

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY ORDER R5-2008-xxxx

MANDATORY PENALTY  
IN THE MATTER OF

NEVADA COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 1  
LAKE OF THE PINES WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
NEVADA COUNTY

This Order is issued to the Nevada County Sanitation District No. 1, Lake of the Pines, Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereafter Discharger) pursuant to California Water Code (CWC) section 13385, which authorizes the imposition of Administrative Civil Liability. This Order is based on findings that the Discharger violated provisions of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 95-114 and R5-2002-0095 (NPDES No. CA0081612).

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) finds the following:

1. The Discharger owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system, and provides sewerage service for the community of Lake of the Pines. Treated wastewater is discharged to Magnolia Creek, tributary to the Bear River, a water of the United States.
2. On 26 May 1995, the Central Valley Water Board adopted WDRs Order No. 95-114 to regulate discharges of waste from the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). On 7 June 2002, the Central Valley Water Board adopted WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0095, which contained new requirements and rescinded WDRs Order No. 95-114.
3. On 7 June 2002, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R5-2002-0096, requiring the Discharger to cease discharging contrary to WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0095. The Central Valley Water Board adopted CDO No. R5-2002-0096 to allow the Discharger until 30 April 2007 to complete construction to comply with Effluent Limitations for aluminum, ammonia, nitrate plus nitrite, and nitrite.
4. On 22 June 2007, the Central Valley Water Board adopted TSO No. R5-2007-0072. This Order allows the Discharger until 1 April 2008 to comply with final effluent limitations, and includes interim effluent limitations for BOD, total suspended solids, and total coliform organisms. The interim effluent limitations remain in effect until 1 April 2008, or when the Discharger is able to come into compliance with the final effluent limitations, whichever is sooner. This Order considered the interim effluent limitations and the protection from Mandatory Minimum Penalties provided by CDO No. R5-2002-0096 and TSO No. R5-2007-0072.
5. CWC sections 13385(h) and (i) require assessment of mandatory penalties and state, in part, the following:

CWC section 13385(h)(1) states, *“Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, and except as provided in subdivisions (j), (k), and (l), a mandatory minimum penalty of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) shall be assessed for each serious violation.”*

CWC section 13385 (h)(2) states, *“For the purposes of this section, a ‘serious violation’ means any waste discharge that violates the effluent limitations contained in the applicable waste discharge requirements for a Group II pollutant, as specified in Appendix A to Section 123.45 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, by 20 percent or more or for a Group I pollutant, as specified in Appendix A to Section 123.45 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, by 40 percent or more.”*

CWC section 13385(i)(1) states, *“Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, and except as provided in subdivisions (j), (k), and (l), a mandatory minimum penalty of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) shall be assessed for each violation whenever the person does any of the following four or more times in any period of six consecutive months, except that the requirement to assess the mandatory minimum penalty shall not be applicable to the first three violations:*

- A) Violates a waste discharge requirement effluent limitation.*
- B) Fails to file a report pursuant to Section 13260.*
- C) Files an incomplete report pursuant to Section 13260.*
- D) Violates a toxicity effluent limitation contained in the applicable waste discharge requirements where the waste discharge requirements do not contain pollutant-specific effluent limitations for toxic pollutants.”*

6. CWC section 13323 states, in part:

*“Any executive officer of a regional board may issue a complaint to any person on whom administrative civil liability may be imposed pursuant to this article. The complaint shall allege the act or failure to act that constitutes a violation of law, the provision authorizing civil liability to be imposed pursuant to this article, and the proposed civil liability.”*

7. WDRs Order No. 95-114 Effluent Limitations No. B.2. include, in part, the following effluent limitations: *“The discharge to Magnolia Creek of an effluent in excess of the following limits is prohibited.”*

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<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Weekly Average</u>	<u>Monthly Median</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>
BOD <sup>1</sup>	mg/L	15	20	--	30
	lbs/day <sup>2</sup>	90	120	--	180
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	15	20	--	40
	lbs/day <sup>2</sup>	90	120	--	240
<u>Total Coliform Organisms</u>	MPN/100 mL	--	--	2.2	23

<sup>1</sup> 5-day, 20°C biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)

<sup>2</sup> Based upon a design treatment capacity of 0.72 mgd.

8. WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0095 Effluent Limitations B.1. include, in part the following effluent limitations: “*Effluent discharge to Magnolia Creek shall not exceed the following limitations:*”

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Average Monthly</u>	<u>Median Monthly</u>	<u>Average Weekly</u>	<u>Average Daily</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>
BOD <sup>1</sup>	mg/L	15 <sup>2</sup>		20 <sup>2</sup>	30 <sup>2</sup>	
	lbs/day <sup>3</sup>	90		120	180	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	15 <sup>2</sup>		20 <sup>2</sup>	40 <sup>2</sup>	
	lbs/day <sup>3</sup>	90		120	240	
Settleable Solids	mL/L	0.1	--	--	0.2	--
<u>Total Coliform Organisms</u>	MPN/100 mL	--	2.2	--	--	23

<sup>1</sup> 5-day, 20°C biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)

<sup>2</sup> To be ascertained by a 24-hour composite

<sup>3</sup> Based upon a design treatment capacity of 0.72 mgd ( $x \text{ mg/L} \times 8.345 \times 0.72 \text{ mgd} = y \text{ lbs/day}$ )

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Average Monthly</u>	<u>Average 4-day</u>	<u>Average Daily</u>	<u>Average 1-Hour</u>
Ammonia (as N)	mg/L	Attachment B	--	--	Attachment C
	lbs/day <sup>2</sup>	--	--	--	--
Aluminum	µg/L	--	87	--	750
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	--	0.522	--	4.5

<sup>1</sup> Based upon a design treatment capacity of 0.72 mgd ( $x \text{ mg/L} \times 8.345 \times 0.72 \text{ mgd} = y \text{ lbs/day}$ )

<sup>2</sup> The mass limit (lb/day) for ammonia shall be equal to the concentration limit (from Attachments) multiplied by the design flow of 0.72 mgd and the unit conversion factor of 8.345 (see footnote 1 for equation).

9. According to the Discharger’s self-monitoring reports, the Discharger committed thirty-one (31) serious Group I violations of the above effluent limitations contained in Order Nos. 95-114 and R5-2002-0095 during the period beginning 1 January 2000 and ending 31 March 2008. The violations are defined as serious because measured concentrations of Group I constituents exceeded maximum prescribed levels by more than 40 percent on

these occasions. The mandatory minimum penalty for this serious violation is **ninety-three thousand dollars (\$93,000)**.

10. According to the Discharger's self-monitoring reports, the Discharger committed twenty-two (22) non-serious violations of the above effluent limitations contained in Order Nos. 95-114 and R5-2002-0095 during the period beginning 1 January 2000 and ending 31 March 2008. Twelve (12) of the non-serious violations are subject to mandatory penalties under CWC section 13385(i)(1) because these violations were preceded by three or more similar violations within a six-month period. The mandatory minimum penalty for these non-serious violations is **thirty-six thousand dollars (\$36,000)**.
11. The total amount of the mandatory penalties assessed for the cited effluent violations is **one hundred twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$129,000)**. A detailed list of the cited effluent violations is included in Attachment A, a part of this Order.
12. On 28 July 2008, the Assistant Executive Officer issued ACL Complaint R5-2008-0553, assessing \$129,000 in mandatory minimum penalties against the Discharger. The Discharger did not pay the penalty and asked that the matter be heard before the Central Valley Water Board. The Discharger waived its right to a hearing within 90 days.
13. In lieu of issuing mandatory penalties, CWC sections 13385(c) and (e) provide requirements regarding the maximum penalty that can be issued for the violations. These sections state:

*“(c) Civil liability may be imposed administratively by the state board or a regional board pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 in an amount not to exceed the sum of both of the following:*

