

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

ORDER NO. 99-042

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
IMPERIAL COUNTY GATEWAYS SERVICES AREA, OWNER
ROCKY VANDERGRUFF WATER QUALITY SPECIALISTS OF SAN DIEGO INC., OPERATOR
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
East of Calexico - Imperial County**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. On October 15, 1998, Imperial County Gateway Services Area, Owner; and Rocky Vandergruff Water Quality Specialists of San Diego Inc., Operator (hereinafter jointly known as the discharger); submitted a report of waste discharge, to discharge secondarily treated effluent to a percolation pond.
2. Imperial County Gateway Services Area (ICGSA) intends to provide a sewage collection, treatment and disposal service to a planned industrial/commercial complex in the Gateways Specific Planned Area (SPA). The SPA is located in an unincorporated area of Imperial County, approximately five miles east of the City of Calexico and encompasses approximately 1,775 acres. The site is bounded on the west by Ash Canal, on the east by the Alamo River, and on the south by the International Border between the United States and Mexico. The northern boundary is approximately 1300 feet north of State Route 98 (SR-98).
3. ICGSA projections indicate low initial flows, expanding to 1.1 million gallons-per-day (MGD) in five to ten years. To accommodate these expanding flows, the plant will be built in three stages. Phase I of the project is the basis for this permit. It will have a design capacity of 0.0315 MGD. Phase II will be designed to treat 0.2 MGD. Phase III will be designed for 1.1 MGD. Wastewater discharges from Phase II and Phase III will be to the Alamo River, under a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.
4. The wastewater treatment plant will be seven miles east of Calexico, one-quarter mile north of Carr Road, on the east side of State Route 7, adjacent to the Alamo River. The location of discharge will be in the SW 1/4 of Section 7, T17S, R16E, SBB&M.
5. The Phase I treatment system will consist of a pump station, a flow meter, two HDPE (60 mil) lined facultative lagoons and a percolation basin. Additional units will be added on as needed basis. Aerators or enzymes may be used to facilitate the operations of the facultative lagoons.
6. The depth to groundwater in the vicinity of the proposed wastewater treatment plant is 12 feet.
7. The permit application states that United States Geological Survey and Imperial County Planning Department records indicate no water wells within a 2 mile radius of the proposed wastewater treatment plant site.

8. The Imperial County Planning Department circulated the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR, State Clearing House # 96021019) for public review and comment. Imperial County Planning Department has indicated that the PEIR complies with all criteria, standards, and procedures of the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq.), the state CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Sections 15000, et seq.), and Imperial County's implementing guidelines.
9. On August 26, 1997, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Imperial, approved the Certification of the PEIR as recommended by the Planning Commission with the adoption of Resolution of No. 97-073 ("Resolution of the Imperial County Board of Supervisors Certifying the Final Program Environmental Impact report for the Gateway of the Americas Project") and Findings of Fact, Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.
 - a. Potential Impact: The project has the potential of degrading surface water quality due to increased storm water run-off from paving and a permanent road system.
Mitigation (a) : Compliance with Specification No. 3 and Provision Nos. 6, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 will mitigate or avoid the adverse impacts of the project on water quality.
 - b. Potential Impact: The project has the potential of degrading ground water quality.
Mitigation (b) : Compliance with Effluent Limitation Nos. 1, 2, 3; Prohibition Nos. 2 and 5; Specifications 1, 6, 8; Provisions 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 19, and 28 will mitigate or avoid the adverse impacts of the project on water quality.
 - c. Potential Impact: The project has potential for discharging untreated, partially treated or treated wastewater to the adjacent Alamo River.
Mitigation (c) : Compliance with Prohibition Nos. 1, 2, 4; Specification Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6; and Provisions 6, 7, and 28 will mitigate or avoid the adverse impacts of the project on Alamo River water quality.
 - d. Potential Impact: If improperly disposed, the sludge at the facility has the potential to impact ground and/or surface water quality.
Mitigation (d) : Compliance with Provisions 1, 6, 23, 24, 25, and 26 will mitigate the adverse impacts of sludge disposal on ground or surface water quality.
10. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan) was adopted on November 17, 1993, and designates the beneficial uses of ground water and surface waters in the Region.
11. The designated beneficial uses of ground waters in the Imperial Hydrologic Unit are:
 - a. Municipal Supply (MUN)
 - b. Industrial Supply (IND)
12. Within the Imperial Valley area of the Imperial Hydrologic Unit, much of the ground water is too saline for municipal use.

