CALIF(IA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONT(BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. 74-128

REVISION AND AMENDMENT OF WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN (INTERIM)
BY THE ADDITION OF A PROHIBITION OF WASTE DISCHARGE FROM
SEPTIC TANKS OR CESSPOOLS WITHIN
MADERA COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 3
(PARKSDALE), MADERA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, finds:

1. The Board adopted, on 15 June 1971, a Water Quality Control Plan (Interim), Basins 5A, B, C and D (hereafter "Interim Plan").

2. The Interim Plan contains areas where waste discharge from septic tanks and cesspools is prohibited.

3. On 14 December 1973 in the State Personnel Board Auditorium, 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, after due public notice, the Regional Board conducted a public hearing at which evidence was received concerning the discharge from failing septic tanks and cesspools within the Madera County Services Area No. 3.

4. Madera County Service Area No. 3 encompasses the Parksdale area about 2 miles southeast of the City of Madera. The area has a long history of failing septic tanks.

5. An October 1973 sanitary survey by the Madera County Health Department of 34 residences within the County Service Area in question found 35% of the 34 domestic water samples contained excessive coliform bacteria. The Health Department has determined that a significant number of domestic water supply wells have been contaminated by sewage.

6. Continued installation of septic tanks or cesspools in this area will increase the threat to public health and will further unreasonably impair water quality.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The discharge of waste within Madera County Service Area No. 3 (Parksdale), Madera County from leaching or percolation systems installed after 1 January 1974 is prohibited. An exemption to this prohibition may be granted after presentation by the proposed discharger of geologic and hydrologic evidence that leaching system disposal will not, individually or collectively, result in a pollution or nuisance.

2. The discharge of waste within Madera County Service Area No. 3 (Parksdale), Madera County from leaching or percolation systems is prohibited after 1 July 1977. An exemption to this prohibition may be granted whenever the Regional Board finds that the continued operation of septic tanks, cesspools, or other means of disposal in a particular area will not, individually or collectively, directly or indirectly, adversely affect water quality.

3. Chapter VI of the Interim Plan is revised by the addition of this prohibition, upon approval of the State Water Resources Control Board.

I, JAMES A. ROBERTSON, 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, Central Valley Region, on 14 December 1973.

J A Robertson

JAMES A. ROBERTSON, Executive Officer