*(1) Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.*

*(2) Where there is a discharge, any portion of which is not susceptible to cleanup or is not cleaned up, and the volume discharged but not cleaned up exceeds 1,000 gallons, an additional liability not to exceed ten dollars (\$10) multiplied by the number of gallons by which the volume discharged but not cleaned up exceeds 1,000 gallons”*

14. Central Valley Water Board staff has estimated the potential maximum civil liability pursuant to CWC section 13385(c)(1), by applying the \$10,000/day penalty for each of the 43 days that violations were reported. The maximum penalty pursuant to this code section is \$430,000. In addition, as discussed above, a second penalty of \$10 per gallon discharged over 1,000 gallons could be assessed for each day of violation. This penalty was not calculated, but would cause the maximum penalty to significantly exceed \$430,000. This Order does not propose to assess a discretionary penalty above the minimum required by CWC sections 13385(h) and (i), because the Discharger reasonably pursued funding and constructing its new wastewater treatment plant.
15. Issuance of this Administrative Civil Liability Order to enforce CWC Division 7, Chapter 5.5 is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15321(a)(2).

16. Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with CWC 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., 30 days after the date that this tentative Order becomes final, except that if the thirtieth day following the date that this tentative Order becomes final 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. This tentative Order is set to become final on 10 September 2008. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. Administrative Civil Liability Complaint R5-2008-0553 is rescinded.
2. The Nevada County Sanitation District No. 1 shall be assessed an Administrative Civil Liability in the amount of **one hundred twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$129,000)** as follows:

**Within 30 days of adoption of this Order**, the Discharger shall pay one hundred twenty nine thousand dollars (\$129,000) by check made payable to the *State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account*. The check shall have written on it the number of this ACL Order.

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

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PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

Attachment A: Record of Violations

**Nevada County Sanitation District No. 1**  
**Lake of the Pines Wastewater Treatment Plant**  
RECORD OF VIOLATIONS (1 January 2000 – 31 March 2008) MANDATORY PENALTIES  
(Data reported under Monitoring and Reporting Program Nos. 95-114 and R5-2002-0095)

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Measured</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Flow Rate*</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	21-Jan-00	BOD	lbs/day	120	128	Weekly	1.16	5
2	23-Jan-00	BOD	lbs/day	120	162	Weekly	1.19	5
3	31-Jan-00	BOD	lbs/day	90	145	Monthly	0.59	1
4	13-Feb-00	BOD	lbs/day	120	216	Weekly	1.45	5

