

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 79-84

NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0005614

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

MRI CORPORATION  
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO  
SAN MATEO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, (hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. MRI Corporation, hereinafter called the discharger, by application dated April 2, 1979, has applied for renewal of waste discharge requirements and a permit to discharge wastes under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.
2. The discharger currently discharges wastes containing pollutants into a drainage ditch which flows along the south side of the plant and feeds into Colma Creek a water of the United States at a point approximately one mile upstream from Colma Creek's confluence with San Francisco Bay.

The following wastes are discharged:

- 001 - An intermittent discharge emanating from an industrial waste storage pond and containing tin, aluminum, and other pollutants. This waste when discharged flows to the drainage ditch at a point approximately eight hundred feet easterly of its intersection with Harbor Way.
  - 002 - Approximately 22,000 gpd of once through cooling water, and during periods of wet weather includes an indeterminate amount of polluted surface stormwater and roof drains runoff. This waste is discharged to the drainage ditch at a point approximately three hundred feet easterly of discharge 001.
  - 003 - All other stormwater runoff not included in waste 002. This waste is discharged at various locations around the perimeter of the plant.
3. The discharger is presently governed by Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. 74-104 which allows discharge to San Francisco Bay.
  4. On May 15, 1979, the Regional Board adopted Cease and Desist Order No. 79-58 for MRI Corporation for violations of waste discharge requirements. The Order includes a compliance time schedule. The Cease and Desist Order is still in effect.

5. A Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin was adopted by the Board on April 8, 1975. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives for San Francisco Bay.
6. The beneficial uses of San Francisco Bay and contiguous waters are:
  - a. Recreation
  - b. Fish migration and habitat
  - c. Habitat and resting for waterfowl and migratory birds
  - d. Industrial water supply
  - e. Esthetic enjoyment
  - f. Navigation
7. The reissuance of waste discharge requirements for this discharge is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21000) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code in accordance with Water Code Section 13389.
8. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to revise waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
9. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that MRI Corporation in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder and the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder shall comply with the following:

A. Effluent Limitations

1. The discharge of waste 002, except when it contains stormwater runoff, in excess of the following limits is prohibited:

a. <u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>	<u>Maximum Daily</u>
Oil and Grease	mg/l	10	15
	lbs/day	1.8	2.8
	kg/day	0.8	1.3
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	30	45
	lbs/day	5.5	8.3
	kg/day	2.5	3.8
Settleable Matter	ml/l-hr	0.1	0.5
Tin	mg/l	1.0	2.0
	lbs/day	0.2	3.7
	kg/day	0.1	1.7

Lead	mg/l	1.0	2.0
	lbs/day	0.2	3.7
	kg/day	0.1	1.7
Turbidity	JTU	75	100
Temperature	°F		95

b. TOXICITY: The survival of test fishes in 96-hour bioassays of the effluent shall achieve a median of 90% survival for three consecutive samples and a 90 percentile value of not less than 70% survival for 10 consecutive samples.

c. The discharge shall not have pH of less than 6.5 nor greater than 8.5.

2. The discharge of wastes 003 and 002 during the periods of storm-water runoff, in excess of the following limits is prohibited:

a. <u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>	<u>Maximum Daily</u>
Tin	mg/l	1.0	2.0
	lbs/day	0.2	3.7
	kg/day	0.1	1.7
Lead	mg/l	1.0	2.0
	lbs/day	0.2	3.7
	kg/day	0.1	1.7
Iron (dissolved)	mg/l		5.0
	lbs/day		0.9
	kg/day		0.4
Cyanide	mg/l		0.5
	lbs/day		0.1
	kg/day		0.04

b. TOXICITY: The survival of test fishes in 96-hour bioassays of the effluent shall achieve a median of 90% survival for three consecutive samples and a 90 percentile value of not less than 70% survival for 10 consecutive samples.

c. The discharge shall not have pH of less than 6.5 nor greater than 8.5.