13. Federal regulations for storm water discharges were issued by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency on November 16, 1990 (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 122, 123, and 124). In conformance with these regulations, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a general permit for storm water discharges associated with specific categories of industrial activities, Water Quality Order No. 97-03, NPDES No. CAS000001, on April 17, 1997. Industrial facilities, as listed by Standard Industrial Classification which includes sewage treatment plants, are required to obtain NPDES permits for their storm water discharges.
14. Effluent limitations in this Board Order are based on the Basin Plan, State Water Resources Control Board's plans and policies, best professional judgment, and best available technology economically achievable.
15. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to update waste discharge requirements for said discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity to submit comments.
16. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Representative samples of treated wastewater effluent discharged to the percolation basin shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>30-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u> ¹	<u>7-day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u> ²
20° BOD ₅	mg/L ³	45	65
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	95	--
Settleable Matter	ml/L ⁴	0.3	0.5

2. The dry weather flow to the percolation ponds shall not exceed 0.0315 MGD.
3. The increase in concentration of total dissolved solids (TDS) in the wastewater discharged to the treatment basins over that contained in the water supply to the community shall not exceed 400 mg/L.

B. Prohibitions

1. Discharge of any wastewater from this facility to any surface waters or surface drainage courses is prohibited.
2. Bypass or overflow of untreated or partially treated waste is prohibited.

¹ 30-Day Mean - The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 30 consecutive days.
² 7-Day Mean - The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 7 consecutive days.
³ mg/L - milligrams-per-liter
⁴ ml/L - milliliters-per-liter

3. The discharge of waste to land not owned or controlled by the discharger is prohibited.
4. Discharge of treated wastewater in a location or in a manner different from that described in finding Nos. 4 and 5, above, is prohibited.
5. The disposal of wastes in excess of the design capacity of the system is prohibited.

C. Specifications

1. The treatment or disposal of wastes at this facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050 of Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. A minimum depth of two (2) feet shall be maintained at all times in all treatment ponds.
3. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facility inoperable.
4. There shall be no discharge, bypass, or flow of treated or untreated wastewater to surface waters.
5. A surface aerobic environment shall be maintained in all treatment ponds.
6. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any beneficial use of surface or ground water quality.
7. Public contact with non-disinfected wastewater shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs and other acceptable alternatives.
8. The facultative lagoons shall be lined with a 60 mil HDPE liners.

D. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 99-042", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
2. The discharger shall comply with all Orders issued by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
3. Prior to any modifications in this facility that would result in material change in the quality or quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of discharge, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
4. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the discharger shall transmit a copy of this Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Board.
5. The discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the contents of this Board Order, and shall maintain a copy of this Board Order at the site.
6. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

7. The discharger shall comply with all of the conditions of this Board Order. Any noncompliance with this Board Order constitutes a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action.
8. This Board Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the discharger for a Board Order modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Board Order condition. Causes for modification include the promulgation of new regulations, modification of land application plans, or modification in sludge use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the State Board or the Regional Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.
9. The discharger is the responsible party for the waste discharge requirements and the monitoring and reporting program for the facility. The discharger shall comply with all conditions of these waste discharge requirements. Violations may result in enforcement actions, including Regional Board Orders or court orders, requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in modification or revocation of these waste discharge requirements by the Regional Board.
10. The discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) that are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with this Board Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Board Order.
11. All maintenance performed shall be reported with the monitoring reports as required.
12. Storm water discharges from the facility shall not cause or threaten to cause pollution or contamination.
13. Storm water discharges from the facility shall not contain hazardous substances equal to or in excess of a reportable quantity listed in 40 CFR Part 117 and/or 40 CFR part 302.
14. All storm water discharge from this facility must comply with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties, and other local agencies, regarding the discharge of storm water to storm water drain systems or other courses under jurisdiction.
15. The discharger shall obtain a construction storm water permit under California's approved National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the project site.
16. The discharger shall submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Water Resources Control Board to be covered under the Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities, Order No. 92-08 DWQ. The discharger shall comply with all the discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and provisions of the General Permit, including the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. The Storm Water Pollution Plan shall be submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer for review and approval not less than 90 days prior to commencement of construction.
17. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that unauthorized persons are effectively excluded from contact with the wastewater disposal facilities.