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	<u>Date</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Measured</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Flow Rate*</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
5	15-Feb-00	TCO	MPN/100 mL	23	900	Daily		3
6	17-Feb-00	BOD	lbs/day	180	260	Daily	1.51	5
7	17-Feb-00	TCO	MPN/100 mL	23	500	Daily		3
8	23-Feb-00	TCO	MPN/100 mL	23	130	Daily		4
9	28-Feb-00	BOD	lbs/day	90	108	Monthly	1.08	5
10	27-Jan-01	TSS	mg/L	20	21	Weekly		3
11	27-Jan-01	TSS	lbs/day	120	179	Weekly	0.86	5
12	31-Jan-01	TSS	mg/L	15	19	Monthly		3
13	31-Jan-01	TSS	lbs/day	90	120	Monthly	0.2	3
14	31-Mar-02	BOD	mg/L	90	91	Monthly		3
15	28-Sep-02	TSS	mg/L	20	22	Weekly		3
16	30-Sep-02	TSS	mg/L	15	22	Monthly		1
17	11-Feb-03	TSS	lbs/day	240	817	Daily	1.19	5
18	11-Feb-03	TSS	mg/L	40	82	Daily		1
19	15-Feb-03	TSS	lbs/day	120	413	Weekly	1.31	5
20	15-Feb-03	TSS	mg/L	20	43	Weekly		1
21	28-Feb-03	TSS	lbs/day	90	279	Monthly	0.54	1
22	28-Feb-03	TSS	mg/L	15	28	Monthly		1
23	9-Mar-03	BOD	lbs/day	120	149	Weekly	1.26	5
24	13-Mar-03	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.15	5
25	10-May-03	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.3	Daily		1
26	31-May-03	SS	mL/L	0.1	0.2	Monthly		1
27	27-Oct-03	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.5	Daily		1
28	28-Oct-03	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.5	Daily		1
29	29-Oct-03	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.5	Daily		1
30	30-Oct-03	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.5	Daily		1
31	31-Oct-03	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.5	Daily		1
32	31-Oct-03	SS	mL/L	0.1	0.5	Monthly		1
33	31-Oct-03	TSS	mg/L	15	23	Monthly		1
34	1-Nov-03	TSS	mg/L	20	23	Weekly		4
35	16-Dec-03	TCO	MPN/100 mL	23	30	Daily		4
36	17-Dec-03	BOD	lbs/day	180	188	Daily	1.25	5
37	17-Dec-03	BOD	lbs/day	120	127	Weekly	0.97	5
38	17-Dec-03	TSS	lbs/day	120	175	Weekly	0.97	5
39	31-Dec-03	BOD	lbs/day	90	117	Monthly	1.1	5
40	31-Dec-03	BOD	lbs/day	120	179	Weekly	1.34	5
41	31-Dec-03	TSS	lbs/day	90	130	Monthly	1.1	5
42	31-Dec-03	TSS	lbs/day	120	129	Weekly	1.34	5
43	2-Jan-04	BOD	lbs/day	120	143	Weekly	1.34	5
44	9-Jan-04	SS	mL/L	0.2	0.3	Daily		1
45	31-Jan-04	BOD	lbs/day	90	96	Monthly	0.85	5
46	4-Feb-04	BOD	lbs/day	120	137	Weekly	1.3	5
47	4-Feb-04	TSS	lbs/day	120	170	Weekly	1.3	5
48	28-Feb-04	BOD	lbs/day	90	98	Monthly	1.21	5
49	17-Oct-04	TSS	lbs/day	120	125	Weekly	1.13	5

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	<u>Date</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Measured</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Flow Rate*</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
50	31-Oct-04	TSS	lbs/day	90	106	Monthly	0.79	5
51	31-Oct-04	TSS	mg/L	15	16	Monthly		3
52	31-Jan-06	BOD	lbs/day	90	101	Monthly	1.19	5
53	31-Jan-06	TSS	lbs/day	90	92	Monthly	1.19	5
54	1-Feb-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.33	5
55	3-Feb-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.31	5
56	3-Feb-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	1.32	5
57	3-Feb-06	TSS	lbs/day	120	160	Weekly	1.32	5
58	8-Feb-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	0.57	1
59	10-Feb-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	0.97	5
60	11-Feb-06	TSS	mg/L	20	25	Weekly		3
61	28-Feb-06	BOD	lbs/day	90	269	Monthly	1.16	5
62	28-Feb-06	BOD	mg/L	15	16	Monthly		3
63	28-Feb-06	TSS	mg/L	15	18	Monthly		4
64	28-Feb-06	TSS	lbs/day	90	146	Monthly	1.16	5
65	10-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	168	Weekly	1.43	5
66	15-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	200	Daily	1.41	5
67	16-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	246	Daily	1.41	5
68	17-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	223	Weekly	1.41	5
69	17-Mar-06	TSS	lbs/day	120	128	Weekly	1.41	5
70	22-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	314	Daily	1.39	5
71	24-Mar-06	BOD	mg/L	30	38	Daily		4
72	24-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	437	Daily	1.38	5
73	24-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	376	Weekly	1.39	5
74	25-Mar-06	BOD	mg/L	20	23	Weekly		4
75	28-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	296	Daily	1.36	5
76	31-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	367	Daily	1.42	5
77	31-Mar-06	BOD	mg/L	30	31	Daily		4
78	31-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	90	240	Monthly	1.41	5
79	31-Mar-06	BOD	mg/L	15	19	Monthly		4
80	31-Mar-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	332	Weekly	1.42	5
81	31-Mar-06	BOD	mg/L	20	29	Weekly		1
82	31-Mar-06	TSS	lbs/day	90	96	Monthly	1.41	5
83	1-Apr-06	BOD	mg/L	20	25	Weekly		4
84	5-Apr-06	BOD	mg/L	30	33	Daily		4
85	5-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.46	5
86	6-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.43	5
87	6-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	1.42	5
88	13-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.44	5
89	14-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	307	Daily	1.42	5
90	14-Apr-06	BOD	mg/L	19	26	Weekly		4
91	14-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	288	Weekly	1.43	5
92	20-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.35	5
93	21-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.36	5
94	21-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	1.38	5

