ground waters protected as drinking waters.

An exception to this policy may be applied based on an approved mixing zone study and based on demonstration of compliance with water quality objectives in the receiving water as prescribed in the Basin Plan. This exception process is more appropriate for an individual permit, and would not be appropriate for a general permit, that should be protective of most stringent water quality objectives and beneficial uses. If the discharger requests that a dilution credit be included in the computation of an effluent limit or that a mixing zone be allowed, an individual permit will be required. However, if no mixing zone is proposed, this general permit provides coverage for all discharges to receiving water bodies in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

Because this Order is intended to serve as a general NPDES permit and covers discharges to all surface waters in the Los Angeles Region, the effluent limitations established pursuant to this general order are established to protect the most protective water quality objective for the surface water beneficial uses in the Los Angeles Region.

D. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and 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.

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 section 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, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

Typical beneficial uses covered by this Order include the following:

- a.** Inland surface waters above an estuary - municipal and domestic supply, industrial service and process supply, agricultural supply, groundwater recharge, freshwater replenishment, aquaculture, warm and cold freshwater habitats, inland saline water and wildlife habitats, water contact and noncontact recreation, fish migration, and fish spawning.
- b.** Inland surface waters within and below an estuary - industrial service supply, marine and wetland habitats, estuarine and wildlife habitats, water contact and noncontact recreation, commercial and sport fishing, aquaculture, migration of aquatic organisms, fish migration, fish spawning, preservation of rare and endangered species, preservation of biological habitats, and shellfish harvesting.
- c.** Coastal Zones (both nearshore and offshore) - industrial service supply, navigation, water contact and noncontact recreation, commercial and sport fishing, marine habitat, wildlife habitat, fish migration and spawning, shellfish harvesting, and rare, threatened, or endangered species habitat.

The Regional Water Board has developed a number of TMDLs for impaired waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region to reduce pollutants which are identified in CWA section 303(d) list. This Order implements effective TMDLs that have Regional Water Board, State Water Board, and USEPA approvals. The TMDLs cover pollutants including bacteria, chloride, coliforms, metals, toxics, and trash. Some TMDLs are applicable to this General NPDES permit, while some TMDLs are applicable but no need to change the discharge limit in the existing permit is necessary.

3. Determining the Need for WQBELs

Priority pollutants in the organic nature that are found in the contaminated wastewater regulated under the General NPDES Permit can be reduced by the typical treatment technologies for the gasoline pollutants to undetectable degree, which are lower than water quality-based standards may require. Therefore, limitations based on water quality-based criteria under the most stringent conditions are used for those organic priority pollutants under the permit. Lead sometimes found in the gasoline contaminated groundwater and are pollutants of concern under this General NPDES Permit.

The Regional Water Board developed WQBELs for chloride, nitrate and nitrite based on TMDL. The effluent limitations for these pollutants were established regardless of whether or not there is reasonable potential for the pollutants to be present in the discharge at levels that would cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. The Regional Water Board developed water quality-based effluent limitations for these pollutants pursuant to section 122.44(d)(1)(vii), which does not require or contemplate a reasonable potential analysis. Similarly, the SIP at Section 1.3 recognizes that reasonable potential analysis is not appropriate if a TMDL has been developed.

a. WQBEL Calculations

The specific procedures for calculating WQBELs are contained in the USEPA's *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control (TSD) of 1991* (USEPA/505 /2-90-001) and the SIP, and they were used to calculate the WQBELs in this Order. Because the effluent limitations pursuant to this Order are established to protect the most protective water quality objective for the surface water beneficial uses in the Los Angeles Region, the most stringent criteria for lead, chromium III, and chromium VI in the CTR become their wasteload allocations, as shown in the following example of WQBEL calculation.

WQBELs Calculation Example

Using lead as an example, the following demonstrates how WQBELs were established for the Order.

Step 1: For each constituent requiring an effluent limitation, identify the applicable water quality criteria or objective. For each criterion, determine the effluent concentration allowance (ECA) using the following steady state equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ECA} &= C + D(C-B) && \text{when } C > B, \text{ and} \\ \text{ECA} &= C && \text{when } C = B, \end{aligned}$$

Where: C = The priority pollutant criterion/objective, adjusted if necessary for hardness, pH and translators.

