

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

**CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 88-86
AGAINST
PROVIDENT FEDERAL SAVINGS
Blythe - Riverside County**

The Executive Officer of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. Provident Federal Savings (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), 3756 Central Avenue, Riverside, California 92506, is the owner of the property, and the business, located at 201 East Hobson Way, Blythe, California 92225.
2. A Complaint Report from the discharger was received in this office on July 31, 1987. Said report indicated that strong gasoline fumes had been detected in the basement and offices of the facility referenced in Finding No. 1.
3. A follow-up investigation by Regional Board staff revealed that the nuisance condition had been on-going for about five years. It was further determined that a retail gasoline station had been formerly located on the site. Reports from local residents, interviewed by the staff investigator, indicated that free product, floating on the exposed ground water, had been detected in the excavation for the building in 1978.
4. The Regional Board staff determined that the gasoline contamination presents a threat to the quality of the ground water.
5. By letter dated September 1, 1987, the discharger was requested to conduct a subsurface investigation of the contamination, and submit a technical report containing the results thereof, by October 30, 1987.
6. On February 1, 1988, the Regional Board received the technical report entitled "Environmental Investigation, Report of Findings", prepared by Camp, Dresser and McKee, Inc. and dated January 29, 1988. Although this report did not include a full lateral and vertical delineation of the contamination, it did indicate soil and ground water contamination present above drinking water standards.
7. The discharger has caused or permitted the discharge of waste into the waters of the State and created a condition of pollution.
8. Section 13304 of the California Water Code states, in part, that:

"Any person...who has caused or permitted...any waste to be discharged or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged into the waters of the state and creates, or threatens to create, a condition of pollution or nuisance, shall upon order of the regional board clean up such waste or abate the effects thereof or, in the case of threatened pollution or nuisance, take other necessary remedial action."

9. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region identified the beneficial uses of the ground water in the Colorado Hydrologic Unit as:
 - a. Municipal
 - b. Industrial
 - c. Agricultural
10. Contamination of the ground water with gasoline would significantly impair the beneficial uses of the ground water.
11. This enforcement action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Sections 15308 and 15321, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that pursuant to Section 13304 of Division 7 of the California Water Code, the discharger shall comply with the following:

1. Clean up or abate the effects of the discharge of gasoline in the soil and ground water at 201 East Hobson Way, Blythe, California.
2. Submit to the Regional Board by June 15, 1988 a technical report with the results of the complete subsurface investigation as requested in the Regional Board letter to the discharger dated September 1, 1987.
3. Within two weeks of submittal of the technical report, submit a cleanup proposal which includes the recovery of the free product in the groundwater and extraction of the contaminated ground water.

Ordered By:

Mary J. Morris
for Executive Officer

4/12/88
Date