



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Katherine Hart, Chair

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114
Phone (916) 464-3291 • FAX (916) 464-4645
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>



Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

28 June 2010

Eric McDonald, Facilities and Maintenance Director
Sconza Candy Company
1400 S Yosemite Avenue
Oakdale, CA 95361

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION, SCONZA CANDY COMPANY, OAKDALE FACILITY, STANISLAUS COUNTY

Enclosed is a copy of an inspection report for the Sconza Candy Company, Oakdale Facility. The inspection was conducted on 29 April 2010 by Central Valley Water Board staff and included a site visit. The inspection found the facility to be in compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2002-0111.

During the inspection, an alternate effluent sample location was discussed with the discharger to avoid potential cross contamination between the facility's effluent and water contained in the Oakdale Irrigation District's Riverbank Lateral Canal (OID canal). This is discussed in more detail in the inspection report.

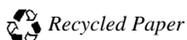
Several laboratory-related violations that were discovered during the 2008 facility inspection were re-inspected and found to be in compliance with the WDRs. These are also discussed in the attached inspection report.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Fischer at (916) 464-4663 or mfischer@waterboards.ca.gov

VICTOR VASQUEZ
Senior Water Resources Control Engineer
NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit

Enclosure: Inspection Report

California Environmental Protection Agency



CIWQS Inspection ID: 2325960

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

INSPECTION REPORT

20 May 2010

DISCHARGER: Sconza Candy Company
1400 S Yosemite Avenue
Oakdale, CA 95361

FACILITY: Sconza Candy Company
1400 S Yosemite Avenue
Oakdale, CA 95361
Stanislaus County

CONTACT: Jesse Hodges, Quality Systems Supervisor, (209) 918-0140
Eric McDonald, Facilities and Maintenance Director, (209) 896-6287

INSPECTION DATE: 29 April 2010, 1015 hours to 1310 hours, announced

INSPECTED BY: Mike Fischer, Water Resource Control Engineer, Central Valley Water Board

ACCOMPANIED BY: Jesse Hodges, Quality Systems Supervisor
Eric McDonald, Facilities and Maintenance Director
Ronald Sconza (for part of the inspection), Vice President of Operations

NPDES NO.: CA0004146 (surface water)

ADOPTED ORDERS: Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2002-0111

WEATHER: Temperature 60 degrees F, Partly Cloudy, 5-10 mph breeze

BACKGROUND

Sconza Candy Company has acquired the Hershey Foods Corporation Oakdale facility. On 31 January 2008 Hershey Food Corporation ceased operations and wastewater discharges. Sconza Candy has been remodeling the Oakdale facility (Facility) to suit new operations.

The Facility wastewater discharge is regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2002-0111 (NPDES No. CA0004146).

WDRs R5-2002-0111 expired on 1 June 2007. On 15 February 2007, the Hershey Foods Corporation submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) and the permit was administratively extended. On 5 May 2005 Sconza Candy submitted a ROWD to document the change in ownership and operation. The ROWD estimates a discharge of 1.28 million gallons per day (mgd) to the OID canal.

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Jesse Hodges and Mr. Eric McDonald accompanied me during the entire inspection. Mr. Ronald Sconza accompanied us during the first hour of the inspection.

Approved:		
-----------	--	--

WDRs Order R5-2002-0111 regulates the wastewater discharge from the Facility to the Oakdale Irrigation District's Riverbank Lateral Canal (OID canal), a tributary to the Modesto Irrigation District's Main Canal, a tributary to the Stanislaus River, a water of the United States. WDRs Order R5-2002-0111 was adopted to regulate discharge of once-through non-contact cooling water and reverse osmosis reject water from the Hershey's chocolate manufacturing operations. Sconza Candy operations do not include chocolate manufacturing, however it continues the discharge of cooling water and reverse osmosis reject water.