D = The dilution credit, and

B = The ambient background concentration

The criteria for lead as in CTR are shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Summary of Lead Criteria as in CTR

CTR No.	Parameters	CTR/NTR Water Quality Criteria					
		Freshwater		Saltwater		Human Health for Consumption of:	
		Acute	Chronic	Acute	Chronic	Water & Organisms	Organisms only
		µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
7	Lead	65	2.5	210	8.1	Narrative ⁷	Narrative

"- ." = Water quality criteria not applicable

The CTR metal criteria for lead need to be adjusted for hardness and translators. A hardness value of 100 mg/L as CaCO₃ is used to satisfy the most stringent criteria requirement. According to 40 CFR Water Quality Standards, section 131.38 (b)(2), Factors for Calculating Metals Criteria, Conversion Factor for lead at 100 mg/L hardness is 0.791, for both freshwater acute criteria and freshwater chronic criteria. Therefore,

$$65 / 0.791 = 81.65$$

$$2.5 / 0.791 = 3.18$$

The criteria adjusted values are shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of Lead Criteria Adjusted for Hardness

CTR No.	Parameters *	Selected Criteria	CTR/NTR Water Quality Criteria					
			Freshwater		Saltwater		Human Health for Consumption of:	
			Acute	Chronic	Acute	Chronic	Water & Organisms	Organisms only
			µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
7	Lead Total Recoverable	3.18	81.65	3.18	220.82	8.52	Narrative	Narrative

"- ." = Water quality criteria not applicable

As discussed above, for the Order, dilution was not allowed; therefore:

$$ECA = C$$

For lead,

$$ECA_{acute} = 81.65 \text{ µg/L}$$

$$ECA_{chronic} = 3.18 \text{ µg/L}$$

Step 2: For each ECA based on aquatic life criterion/objective, determine the long-term average discharge condition (LTA) by multiplying the ECA by a factor (multiplier). The multiplier is a statistically based factor that adjusts the ECA to account for effluent variability. The value of the multiplier varies depending on the coefficient of variation (CV) of the data set and whether it is an acute or chronic criterion/objective. Table 1 of the SIP provides pre-calculated values for the

⁷ 40 CFR Part 131, Water Quality Standards states that EPA is not promulgating human health criteria for lead. However, EPA recommends Water Board should address State's narrative criteria for lead. At this time State Board has not developed criteria for metal lead and MCL for lead is 15 µg/L and, is higher than the chronic fresh water criteria (of 2.5 µg/L) used in WQBELs calculations.

multipliers based on the value of the CV. Equations to develop the multipliers in place of using values in the tables are provided in Section 1.4, Step 3 of the SIP and will not be repeated here.

$$LTA_{acute} = ECA_{acute} \times Multiplier_{acute\ 99}$$

$$LTA_{chronic} = ECA_{chronic} \times Multiplier_{chronic\ 99}$$

The CV for the data set must be determined before the multipliers can be selected and will vary depending on the number of samples and the standard deviation of a data set. If the data set is less than 10 samples, or at least 80 percent of the samples in the data set are reported as non-detect, the CV shall be set equal to 0.6.

In the General NPDES Permit, there is no sample data available. Therefore, the USEPA default CV value of 0.6 is used to develop the acute and chronic LTA using equations provided in Section 1.4, Step 3 of the SIP (Table 1 of the SIP also provides this data up to three decimals):

CV	ECA Multiplier _{acute 99}	ECA Multiplier _{chronic 99}
0.6	0.32108	0.52743

$$LTA_{acute} = 81.65 \mu\text{g/L} \times 0.32108 = 26.22 \mu\text{g/L}$$

$$LTA_{chronic} = 3.18 \mu\text{g/L} \times 0.52743 = 1.68 \mu\text{g/L}$$

Step 3: Select the most limiting (lowest) of the LTA.

LTA = most limiting of LTA_{acute} or LTA_{chronic}

For lead, the most limiting LTA was the LTA_{acute}

$$LTA = 1.68 \mu\text{g/L}$$

Step 4: Calculate the WQBELs by multiplying the LTA by a factor (multiplier). The multiplier is a statistically based factor that adjusts the LTA for the averaging periods and exceedance frequencies of the criteria/objectives and the effluent limitations. The value of the multiplier varies depending on the probability basis, the coefficient of variation (CV) of the data set, the number of samples (for AMEL) and whether it is a monthly or daily limit. Table 2 of the SIP provides pre-calculated values for the multipliers based on the value of the CV and the number of samples. Equations to develop the multipliers in place of using values in the tables are provided in Section 1.4, Step 5 of the SIP and will not be repeated here.

$$MDEL_{aquatic\ life} = LTA \times MDEL_{multiplier\ 99}$$

$$AMEL_{aquatic\ life} = LTA \times AMEL_{multiplier\ 99}$$

For lead, the following data was used to develop the MDEL for aquatic life using equations provided in Section 1.4, Step 5 of the SIP (Table 2 of the SIP also provides this data up to two decimals):

