

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ATTACHMENT A

DEFINITION OF TERMS
FOR
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS GENERAL ORDER
FOR
OIL FIELD DISCHARGES TO LAND
GENERAL ORDER NUMBER ONE

1. **Degradation** - Any measurable adverse change in water quality.
2. **Expansion** – Any activity that results in a material change in the character, location, or volume of discharge (Also, see “Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements,” dated 1 March 1991, General Provisions A.3 and A.4).

“Expansion” does not include installation or modification of the Facility or equipment to achieve compliance with the requirements of this General Order so long as the modification or installation is sized to accommodate only the existing reported produced wastewater flows from 1 June 2014 through 1 June 2015.

3. **Field or Oil Field** - CCR title 14, section 1741(d) defines Field as “the same general surface area which is underlaid or reasonably appears to be underlaid by one or more pools.”

Also, CCR title 14, section 1760(f) defines Field as “the general surface area that is underlain or reasonably appears to be underlain by an underground accumulation of crude oil or natural gas, or both. The surface area is delineated by the administrative boundaries shown on maps maintained by the [State Oil and Gas] Supervisor.”

4. **Flowline** - CCR title 14, section 1760(g) defines Flowline as “any pipeline that connects a well with a gathering line or header.”
5. **Freeboard** - Elevation difference between the produced wastewater (liquid) level in a pond and the lowest point of the pond embankment before wastewater can overflow.
6. **Hazardous Waste** - See definition in CCR, title 22, section 66261.3.
7. **High Quality Water** - Waters where a constituent is found at concentrations lower than the applicable water quality objective, are considered “high quality waters”

under the antidegradation policy. It is important to note that water can still be considered a high quality water even when other constituents are found at concentrations higher (of worse quality) than the applicable water quality objectives.

8. **New Production Facility** - A production facility at which the Discharger proposes to operate from 1 January 2015. Also, see Production Facility.
9. **Operator** - CCR title 14, section 1741(j) defines as “any person drilling, maintaining, operating, pumping, or in control of any well.”
10. **Overflow** - The intentional or unintentional discharge from the Production Facility that is not authorized by this General Order.
11. **Produced Wastewater or Wastewater** - The General Order refers to the water that is produced with production fluid from a production well as “wastewater,” which is commonly referred to as “produced water” in the oil industry. The General Order also uses the term “effluent” (after treatment).

CCR title 14, section 1760(r) defines “waste water,” as “produced water that after being separated from the produced oil may be of such quality that discharge requirements need to be set by a California Regional Water Quality Control Board.”

12. **Production Facility** - Also referred to as Facility or Production Wastewater Discharge Facility. In general, includes all the surface equipment used to transfer, process or treat, and/or store oil, water, and gas production originating from production wells.

CCR title 14, section 1760(k) defines Production Facility as “any equipment attendant to oil and gas production or injection operations including, but not limited to, tanks, flowlines, headers, gathering lines, wellheads, heater treaters, pumps, valves, compressors, injection equipment, production safety systems, separators, manifolds, and pipelines that are not under the jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal pursuant to section 51010 of the Government Code, excluding fire suppressant equipment.” See above for definition of “flowline.”

13. **Secondary Containment** - An engineered containment used only during catastrophic failure of a structure (e.g., tanks or vessels) that stores, separates, or treats oil field production fluid in production facility.

CCR title 14, section 1760(n) defines Secondary Containment as “an engineered impoundment, such as a catch basin, which can include natural topographic

features, that is designed to capture fluid released from a production facility.” CCR title 14, section 1773.1 requires the following conditions:

- (a) All production facilities storing and/or processing fluids, except valves, headers, manifolds, pumps, compressors, wellheads, pipelines, flowlines and gathering lines shall have secondary containment.
- (b) Secondary containment shall be capable of containing the equivalent volume of liquids from the single piece of equipment with the largest gross capacity within the secondary containment.
- (c) Secondary containment shall be capable of confining liquid for a minimum of 72 hours.
- (d) When not in use for rain water management, rain water valves on a secondary containment shall be closed and secured to prevent unauthorized use.
- (e) All damage to secondary containment shall be repaired immediately.
- (f) The requirements of this section are not applicable until six months after the effective date of this regulation.

For the purposes of this General Order, secondary containment does not include structures used to manage produced wastewater or other wastes during periods of routine maintenance or used to address a lack of adequate facility treatment capacity or storage.

14. **Solid Wastes** – Viscous liquids, sludges, and solids collected from tank bottoms as oily sand and/or organic sludge waste collected from the surface of ponds are collectively referred to as “solid waste.”
15. **Storm Water** - Storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, and surface runoff resulting from a storm or precipitation event.
16. **Surface Impoundment or Pond** - Also referred to as “Pond,” is any earthen structure, which may be lined/or unlined, used for the separation, treatment, storage, and/or disposal of produced wastewater. Oil and Gas Production Facility components that are not required to obtain coverage under the General Order are those that meet all the following requirements:
 - a. small in size,
 - b. properly engineered and constructed to eliminate percolation (e.g., re-enforced concrete or other appropriately engineered liner),
 - c. operated to contain liquid for short periods of time, and
 - d. subject to proper ongoing operation and maintenance.

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

ORDER R5-2016-xxxx

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17. **Waste** - Defined in Water Code section 13050(d) where it “includes sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing, or processing operation, including waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal.”