The sources of this water are from four onsite groundwater wells (Figure 1), two of which are currently operable. After use, non-contact cooling water and reject water from a reverse osmosis unit flows into a 1.4 million gallon lined storage pond (Figure 2). The pond is used as a fire sprinkler reservoir and for irrigation water storage. Wastewater discharge to the OID canal (Figure 3) overflows from the pond through a flat weir (Figure 4) and flows through a Parshall flume (Figure 5) prior to entering the OID canal. During a 2008 inspection, it was noted that during certain times of the year, the OID canal water level is higher than the bottom of the Parshall flume that was previously used to measure effluent flow. Because of the location of the Parshall flume, under low effluent flow rate conditions and high OID canal water level conditions, flow measurements using the flume are inaccurate due to water back-flowing from the canal into the flume (Figure 6). An alternate flow measurement technique is currently used. With verbal approval from Central Valley Water Board staff, effluent flow is calculated based on the sum of water supply well flow rates minus the volume of water used for irrigation and the volume of water discharged to the sanitary sewer. The total influent water supply well flow is continuously monitored with a calibrated flow measurement device. According to the discharger, irrigation flow rate is based on the irrigation pump runtime and previous measurements of irrigation flowrate. The sanitary sewer discharge is measured by the city and available on either the monthly sewer bill from the city or by contacting the city's wastewater utilities department.

The Order requires effluent flow rate to be monitored continuously using a flow meter and this is not being done. Since the Order is being updated and will be revised in the near future, Central Valley Water Board Compliance and Enforcement staff will not enforce the effluent continuous flow meter monitoring requirement if the Discharger submits calculations to support the reported flow rates in future monitoring reports.

Wastewater discharge included wastewater from air compressor cooling, chiller wastewater, and unused reverse osmosis water.

During normal effluent flow conditions, the effluent sample location (Figure 7) currently used is representative of the effluent discharged from the facility. However, during the inspection, it was noted that the water level in the canal can not only interfere with effluent flow rate measurement, but can also compromise the integrity of the effluent water sample under certain conditions. To illustrate this, the Discharger opened an underflow gate to reduce water storage reservoir levels below the level of the effluent weir. After closing the gate, essentially all effluent flow from the storage reservoir had stopped. As shown in Figure 6, standing water that is mixed with OID canal water backs up to the Parshall Flume. The water

level where effluent water samples are currently collected (below the effluent weir, upstream of the Parshall Flume, Figure 8), was equal to the water level in the OID canal. Water at the current effluent sample collection point can potentially mix with OID canal water when extreme low effluent pond discharge flowrate and high OID canal water level conditions are present.

During the inspection, an alternate effluent sample location was discussed. Effluent water samples can be collected from just upstream of the overflow weir (Figure 9) under certain conditions. Order # R5-2002-0111 states:

“Effluent samples shall be collected downstream from the last connection through which wastes can be admitted into the outfall. Effluent samples should be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. Samples collected from the final effluent outlet structure will be considered adequately composited.”

There are several potential inputs to the effluent water flow downstream of the overflow weir. Input #1 is a pressure relief flow from the well piping system that would discharge raw well water into the effluent flow to relieve excess pressure in the water conveyance piping (Figure 10). Input #2 is a pond bypass connected to the pond influent piping that is no longer used (Figure 7). Input # 3 is a hose that was observed hanging over the side of the weir structure, not discharging at the time of the inspection (Figure 7). Since there are several potential inputs to the effluent flow downstream from the overflow weir, the sample can not be collected upstream of the weir unless it is either:

- documented in the cover letter to the self-monitoring report that no flow is observed from these inputs at the time of effluent sampling; or,
- these inputs are either removed, permanently sealed (not possible for the pressure relief flow), or redirected into the pond.

If these conditions are met, moving the effluent sampling location to directly upstream of the overflow weir is acceptable to Central Valley Water Board staff and no enforcement actions will be taken.

During a 2008 inspection, the inspector noted that the facility's laboratory is not ELAP certified and a QA/QC manual was not available for review. During this inspection, a QA/QC manual was available and adequate to meet Order requirements.

On site analysis include EC, pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and chlorine residual. All calibration solutions were current and calibration logs were maintained for all onsite instrumentation.

Several 2009 SMRs were checked for permit compliance and for transcription errors between field sheets, laboratory reports, and the final SMR. No violations or transcription errors were found during the inspection.

Mike Fischer, Water Resource Control Engineer
NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit

Attachment A: Photo Log

**Attachment A
Photo Log**

Sconza Candy Company Oakdale Facility, Stanislaus County, 29 April 2010



Figure 1. One of the two groundwater wells currently in-use at the facility. MAF.