Sample # / Month	CV	Multiplier _{MDEL} 99	Multiplier _{MDEL} 99
4	0.6	3.11	1.55

$$MDEL_{aquatic\ life} = 1.68 \mu\text{g/L} \times 3.11 = 5.22 \mu\text{g/L}$$

$$AMEL_{\text{aquatic life}} = 1.68 \mu\text{g/L} \times 1.55 = 2.60 \mu\text{g/L}$$

The WQBELs for chromium III, chromium VI, and other CTR based limitations are similarly calculated and summarized on Table 6, Summaries of Limitations and Rationales.

b. Whole Effluent Toxicity

Whole effluent toxicity (WET) 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 short time period and measures mortality. A chronic toxicity test is conducted over a longer period of time and may measure 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 responses by aquatic organisms. Detrimental response includes but is 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 previous Order contains acute toxicity limitations and monitoring requirements in accordance with the Basin Plan, in which the acute toxicity objective for discharges dictates that the average survival in undiluted effluent for any three consecutive 96-hour static or continuous flow bioassay tests shall be at least 90 percent, with no single test having less than 70 percent survival. The WET requirements from the previous Orders remain unchanged.

E. Final Effluent Limitations Considerations

1. Anti-Backsliding Requirements

Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 CFR section 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.

2. Anti-Degradation Policies

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 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 anti-degradation policies. The permitted discharge under this General Permit is consistent with the anti-degradation provision of Section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.

3. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants

This Order contains both technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for

individual pollutants. This Order’s technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements. These limitations are not more stringent than required by the CWA. A more stringent daily maximum effluent limitation for Total Suspended Solids has been prescribed in this permit consistent with the minimum applicable federal technology and other NPDES permits.

Water quality-based effluent limitations have been 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 pollutant water quality-based effluent limitations were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to 40 CFR section 131.38. The procedures for calculating the individual water quality-based effluent limitations for priority pollutants are based on the CTR implemented by the SIP, which was approved by USEPA on May 18, 2000. Most 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 section 131.21(c)(1). The remaining water quality objectives and beneficial uses implemented by this Order were approved by USEPA and are applicable water quality standards pursuant to section 131.21(c)(2). Collectively, this Order’s restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA.

- 4. **Interim Effluent Limitations (Not Applicable)**
- 5. **Land Discharge Specifications (Not Applicable)**
- 6. **Recycling Specifications (Not Applicable)**
- 7. **Summaries of Limitations and Rationales**

Summaries of the final effluent limitations based on technology-based discharge limitations and water quality-based discharge limitations and their rationales are shown in the following tables.

Table 6. Summaries of Effluent Limitations and Rationales

Constituents	Units	Discharge Limitations		Rationales
		Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.3	0.1	Best Available Technology
Sulfides	mg/L	1.0	NA	Best Available Technology
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	µg/L	100	NA	Best Available Technology
Benzene	µg/L	1.0	NA	Existing permit, PMCL ⁸
Toluene	µg/L	150	NA	Existing permit, PMCL
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	700	NA	Existing permit, PMCL

⁸ PCML – Primary Maximum Contaminant Level, Department of Public Health, Title 22 California Code of Regulations.

Constituents	Units	Discharge Limitations		Rationales
		Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	
Xylenes	µg/L	1750	NA	Existing permit, PMCL
Ethylene dibromide	µg/L	0.05	NA	Existing permit, PMCL
Lead	µg/L	5.2 ⁹	2.6 ¹⁰	CTR ¹¹
Methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)	µg/L	5	NA	SMCL ¹²
Naphthalene	µg/L	21	NA	Taste and odor
Di-isopropyl Ether (DIPE)	µg/L	0.8	NA	Taste and odor
Tertiary Butyl Alcohol (TBA)	µg/L	12	NA	DPH action level

VI. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water

Receiving Water Limitations are based upon water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan, statewide Water Quality Control Plan, or criteria promulgated by USEPA pursuant to CWA section 303.

B. Groundwater (Not Applicable)

VII. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

1. Federal Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with section 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.

Section 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 Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with section 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in sections 122.41(j)(5) and

⁹ Total recoverable metals (based on a hardness of 100 mg/L).

¹⁰ Same as Footnote 7

¹¹ California Toxics Rule

¹² SCML – Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level, Department of Public Health, Title 22 California Code of Regulations.

(k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference Water Code section 13387(e).

2. Regional Water Board Standard Provisions

The dischargers must comply with all Regional Water Board Provisions. Regional Water Provisions are based on the CWA, USEPA Regulations and the CWC.

B. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

Pursuant to 40 CFR sections 122.62 and 122.63, this Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. Reasons for modification may include new information on the impact of discharges regulated under this Order become available, promulgation of new effluent standards and/or regulations, adoption of new policies and/or water quality objectives, and/or new judicial decisions affecting requirements of this Order. In addition, if receiving water quality is threatened due to discharges covered under this permit, this permit will be reopened to incorporate more stringent effluent limitations for the constituents creating the threat. TMDLs have not been developed for all the parameters and receiving waters on the 303(d) list. When TMDLs are developed this permit may be reopened to incorporate appropriate limits. In addition, if TMDL identifies that a particular discharge covered under this permit is a load that needs to be reduced; this permit will be reopened to incorporate appropriate TMDL based limit and/or to remove any applicable exemptions.

2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements (Not Applicable)

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

All dischargers are encouraged to implement Best Management Practices.

4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications (Not Applicable)

5. Special Provisions for Public-Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) (Not Applicable)

6. Other Special Provisions (Not Applicable)

7. Compliance Schedules (Not Applicable)

VIII. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Section 122.48 of 40 CFR requires all NPDES permits to specify recording and reporting of monitoring results. Sections 13267 and 13383 of the CWC authorize the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The MRP (see sample MRP) 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 Order.

A. Influent Monitoring (Not applicable)

B. Effluent Monitoring

Monitoring for pollutants expected to be present in the discharge will be required as established in the MRP. To demonstrate compliance with effluent limitations established in the Order, the Order carries over existing monitoring requirements for all parameters and those toxic pollutants that show reasonable potential. Monitoring will be required monthly for these parameters to ensure compliance with the effluent limitations. Acute toxicity monitoring is carried over and is required annually, at a minimum.

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

WET protects the receiving water quality from the aggregate toxic effect of a mixture of pollutants in the effluent. An acute toxicity test is conducted over a short time period and measures mortality. A chronic toxicity test is conducted over a longer period of time and may measure mortality, reproduction, and growth. This Order includes limitations for acute toxicity, and therefore, monitoring requirements are included in the MRP to determine compliance with the effluent limitations established in Section V. A. of this Order.

A WET Limit is required if a discharge causes, has a reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an exceedance of applicable water quality standards, including numeric and narrative.

D. Receiving Water Monitoring (Not Applicable)

E. Limitations Based on Sediment TMDLs

Where sediment based effluent limitations is applicable discharger are allowed to demonstrate compliance with sediment TMDL limitations by complying with the TSS effluent limitation and CTR based toxic effluent limitation for the sediment based TMDL toxics of concern.

If the effluent analysis satisfies Condition A or B as listed below, the Discharger has demonstrated compliance with the sediment limitations. Therefore, no further sediment monitoring is required.

Condition A: Does not exceed TSS effluent limits and the CTR values of the sediment TMDL priority pollutants (Sediment-CTR Values). Table showing the CTR values of the priority pollutants targeted in the TMDLs covered in this Order is in the Appendix B of the Order;

Condition B: Exceeds TSS effluent limits, but does not exceed the Sediment-CTR Values.

When both TSS and the Sediment-CTR Values are exceeded, an accelerated monitoring program for TSS and the exceeded priority pollutant(s) shall be implemented in the following week when the exceedances are observed.

If two consecutive effluent sampling events show exceedance for both TSS and the Sediment-CTR value(s), the discharger is determined to be non-compliance with sediment based effluent limitation. Thereafter, sediment based effluent monitoring shall be implemented as prescribed in the Monitoring and Reporting Program for the rest of the permitting cycle.

However, if two successive sampling events show compliance with TSS and the sediment-CTR value(s), the discharge shall continue with regular effluent monitoring in accordance with the MRP.

F. Other Monitoring Requirements (Not Applicable)

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Regional Water Board is considering the issuance of waste discharge requirements (WDRs) that will serve as a General NPDES permit for Discharges of Volatile Organic Compound Contaminated Groundwater to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. 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 the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided in the Los Angeles Times and Ventura County Star.

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 Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Regional Water Board, written comments should be received at the Regional Water Board offices by 5:00 p.m. on May 14, 2018.

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: June 14, 2018
Time: 9 AM
Location: Metropolitan Water Districts of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California

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

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

D. Reconsideration of Waste Discharge Requirements

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 California Code of

Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., within 30 calendar days of the date of adoption of this Order at the following address, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this 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:

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

Or by email at waterqualitypetitions@waterboards.ca.gov

For instructions on how to file a petition for review, see:
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml>

E. Information and Copying

Order-related documents, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the address above 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 (213) 576-6651.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the General NPDES Permit was invited to contact the Regional Water Board, reference this General NPDES Permit, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Namiraj Jain at 213-620-6003.