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	<u>Date</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Measured</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Flow Rate*</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
95	30-Apr-06	BOD	mg/L	15	22	Monthly		1
96	30-Apr-06	BOD	lbs/day	90	247	Monthly	1.38	5
97	3-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.3	5
98	3-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	1.3	5
99	4-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	1.35	5
100	7-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.33	5
101	8-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.38	5
102	11-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	120	203	Weekly	1.36	5
103	15-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.31	5
104	18-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	120	269	Weekly	1.24	5
105	21-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.31	5
106	23-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	180	269	Daily	1.25	5
107	28-Feb-07	BOD	lbs/day	90	224	Monthly	1.31	5
108	19-Dec-07	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	2.8	4-day	0.86	5
109	19-Dec-07	Aluminum	µg/L	87	432	4-day		1
110	30-Dec-07	Ammonia	lbs/day	35.5	80	Monthly	0.86	5
111	30-Dec-07	Ammonia	mg/L	5.91	8	Monthly		4
112	02-Jan-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	1.42	4-day	0.80	5
113	02-Jan-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	214	4-day		1
114	09-Jan-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.522	4.98	4-day	1.05	5
115	09-Jan-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	568	4-day		1
116	16-Jan-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	2.14	4-day	1.07	5
117	16-Jan-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	240	4-day		1
118	22-Jan-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	1.40	4-day	1.06	5
119	22-Jan-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	158	4-day		1
120	29-Jan-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	1.47	4-day	0.82	5
121	29-Jan-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	215	4-day		1

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	<u>Date</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Measured</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Flow Rate*</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
12								
2	06-Feb-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	1.1	4-day	0.71	1
12								
3	06-Feb-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	186	4-day		1
12								
4	13-Feb-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	1.2	4-day	0.79	5
12								
5	13-Feb-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	175	4-day		1
12								
6	28-Feb-08	Aluminum	lbs/day	0.52	0.9	4-day	0.5	1
12								
7	28-Feb-08	Aluminum	µg/L	87	215	4-day		1
12								
8	29-Feb-08	Ammonia	lbs/day	37	93	Monthly	0.73	5
12								
9	29-Feb-08	Ammonia	mg/L	6.12	16	Monthly		1

Remarks:

1. Serious Violation: For Group I pollutants that exceed the effluent limitation by 40 percent or more.
2. Serious Violation: For Group II pollutants that exceed the effluent limitation by 20 percent or more.
3. Non-serious violations falls within the first three violations in a six-month period, thus is exempt.
4. Non-serious violation subject to mandatory penalties.
5. Mass rate limitation exceedances due only to wet weather not assessed MMPs as the permit limit is based on the dry weather design treatment capacity of 0.72 mgd.

<u>VIOLATIONS AS OF:</u>	<u>3/31/2008</u>
Group I Serious Violations:	31
Group II Serious Violations:	0
Non-Serious Exempt from MPs:	10
Non-serious Violations Subject to MPs:	12
Mass Limit Violations Not Subject to MPs:	76
<b><u>Total Violations Subject to MPs:</u></b>	<b><u>43</u></b>

**Mandatory Minimum Penalty = (31 Serious Violations + 12 Non-Serious Violations) x \$3,000 = \$129,000**

\*Arithmetic mean of all 1-day flow rates (in MGD) of effluent while discharging to surface waters. Values greater than 0.72 MGD are considered wet weather flows.