

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

SPECIAL BOARD ORDER R7-2011-0018
AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R7-2010-0020
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
PERMIT NO. CA0104400 FOR THE
CITY OF IMPERIAL, IMPERIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
City of Imperial – Imperial County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds:

A. Background.

1. On September 16, 2010, the Regional Water Board adopted Board Order R7-2010-0020, NPDES Permit No. CA0104400, prescribing Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the City of Imperial (hereinafter Discharger) Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for the discharge of 2.4 million gallons per day (MGD) of secondary treated wastewater to the Dolson Drain, which discharges to the Alamo River, a water of the United States. Board Order R7-2010-0020 became effective on October 1, 2010 and will expire on September 30, 2015.
2. Board Order R7-2010-0020 may be modified, rescinded and reissued, for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for a Board Order modification, rescission and reissuance, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Board Order condition. Causes for modification include, but are not limited to, 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 Water Board or the Regional Water Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.
3. This Special Board Order revises Board Order R7-2010-0020 to correct language in the Monitoring and Reporting program of Board Order R7-2010-0020.
4. Pursuant to 40 CFR 124.10(b) and California Water Code (CWC) Section 13167.5, the Regional Water Board published Public Notice No. 7-11-06 for this proposed Special Board Order on “date to be inserted”.

B. Facility Description. The City of Imperial owns and operates a municipal wastewater treatment plant. The total design capacity of the wastewater treatment plant is 2.4 million gallons per day (MGD). The current wastewater treatment plant consists of an influent pumping station, grit chamber, two parallel oxidation ditches, extended aeration/activated sludge basin with integral clarifier, and ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system and sludge drying beds. Wastewater is discharged to the Dolson Drain, a water of the United States, via Lilac Drain, Rose Drain, Alamo River, and then to the Salton Sea.

C. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This action to amend an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA (commencing with Section 21100) of Division 13 of the California Public Resources Code in accordance with Section 13389 of the CWC.

D. Notification of Interested Parties. The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations (see Attachment A of this Order for full details on Public Participation).

E. Consideration of Public Comment. The Regional Water Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Board Order R7-2010-0020 is amended in the manner specified below upon the effective date of this Special Board Order, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code (CWC) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Special Board Order as well as with those portions of Board Order R7-2010-0020 that were not amended by this Special Board Order:

1. Attachment E, Page E-4, H. Replace the paragraph H with the revised Attachment I (New items are underlined and deleted items are shown in ~~strikeout~~ font).

H. In accordance with the test procedures under 40 CFR Part 136, samples shall be analyzed as soon as possible after collection. ~~For samples with maximum holding times of 5 minutes or less (e.g., Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, pH and Sulfite) the Discharger shall be authorized to analyze the samples onsite under the following conditions. Staff conducting the analysis shall be certified as a Grade I Laboratory Analyst from California Water Environment Association.~~ The Discharger shall develop a written Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) for samples that are analyzed onsite. The QAP shall at a minimum address the following steps:

1. Provide a description of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs);
2. Provide an overview of the task description and objectives;
3. Identify the sampling process, method and handling;
4. Identify the instrumentation/equipment testing, inspection and maintenance;
5. Identify the instrumentation/equipment calibration and frequency;
6. Identify the sample analysis methods and calibration range; and
7. Summarize the data review and validation procedures.

I, Robert E. Perdue, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the following is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on March 17, 2011.


ROBERT E. PERDUE, Executive Officer

ATTACHMENT A – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board) is considering the amendment of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) that will serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for City of Imperial's Wastewater Treatment Plant. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Regional Water Board staff has developed tentative WDRs. The Regional Water Board encourages public participation in the WDR adoption process.

A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Notification was published in the following newspaper: Imperial Valley Press. In addition, copies of the proposed permit were sent to interested agencies and persons.

B. Written Comments

The Regional Water Board staff's determinations are tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this tentative Special Board Order. Comments should be submitted either in person or by mail to the Executive Officer at the Regional Water Board at the address above on the cover page of this Order.

Comments made in reference to the Tentative Special Board Order should be directed to:

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

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Regional Water Board, written comments should be received at the Regional Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on March 4, 2011.

C. Public Hearing

The Regional Water Board will hold a public hearing on the tentative Special Board Order during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: March 17, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Town of Yucca Valley
Community Center – Yucca Room
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will take testimony pertinent to the discharge and tentative Special Board Order. For accuracy of the record, however, a written copy of the proposed oral testimony to be given should be provided prior to or at the hearing.

Please be aware that dates and venues of the Regional Water Board's public meeting and hearing may change. The latest information concerning any scheduling changes can be found at the Regional Water Board's website: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/>.

If you are disabled and require special accommodations to participate in this public meeting and hearing, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled event.

D. Waste Discharge Requirements Petitions

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and the California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality

or will be provided upon request.

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

E. Information and Copying

Information related to the discharge facility and this proposed amendment, including any comments received on the proposed amendment, are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Regional Water Board by calling (760) 346-7491.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding this tentative Special Board Order should contact the Regional Water Board, reference this facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this draft Special Board Order should be directed to John Carmona, Senior Water Resources Control Engineer, at (760) 340-4521.