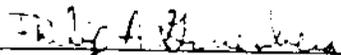
18. The discharger's wastewater treatment plant shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certification of appropriate grade pursuant to Section 3680, Chapter 4, Division 4, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. The discharger shall ensure that all operating personnel are familiar with the contents of this Board Order.
19. Facilities shall be available to keep the plant in operation in the event of commercial power failure.
20. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No 99-042", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer; and shall be in accordance with the following:
 - a. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
 - b. The monitoring and reporting of influent, effluent, and sludge shall be done, at a minimum, on an annual basis, and more frequently, depending on the nature and effect of the sewage sludge use or disposal practices, or as specified in this Board Order.
 - c. All monitoring, including that of sludge use or disposal must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or as specified in this Board Order.
 - d. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Board Order and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order, for a period of at least 5 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
 - e. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements(s);
 2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements(s);
 3. The date(s) analyses were performed;
 4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 5. The results of such analyses.
21. The discharger shall provide adequate notice to the Regional Board's Executive Officer of the following:
 - a. Any new introduction of pollutants into any of the treatment facilities described in the Findings of this Board Order from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Section 301 or 306 of the Clean Water Act, if it were directly discharging the pollutants.
 - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into any of the treatment facilities described in the Findings of this Board Order by an existing or new source.
 - c. Any planned physical alterations or additions to the facilities described in this Board Order, or changes planned in the discharger's sludge use or disposal practice, where such alterations, additions, or changes may justify the application of Board Order

conditions that are different from or absent in the existing Board Order, including notification of additional disposal sites not reported during the Board Order application process, or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.

- d. Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent introduced, and any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of the discharger's effluent and/or sludge.
 - e. The discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance. Reports of noncompliance shall be submitted with the discharger's next scheduled self-monitoring report or earlier if requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, or if required by an applicable standard for sludge use and disposal.
22. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
- a. Enter upon the premises regulated by this Board Order, or the place where records must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that shall be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Board Order; and
 - d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, and substances or parameters at this location.
23. The discharger shall obtain prior written approval for the Regional Board's Executive Officer specifying location and method of disposal, before disposing of treated or untreated sludge, or similar solid waste materials. In addition, the discharger shall provide the results of any sludge analyses as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
24. The discharger shall maintain a permanent log of all solids hauled away from the treatment facility for use/disposal elsewhere and shall provide a monthly summary of the volume, type (screenings, grit, raw sludge, digested sludge), use (agricultural, composting, etc.) and the destination.
25. All sludge generated at the wastewater treatment plan will be disposed, treated, or applied to land in accordance with Federal Regulations 40 CFR 503.
26. Collected, screening, sludges, and other solids removed for liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner that is consistent with Division 3 Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations and approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
27. The discharger shall provide a report to the Regional Board when it determines that the plant is operating at 80 percent of the capacity specified in Finding No. 3 above. The report should indicate what steps, if any, the discharger intends to take to provide for the expected wastewater treatment capacity necessary when the plant reaches design capacity.
28. The discharger shall report any non-compliance that is likely to endanger human health or the environment. The discharger shall report the incident by phone within 24 hours of becoming aware of its occurrence. During business hours the discharger shall report the non-compliance to the Regional Board Office, (760) 346-7491. During non-business hours,

the discharger shall report the episode to the Office of Emergency Services, (760) 852-7550, and also leave a message on the Regional Board's voice mail. A written report shall be submitted within five business days of the time at which the discharger becomes aware of the incidence. This report shall contain a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the duration and the anticipated time for achieving compliance. In addition, the report shall include details of the steps that the discharger has taken, or intends to take, in order to eliminate the problem and prevent recurrence. All intentional or unintentional sewage spills in excess of 1,000 gallons, occurring at the facility, or in the collection system, shall be reported as required by this provision.

