## CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

## ORDER NO. 77-20

## REVISION AND AMENDMENT OF WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN BY THE ADDITION OF A PROHIBITION OF WASTE DISCHARGE FROM SEPTIC TANKS OR CESSPOOLS WITHIN HOME GARDEN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT KINGS COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereinafter Board), finds:

- 1. The Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin 5D (hereinafter Basin Plan).
- 2. The Basin Plan states that the Regional Board will consider adoption of a ban on new septic systems and will require elimination of existing systems in areas where the systems contaminate underlying groundwater or where a substantial percentage of existing systems fail annually.
- 3. On 25 February 1977, at the Visalia City Hall Council Chambers, 707 West Acequia Street, Visalia, after due public notice, the Board conducted a public hearing at which evidence was received concerning the discharge from failing septic tanks in the Home Garden Community Services District.
- 4. Home Gardens is an unincorporated area contiguous to the City of Hanford with a population of 1,750 (1970 Census). The area is generally located in the northern portion of Kings County and occupies the southern portions of Section 1, T19S, R21E and Section 6, T19S, R22E, MDEM4. The area is delineated on the attached map.
- 5. Home Gardens has a long history of failing septic tank systems. The Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan for Kings County of 1971 placed Home Gardens first on its priority list for sewer projects.
- 6. A sewage disposal system survey of the Home Garden area was conducted by the Kings County Health Department during June and July of 1975. The survey showed that out of 368 developed parcels surveyed, 15, or 4% of the individual disposal systems had surfacing sewage; and another 124, or 34% exhibited one or more signs of failure. A combined failure rate of 38%, or 139 out of 368 systems was reported.
- 7. The Kings County Health Department concludes that serious public health hazards are being created in the Home Garden area as a result of the use of individual sewage disposal systems and recommends that the Home Garden area be served by a community sewage system and that the Board prohibit discharges from individual sewage disposal systems in the area.
- 8. Continued operation of existing waste disposal systems, and installation of new septic tank disposal systems will prolong the threat to public health.

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9. Flow from this collection system would not be a significant additional load on the City of Hanford plant. Construction of the collection system would mitigate and improve environmental conditions. Construction of the collection system would be implementation of the Basin Plan.

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. In order to achieve water quality objectives, protect present and future beneficial water uses, protect public health and prevent nuisance, discharge of waste from new individual waste disposal systems is prohibited forthwith and discharge of waste from existing individual disposal systems is prohibited after 1 January 1981 in the area described as follows:

Home Garden Community Services District

- 2. The Board may grant an exemption to the prohibition for (1) new individual disposal systems after presentation of geologic and hydrologic evidence by the proposed discharger that such system(s) will not individually or collectively result in a pollution or nuisance, and (2) existing individual disposal systems if it finds that the continued operation of such system(s) in a particular area will not, individually or collectively, directly or indirectly, affect water quality adversely.
- 3. Chapter V of the Basin Plan is revised by the addition of this prohibition, upon approval of the State Water Resources Control Board.

I, JAMES A. ROBERTSON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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JAMES A. ROBERTSON, Executive Officer

1/ Individual waste disposal system means any waste disposal system designed and constructed to provide for collection, storage or disposal of liquid wastes from five or fewer commercial or family dwelling units.

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