

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

RESOLUTION NO. 93-004

WAIVING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
SPECIFIC TYPES OF DISCHARGES

- WHEREAS, Water Code Section 13260(a) requires that any person discharging wastes or proposing to discharge wastes within the Region, other than to a community sewer system, that could affect the quality of the waters of the State, shall file a report of waste discharge (report); and
- WHEREAS, The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 7 (Colorado River Basin Region), has a statutory obligation to prescribe waste discharge requirements except where a waiver is not against the public interest pursuant to California Water Code Section 13269; and
- WHEREAS, California Water Code Section 13269 stipulates that any waiver of filing a report and/or prescribing a requirement shall be conditional and may be terminated at any time by the Regional Board; and
- WHEREAS, The Regional Board finds that waiver of a report and issuance of a requirement, where such a waiver is not against the public interest, would enable Regional Board staff resources to be used more effectively; and
- WHEREAS, The Regional Board finds that a waiver of report and issuance of a requirement for a specific type of discharge would not be against the public interest under one or more of the following circumstances:
1. The type of discharge is effectively regulated by other public agencies.
 2. The type of discharge is effectively regulated by the discharger pursuant to State regulations or guidelines.
 3. This discharge complies with the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region.
 4. The type of discharge does not adversely affect the quality of or the beneficial uses of the waters of the State.
- WHEREAS, The Regional Board finds that a waiver of filing a report and issuance of a requirement for the types of discharges identified herein would not be against the public interest; and
- WHEREAS, The Regional Board staff has prepared a Negative Declaration in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 12000 et. seq.) and state guidelines, and the Regional Board has determined there will be no significant adverse water quality impacts; and
- WHEREAS, The Regional Board held a hearing on March 31, 1993 in the City of Indian Wells and considered all evidence concerning this matter; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Regional Board waives the filing of a report (unless requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer for review and evaluation) and issuance of a requirement for the specific types of waste discharges shown on the attachment to this resolution except for those discharges for which discharge requirements have been adopted; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Regional Board adopts the Negative Declaration and directs the Executive Officer to file all appropriate notices; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this action waiving the filing of a report and issuance of requirements is conditional and may be terminated for any type of discharge or any specific discharge at any time.

I, Philip A. Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on March 31, 1993.


Executive Officer

ATTACHMENT NO. 1
RESOLUTION NO. 93-004

Type of Waste Discharge
for Which Requirements
May Be Waived

Waiver Conditions

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Air Conditioner, Cooling & Elevated Temperature Wastes | 1. Small volumes which will not change the temperature of the receiving water more than one degree Celsius (1°C), and do not violate the SWRCB Thermal Plan. |
| 2. Minor Dredging Operations | 2. Where soil is non-toxic and discharged to land. |
| 3. Inert Wastes | 3. Small scale operations that use good disposal and erosion control practices, and comply with CCR, Title 23, Chapter 15. |
| 4. Well Test Pumping. (Agriculture Wells, Domestic Supply Wells and Municipal Drinking Wells) | 4. When pollutants are neither present nor added and this can be verified by testing. |
| 5. Small (less than one acre) Short-term (less than one year) Sand and Gravel Operations | 5. Where all operations and wash water are confined to land. |
| 6. Swimming Pool Discharges | 6. Where beneficial uses will not be adversely affected. |
| 7. Agricultural Commodity Wastes | 7. Small, seasonal, confined to land, and an operation and/or maintenance plan has been approved by the Executive Officer. |
| 8. Construction Dewatering | 8. Where no pollutants are discharged to surface or ground water. |
| 9. Industrial and Food Processing Wastes Used for Soil Amendments | 9. Where industry demonstrates that the wastes are non-toxic, that Best Management Practices are used and where an operating/maintenance plan has been approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. |
| 10. Timber Harvesting | 10. Operating under approved Timber Harvest Plan. |
| 11. Minor Hydro Projects | 11. Operating under water rights permit from SWRCB or Department of Fish and Game agreements. No adverse water quality impacts expected. |

ATTACHMENT NO. 1 (continued)
RESOLUTION NO. 93-004

Type of Waste Discharge
for Which Requirements
May Be Waived

Waiver Conditions

12. Septic Tank/Leach Field Systems

12. Individual systems where discharge has county permit and discharger complies with basin plan criteria and Regional Board guidelines.

