



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

All wastewater discharged at this facility is discharged through Outfall 001 to the Central Drain 3-D No. 1. The discharge consists of secondary treated domestic wastewater.

IV. Receiving Water

The receiving water for Outfall 001 is the Central Drain 3-D No. 1. Water discharged from the facility flows through the Central Drain 3-D No. 1, the Alamo River and then enters the Salton Sea.

The beneficial uses of waters in the Imperial Valley Drains are:

- a. Fresh Water Replenishment for Salton Sea (FRSH)
- b. Water Contact Recreation (REC I) <sup>1,2</sup>
- c. Non-Contact Water Recreation (REC II) <sup>1</sup>
- d. Warm Water Habitat (WARM)
- e. Wildlife Habitat (WILD)
- f. Preservation of Rare, Endangered or Threatened Species (RARE) <sup>3</sup>

V. Description of Discharge

a. Permit Application Summary

The following table summarizes the discharge characteristics of Outfall 001 as reported in the NPDES application received April 10, 2000.

Average Daily Flow	0.390	MGD <sup>4</sup>
Maximum Daily Flow Rate	0.535	MGD
Minimum Daily pH	7.1	-----
Maximum Daily pH	7.7	-----
Average Daily BOD <sup>5</sup> Concentration	1.4	mg/L <sup>6</sup>
Maximum Daily BOD Concentration	10.3	mg/L
Average Daily TSS <sup>7</sup> Concentration	5.7	mg/L
Maximum Daily TSS Concentration	12.4	mg/L
Average Daily Settleable Matter	0.1	ml/L
Maximum Daily Settleable Matter	0.1	ml/L

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<sup>1</sup> Unauthorized Use

<sup>2</sup> The only REC I usage that is known to occur is from infrequent fishing activity

<sup>3</sup> Rare, endangered, or threatened wildlife exists in or utilizes some of these waterway(s). If the RARE beneficial use may be affected by a water quality control decision, responsibility for substantiation of the existence of rare, endangered, or threatened species on a case-by-case basis is upon the California Department of Fish and Game on its own initiative and/or at the request of the Regional Board; and such substantiation must be provided with a reasonable time frame as approved by the Regional Board

<sup>4</sup> Million Gallons-per-Day

<sup>5</sup> Biochemical Oxygen Demand

<sup>6</sup> Milligrams-per-Liter

<sup>7</sup> Total Suspended Solids

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b. Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Data

A summary of DMR data is given in Table 1, contained later in this Fact Sheet. This data was taken from May 1999 through April 2000.

VI. Proposed Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

Regulations promulgated at 40 CFR §125.3(a)(1) require technology-based effluent limits for municipal dischargers to be placed in NPDES permits based on Secondary or Equivalent to Secondary Treatment Standards.

a. Secondary Treatment Standards

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>30-Day<sup>8</sup> Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u>	<u>7-Day<sup>9</sup> Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u>
20° C BOD <sub>5</sub> <sup>10</sup>	mg/L	30	45
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	30	45

The 30-day average percent removal of the pollutant parameters BOD<sub>5</sub> and suspended solids shall not be less than 85 percent.

The hydrogen ion (pH) of the effluent shall be maintained within the limits of 6.0 to 9.0.

VII. Proposed Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Effluent discharged from this facility could contain pollutants in sufficient quantities to affect receiving water quality. Pursuant to Section 13263, Article 4, Chapter 4 of the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Regional Boards are required to issue Waste Discharge Requirements for discharges that could affect the quality of the State's waters. Furthermore, Federal Regulation 40 CFR 122.1 requires the issuance of NPDES permits for pollutants discharged from a point source to the waters of the United States. The draft discharge requirements contain specific discharge limitations for selected pollutants.

<sup>8</sup> 30-Day Mean – The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 30 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

<sup>9</sup> 7-Day Mean – The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 7 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

<sup>10</sup> Biochemical Oxygen Demand

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<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Basis for Limitations</u>
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Discharge's to waters that support aquatic life, which is dependent on oxygen. Organic matter in the discharge may consume oxygen as it breaks down.
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	High levels of suspended solids can adversely impact aquatic habitat. Untreated or improperly treated wastewater can contain high amounts of suspended solids.
Settleable Matter	High levels of settleable matter can have an adverse effect on aquatic habitat. Untreated or improperly treated wastewater can contain high amounts of settleable matter.
Hydrogen Ion (pH)	Hydrogen Ion (pH) is a measure of Hydrogen Ion concentration in the water. A range specified between 6 to 9 ensures suitability of biological life. This limitation has been adopted in the Basin Plan of the Region
Toxicity	Toxicity testing ensures that the effluent does not contain metals, chemicals, pesticides or other constituents in concentration toxic to aquatic life.
Escherichia Coli	These limits are required by the Basin Plan for waters designated for water contact recreation (RECI).
Flow	Currently, the design capacity of the treatment plant is 0.405 MGD. Upon completion of a treatment plant expansion in 2001, the design capacity will increase to 0.810 MGD.

