SUMMARY OF WATER QUALITY ORDER

ORDER NO.	WQ 2006-0001
DATE ADOPTED	April 5, 20005
PETITION TITLE	Water Replenishment District of Southern California, Watereuse Association, and County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Waste Discharge and Water Recycling Requirements for Alamitos Barrier Recycled Water Project, Order No. R4-2005-0061)
POPULAR NAME [if applicable]	
REGIONAL BOARD	Los Angeles Water Board
FILE NO[S]	SWRCB/OCC File A-1719

PRECEDENTIAL DECISION

On September 1, 2005, the Los Angeles Water Board issued water reclamation and waste discharge requirements (permit) for the Alamitos Barrier recycled water project (project). The project involves injecting highly treated wastewater into a groundwater aquifer for use against seawater intrusion and for supplying drinking water. The permit included effluent limitations for the recycled water that were based on Notification Levels adopted by the Department of Health Services (DHS). The Notification Levels are non-regulatory criteria for constituents for which there are no regulatory health limitations, and are recommended by DHS to be monitored and to provide information.

The project proponents filed a petition seeking State Water Board review of the permit. The only provisions challenged were the effluent limitations that were based on the Notification Levels.

The Order finds that, in light of the public policy in favor of water reclamation and the full protection of public health by the project and the other permit limitations and requirements, it was inappropriate for the Los Angeles Water Board to include Notification Levels as effluent limitations. The Order notes that it is lawful to adopt permit limitations based on non-regulatory criteria, and the decision is based on the State Water Board's policy determination.