13. Irrigation Return Water

13. Where the discharge meets water quality standards, and is not toxic to fish or wildlife, and does not adversely affect beneficial uses of receiving waters, or where the discharger is implementing best management practices under a management plan approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to Section 21108
Public Resources Code

TO: State of California
The Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Regional Water Quality
Control Board, Colorado River
Basin Region
73-271 Hwy 111, Suite 21
Palm Desert, CA 92260

PROJECT TITLE: "Waiving Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific
Types of Discharges" (Resolution No. 83-1)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Waiver of waste discharge requirements for discharges
which produce an insignificant affect on water quality.

FINDING: The California Regional Water Quality Control Board,
Colorado River Basin Region, has determined that on the
basis of initial study, the project will not have a
significant impact on the environment.

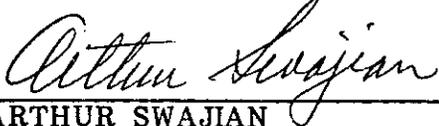
REASONING IN SUPPORT
OF FINDING: Refer to attached copy of the Initial Study for
documentation of the reasons supporting the finding.

CONTACT PERSON: Arthur Swajian, Executive Officer

TELEPHONE: (619) 346-7491

Date:

January 26, 1983



ARTHUR SWAJIAN
Executive Officer

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

INITIAL STUDY

SCH NO. 82121703
FOR
RESOLUTION NO. 83-1

WAIVING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
SPECIFIC TYPES OF DISCHARGE

CONTENTS

- I. Description of Project
- II. Environmental Setting
- III. Environmental Impacts (Checklist)
- IV. Discussion of Environmental Evaluation
- V. Preparer's Signature

I. Description of the Project

The "project" being considered is the adoption of a Resolution No. 83-1 adopting a waste discharge waiver process. The basic function of Resolution 83-1 is to set forth those discharges which have an insignificant affect on water quality and waive the prescription of requirements thereon.

II. Environmental Setting

The "project" covers the entire Colorado River Basin Region. The Region encompasses the southeast desert area of California and is bounded by the Ord, Bristol, Granite, Providence, and New York Mountains, and the State of Nevada on the North, by the Colorado River on the East, by Mexico on the South and by the Granite, San Bernardino, San Jacinto, and Peninsular Mountains on the West. Drainage is to either the Colorado River or the Salton Sea, plus to numerous dry lakes.

The population centers of the Region are generally located in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys and along the Colorado River. The one area of most rapid growth in the Region is the upper Coachella Valley area.

Irrigated agriculture, principally in the Coachella, Imperial, Palo Verde, and Bard Valleys, provides the economic base for most of the communities. Recreation and resort activities also provide substantial income to the Region.

Generally, the Region is characterized by the driest climate in California; consequently, it is characterized by xerophytic vegetation and associated wildlife communities. Deviation from this typical setting is found along surface waters and the higher mountain areas.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. <u>Earth.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Unstable earth conditions or in changes in geologic substructures?	---	---	<u>X</u>
b. Disruptions, displacements, compaction or overcovering of the soil?	---	---	<u>X</u>
c. Change in topography or ground surface relief features?	---	---	<u>X</u>
d. The destruction, covering or modification of any unique geological or physical features?	---	---	<u>X</u>
e. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?	---	---	<u>X</u>
f. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, depositions or erosion which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet or lake?	---	---	<u>X</u>
g. Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?	---	---	<u>X</u>
2. <u>Air.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?	---	---	<u>X</u>
b. The creation of objectionable odors?	---	---	<u>X</u>
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?	---	---	<u>X</u>