I, Phillip A. Gruenberg, 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, Colorado River Basin Region, on June 10, 1999.



Executive Officer

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 99-042
FOR
IMPERIAL COUNTY GATEWAYS SERVICES AREA, OWNER
ROCKY VANDERGRIFF WATER QUALITY SPECIALISTS OF SAN DIEGO, INC., OPERATOR
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
East of Calexico, Imperial County**

Location of Discharge: SW ¼ of Section 7, T17S, R16E, SBB&M

MONITORING

1. The collection, preservation and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved procedures. All analyses shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the State Department of Health Services to perform the required analyses.

EFFLUENT MONITORING

Wastewater effluent from the treatment ponds shall be monitored for the following constituents:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Sampling Frequency</u>
Flow	MGD ¹	-----	Daily ²
Hydrogen Ion (pH)	pH Units	Grab at Peak Flow	Weekly
20°C BOD ₅	mg/L ³	24 Hr. Composite	Monthly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Settleable Solids	ml/L	Grab at Peak Flow	Monthly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24 Hr. Composite	Monthly
Nitrate (As NO ₃)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Ammonia	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Phosphate (As PO ₄)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly

¹ MGD - Million-Gallons-Day

² Daily flows and monthly average flow reported monthly

³ mg/L - milligrams per Liter

WATER SUPPLY TO THE COMMUNITY

The water shall be monitored as follows:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Sampling Frequency</u>
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The discharger shall report the following:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Reporting</u>
Inspect and document any operation/maintenance problems by inspecting each unit process	Annually

SLUDGE MONITORING

The discharger shall report monthly on the quantity, location and method of disposal of all sludge and similar solid materials being produced at the wastewater treatment plant facility.

A representative sample of the sludge that is generated at the treatment facility shall be sampled and analyzed for the following:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Sampling Frequency</u>
Arsenic	mg/kg ⁴	Composite	Annually
Cadmium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Copper	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Lead	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Mercury	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Molybdenum	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Nickel	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Selenium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Zinc	mg/kg	Composite	Annually
Fecal Coliform	MPN	Composite	Annually
Volatile Organics (EPA Methods 601, 602)	ug/L ⁵	Grab	Annually
Pesticides (EPA Method 608)	ug/L	Composite	Annually

⁴ mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram

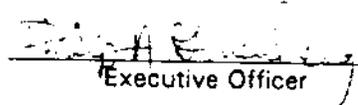
⁵ ug/L - micrograms per Liter

REPORTING

1. The discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the specified information is readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner as to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with waste discharge requirements.
2. Each report shall contain the following statement:

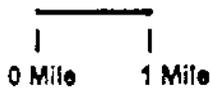
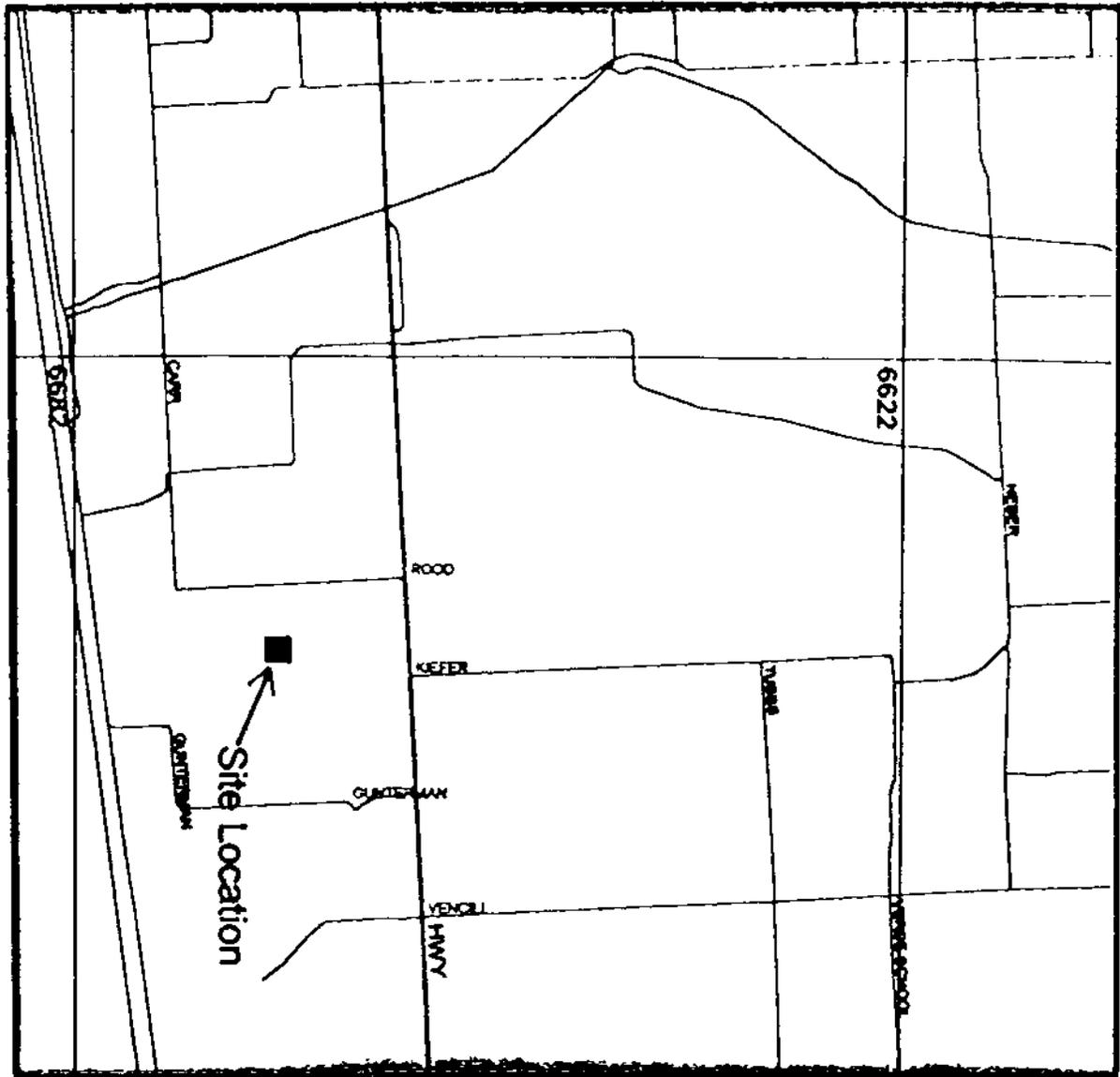
" I declare under the penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of a fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."
3. A duly authorized representative of the discharger may sign the documents if:
 - a. The authorization is made in writing by the person described above;
 - b. The authorization specified an individual or person having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated disposal system; and
 - c. The written authorization is submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
4. Report immediately any failure in the waste disposal system to the Regional Board's Executive Officer and the Director of the County Environmental Health Department by telephone with follow-up by letter.
5. Weekly and monthly monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board by the 15th day of the following month. Annual monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board by January 15 of each year.
6. Submit monitoring reports to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Ordered by 
Executive Officer

June 10, 1999

Date



SITE MAP
FOR
IMPERIAL COUNTY GATEWAY SERVICES AREA, OWNER
ROCKY VANDERGRIF WATER QUALITY SPECIALISTS OF SAN DIEGO, INC., OPERATOR
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
East of Calexico - Imperial County

Discharge Location: Portion of SW 1/4 of Section 7, T17 S, R16E, SBB&M

Board Order No. 99-042