VIII. Proposed Effluent Limitations

Table 2, contained later in this Fact Sheet, summarizes the proposed effluent limitations for Outfall 001. Proposed effluent limitations are based on secondary treatment standards and Colorado River Basin Plan water quality standards.

IX. Monitoring Requirements

Monitoring for those pollutants expected to be present in the Outfall OO1 will be required as shown on the proposed monitoring and reporting program and as required in the "*Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*" adopted March 2, 2000.

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X. Information Sources

While developing effluent limitations and receiving water limitations, monitoring requirements, and special conditions for the draft permit, the following information sources were used:

- (1) EPA NPDES Application Forms 1 and 2A dated April 7, 2000.
- (2) 40 CFR Parts 117,122, 123, 124, 136, 302, 403, and 503.
- (3) Water Quality Control Plan (Colorado River Basin – Region 7) dated 1994.
- (4) Regional Board files related to Heber Public Utility District NPDES permit CA0104370.
- (5) Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act with additions and amendments effective January 1, 2000.
- (6) Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California adopted March 2, 2000.
- (7) California Toxics Rule, published by May 18,2000 by U.S. EPA.
- (8) National Toxics Rule (NTR), adopted by U.S. EPA on February 5, 1993.

Written Comments

Interested parties and agencies are invited to submit written comments on the proposed waste discharge requirements and the Regional Board's Executive Officer's proposed determinations. Comments should be submitted in writing not later than August 23, 2000 to:

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

The application number shall appear on the first page of any submitted comments. All comments received by the above date will be considered in the formulation of the final determinations.

Public Hearing

The Waste Discharge Requirements will be considered by the Regional Board at a public hearing to be held at the City of La Quinta City Council Chambers, 78495 Calle Tampico, La Quinta on September 13, 2000.

Waste Discharge Requirements Appeals

Any person may petition the State Board to review the decision of the Regional Board regarding waste discharge requirements. A petition must be made within 30 days of the Regional Board's hearing.

Additional Information

Persons wishing further information may write to the following address:

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

or call the Regional Board at (760) 346-7491

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**HEBER PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT**

DATE	INFLUENT DATA		EFFLUENT DATA	
	BOD (MG/L)	SS (MG/L)	BOD (MG/L)	SS (MG/L)
May 1999	230.7	232.1	ND	5.5
June 1999	132.2	135.1	ND	2.9
July 1999	134	111.9	ND	5.7
August 1999	104.8	126.2	ND	7.2
September 1999	106.8	93.9	10.3	1.8
October 1999	133.8	144.4	ND	7.5
November 1999	141.5	78.8	ND	3.2
December 1999	137.2	95.1	1.4	7.2
January 2000	135.3	232.1	1.8	1.8
February 2000	161.3	207.8	5.2	5.2
March 2000	161	159.8	1.3	1.3
April 2000	210	108.6	ND	ND

DATE	EFFLUENT DATA		
	SETTLABLE MATTER (ML/L)	FLOW TO CHANNEL (MGD)	PH
May 1999	<0.1		7.4
June 1999	<0.1		7.4
July 1999	<0.1	Meter inoperative	7.3
August 1999	<0.1	Meter inoperative	7.3
September 1999	<0.1	Meter inoperative	7.3
October 1999	<0.1	0.385	7.4
November 1999	<0.1	0.405	7.4
December 1999	<0.1	0.331	7.4
January 2000	<0.1	0.331	7.5
February 2000	<0.1	0.365	7.4
March 2000	<0.1	0.411	7.4
April 2000	<0.1	0.402	7.4

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TABLE 1 (CONT.)  
DISCHARGE MONITORING REPORT  
HEBER PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT

DATE	EFFLUENT DATA			
	BIOASSAY <sup>11</sup> ACUTE		BIOASSAY <sup>12</sup> CHRONIC	
	Ceriodaphnia dubia	Pimephales promelas	Ceriodaphnia dubia	Pimephales promelas
May 1999				
June 1999				
July 1999				
August 1999				
September 1999				
October 1999				
November 1999	100	93.3	100	93.3
December 1999				
January 2000				
February 2000				
March 2000				
April 2000				

DATE	RECEIVING WATER DATA	
	DISSOLVED OXYGEN (MG/L)	Ph
May 1999	5.2	8.0
June 1999	5.8	7.6
July 1999	5.5	7.4
August 1999	5.3	7.5
September 1999	5.2	7.4
October 1999	5.4	7.6
November 1999	5.8	7.5
December 1999	5.4	7.6
January 2000	5.3	7.6
February 2000	5.6	7.5
March 2000	6.4	7.7
April 2000	5.9	7.6

<sup>11</sup> Bioassay Acute is measured in % survival in 100% effluent (C. dubia / P. promelas) at the end of 96 hours.  
<sup>12</sup> Bioassay Chronic survival is measured in chronic toxicity units (C. dubia / P. promelas) at the end of 7 days.

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TABLE 2  
PROPOSED EFFLUENT AND RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS  
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0104370  
BOARD ORDER NO. 00-100  
HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. Effluent discharged to the Central Drain 3-D No. 1 shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit</u>	30-Day <sup>13</sup> <u>Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u>	7-Day <sup>14</sup> <u>Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u>
20°C BOD <sub>5</sub>	mg/L	30	45
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	30	45

2. The 30-day average percent removal of the pollutant parameters BOD<sub>5</sub> and total suspended solids shall not be less than 85 percent.
3. The hydrogen ion (pH) of the effluent shall be maintained within the limits of 6.0 to 9.0.
4. The twenty-four (24) hour hydraulic flow rate for this system shall not exceed 0.405 MGD until construction is completed on the plant expansion. Following completion of the plant expansion the twenty-four (24) hour hydraulic flow rate for the system shall not exceed 0.810 MGD. The treatment plant expansion is scheduled for completion by May 31, 2001.
5. The effluent shall not contain heavy metals, chemicals, pesticides or other constituents in concentration toxic to aquatic life.
6. There shall be no acute toxicity in the treatment plant effluent nor chronic toxicity in the receiving water. Compliance with this objective will be determined by use of indicator organisms, analyses of species diversity, population density, growth anomalies, or bioassays of appropriate duration or other appropriate methods specified by the Regional Board.
7. Following completion of the plant expansion, effluent discharged to Central Drain 3-D No. 1 shall not have an Escherichia Coli (E. Coli) concentration in excess of a log mean of Most Probable Number (MPN) of 126 MPN per 100 milliliters (based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period) nor shall any sample during any 30-day period, exceed 400 MPN per 100 milliliters.

<sup>13</sup> 30-Day Mean – The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 30 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

<sup>14</sup> 7-Day Mean – The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 7 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

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RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

1. Receiving Water Limitations are based upon water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan. As such, they are a required part of this permit. The discharge shall not cause the following in the Central Drain 3-D No. 1:
  - a. Depress the concentration of dissolved oxygen below 5.0 mg/L. When dissolved oxygen in receiving water is already below 5.0 mg/L, the discharge shall not cause any further depression.
  - b. Cause the presence of oil, grease, floating material (liquids, solids, foam and scum) or suspended material in amounts that create a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
  - c. Result in the deposition of pesticides or combination of pesticides to be detected in concentration that adversely affect beneficial uses.
  - d. Cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration or odors in the receiving water.
  - e. Cause an increase in fungi, slime, or other objectionable growth.
  - f. Cause the turbidity to increase by more than 10 percent over background levels.
  - g. Cause the normal ambient pH to fall below 6.0 or exceed 9.0 units.
  - h. Result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
  - i. Cause the normal ambient receiving water temperature to be altered more than 5° F.
  - j. Cause in the maximum electrical conductivity to exceed background levels.
  - k. Cause the chemical constituents to exceed concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or create nuisance.
  - l. Cause toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments or biota in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
2. This discharge shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Board or the State Water Resources Control Board as required by the Federal Clean Water Act and regulations adopted thereunder. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to Section 303 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or amendments thereto, the Regional Board will revise and modify this Permit in accordance with such more stringent standards.