	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
3. <u>Water.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh water?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Change in absorption rates, drainage pattern, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff?	—	<u>X</u>	—
c. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?	—	<u>X</u>	—
d. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?	—	<u>X</u>	—
e. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?	—	<u>X</u>	—
f. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters?	—	<u>X</u>	—
g. Change in quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of the aquifer by cuts or excavations?	—	<u>X</u>	—
h. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?	—	—	<u>X</u>
i. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?	—	—	<u>X</u>
4. <u>Plant Life.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, microflora and aquatic plants)?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Reduction of numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?	—	—	<u>X</u>

	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
c. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?	—	—	<u>X</u>
d. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?	—	—	<u>X</u>
5. <u>Animal Life.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, insects or microfauna)?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?	—	—	<u>X</u>
c. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in barrier to the migration or movement of animals?	—	—	<u>X</u>
d. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat?	—	—	<u>X</u>
6. <u>Noise.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Increases in existing noise levels?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Exposure of people to severe noise levels?	—	—	<u>X</u>
7. <u>Light and Glare.</u> Will the proposal produce new light or glare?	—	—	<u>X</u>
8. <u>Land Use.</u> Will the proposal result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?	—	—	<u>X</u>
9. <u>Natural Resources.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resource?	—	—	<u>X</u>

	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
10. <u>Risk of Upset.</u> Does the proposal involve a risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset condition?	---	---	<u>X</u>
11. <u>Population.</u> Will the proposal alter the location, distribution, density or growth rate of the human population of an area?	---	---	<u>X</u>
12. <u>Housing.</u> Will the proposal affect existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?	---	---	<u>X</u>
13. <u>Transportation/Circulation.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?	---	---	<u>X</u>
b. Effects on existing parking facilities, or demand for new parking?	---	---	<u>X</u>
c. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?	---	---	<u>X</u>
d. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?	---	---	<u>X</u>
e. Alterations to waterborne, rail or air traffic?	---	---	<u>X</u>
f. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists or pedestrians?	---	---	<u>X</u>
14. <u>Public Services.</u> Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:			
a. Fire protection?	---	---	<u>X</u>
b. Police protection?	---	---	<u>X</u>
c. Schools?	---	---	<u>X</u>

	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
d. Parks or other recreational facilities?	—	—	<u>X</u>
e. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	—	—	<u>X</u>
f. Other governmental services?	—	—	<u>X</u>
15. <u>Energy.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources of energy?	—	—	<u>X</u>
16. <u>Utilities.</u> Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:			
a. Power or natural gas?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Communications systems?	—	—	<u>X</u>
c. Water?	—	—	<u>X</u>
d. Sewer or septic tanks?	—	—	<u>X</u>
e. Storm water drainage?	—	—	<u>X</u>
f. Solid waste and disposal?	—	—	<u>X</u>
17. <u>Human Health.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
a. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?	—	—	<u>X</u>
b. Exposure of people to potential health hazards?	—	—	<u>X</u>
18. <u>Aesthetics.</u> Will the proposal result in the obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or will the proposal result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?	—	—	<u>X</u>

YES

MAYBE

NO

19. Recreation. Will the proposal result in an impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities?

X

20. Archeological/Historical. Will the proposal result in an alteration of a significant archeological or historical site, structure, object or building?

X

21. Mandatory Findings of Significance.

a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

X

b. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)

X

c. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project may impact on two or more separate resources where the impact on each resource is relatively small, but where the effect of the total of those impacts on the environment is significant.)

X

d. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

X

IV Discussion of Environmental Evaluation

Explanation of "Maybe" Checked Answers

Waiver of waste discharge requirements will be for discharges which produce an insignificant affect on water quality. However, such discharges could produce insignificant changes in the categories noted in Environmental Impacts (above).

V Preparer's Certification

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant affect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant affect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.

I find the proposed project MAY have a significant affect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

January 7, 1983
Date

Arthur Swajin
Signature