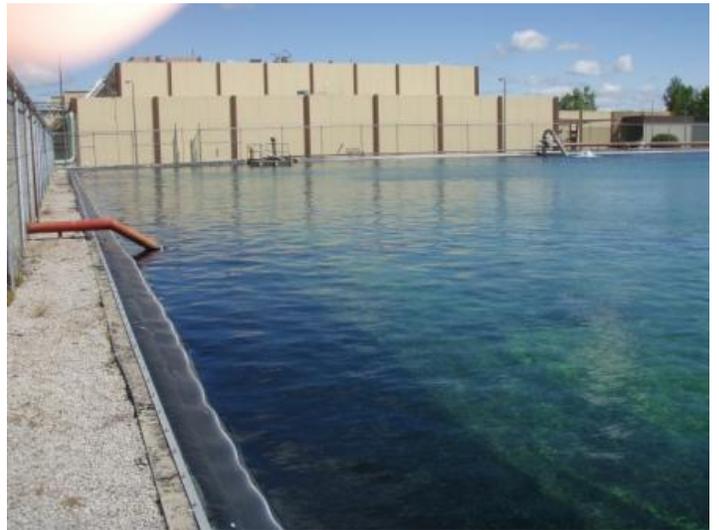


Figure 2. 1.4 million gallon lined storage pond. MAF.



Figure 3. Effluent is discharged to the OID canal. MAF.



Figure 4. Wastewater storage pond overflow weir. MAF.



Figure 6. Parshall flume standing water from OLD canal under very low effluent flow conditions. MAF.



Figure 5. Parshall flume previously used for flow measurement under normal flow conditions. MAF.

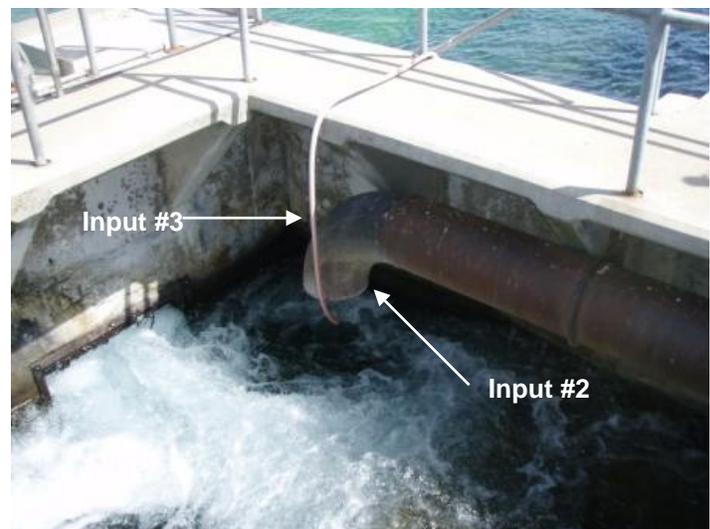


Figure 7. Current effluent sampling location. Downstream of overflow weir, upstream of Parshall flume. MAF.



Figure 8. Current effluent sampling location under very low effluent flow conditions (note water from OID canal present). MAF.



Figure 10. Input #1 – Well pressure relief outlet. MAF.

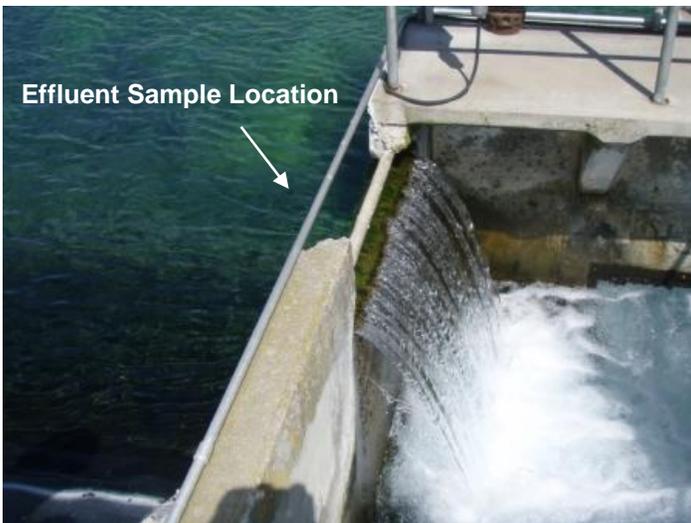


Figure 9. Suggested effluent sample location. MAF.