B. Receiving Water Limitations

1. The discharge of waste shall not cause the following conditions to exist in waters of the State at any place.

a. Floating, suspended, or deposited macroscopic particulate matter or foam;

b. Bottom deposits or aquatic growths;

- c. Alteration of temperature, turbidity, or apparent color beyond present natural background levels;
  - d. Visible, floating, suspended, or deposited oil or other products of petroleum origin;
  - e. Toxic or other deleterious substances to be present in concentrations or quantities which will cause deleterious effects on aquatic biota, wildlife, or waterfowl, or which render any of these unfit for human consumption either at levels created in the receiving waters or as a result of biological concentration.
2. The discharge of waste shall not cause the following limits to be exceeded in waters of the State in any place within one foot of the water surface:
- a. Dissolved oxygen      5.0 mg/l minimum. Annual median - 80% saturation. When natural factors cause lesser concentration(s) than those specified above, then this discharge shall not cause further reduction in the concentration of dissolved oxygen.
  - b. Dissolved sulfide      0.1 mg/l maximum.
  - c. pH                              Variation from natural ambient pH by more than 0.2 pH units.
3. The discharge shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Board or the State Water Resources Control Board as required by the Federal Water Pollution Control 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 Board will revise and modify this Order in accordance with such more stringent standards.

C. Land Waste Disposal Specifications

- 1. The discharge of wastes from the waste storage ponds to surface waters or ground waters of the State is prohibited.
- 2. All waste storage ponds and approved waste storage areas shall be adequately protected from flooding. Adequate protection is defined as protection from a flood having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years and from the maximum high tide of record.
- 3. All waste materials and any water that has contacted waste materials shall be contained in the waste storage ponds stormwater containment facilities or in areas approved by the Executive Officer.
- 4. The discharger shall maintain a minimum freeboard of two feet in waste storage ponds at all times.

D. Discharge Prohibitions

1. Discharge of waste 001 is prohibited.
2. Leakages from sanitary sewer and process lines to waste discharge 002 is prohibited.
3. Leakages from waste storage ponds to waste discharge 003 is prohibited.

E. Provisions

1. This Order does not revoke Order No. 74-104. Order No. 74-104 shall remain in full force and effect until Cease and Desist Order No. 79-58 is rescinded.
2. The management of hazardous waste as it pertains to water quality by MRI Corporation shall be in compliance with Chapter 2, Title 22, Division 4, of the California Administrative Code and Chapter 6.5, Division 20, of the Health and Safety Code.
3. The discharger shall comply with all effluent and receiving water limitations, prohibitions, and provisions of this Order immediately upon adoption.
4. The discharger shall comply with the attached Self-Monitoring and Reporting Program as ordered by the Executive Officer.
5. The discharger shall comply with all items of the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements," dated April 1977, except A.5., A.12, and B.5. Section B.4 of the Reporting Requirements shall not require the filing of a report of "material change" for changes in the treatment and disposal system approved prior to the date of this Order.
6. This Order expires August 1, 1984. The discharger must file a report of waste discharge in accordance with Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 9 of the California Administrative Code, not later than 180 days in advance of such expiration date as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements.
7. This Order shall serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit pursuant to Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or amendments thereto, and shall become effective ten (10) days after date of its adoption provided the Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency has no objection. If the Regional Administrator objects to its issuance, the permit shall not become effective until such objection is withdrawn.

I, Fred H. Dierker, 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, San Francisco Bay Region, on July 17, 1979.

Attachments:

Standard Provisions & Reporting  
Requirements - April 1977  
Self-Monitoring Program

FRED H. DIERKER  
Executive Officer

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM  
FOR

MRI CORPORATION

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SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

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SAN MATEO COUNTY

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NPDES NO. CA 0005614

ORDER NO. 79-84

CONSISTS OF

PART A

AND

PART B

PART B

I. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING STATIONS

A. EFFLUENT

<u>Station</u>	<u>Description</u>
E-002	At any point in the outfall containing "waste 002" between the point of discharge and the point at which all waste tributary to that outfall is present.
E-003-1 thru E-003-'n'	At any point in each discharge of stormwater off of the discharger's property, other than E-002, between the point of discharge and the point at which all tributary to that discharge is present.

B. RECEIVING WATER

<u>Station</u>	<u>Description</u>
C-1	At a point in the drainage ditch, located at the point of discharge of "waste 001."
C-2	At a point in the drainage ditch, located at the point of discharge of "waste 002."
C-3-1 thru C-3-'n'	At a point in the drainage ditch, located at the point of discharge of "waste 003."

C. LAND OBSERVATION

<u>Station</u>	<u>Description</u>
L-1 thru L-'n'	Located along the perimeter levee of each pond at equidistant intervals not to exceed fifty feet. (A sketch showing the locations of these stations shall accompany each report.)

II. SCHEDULE OF SAMPLING, MEASUREMENTS, AND ANALYSES

The schedule of sampling, measurements and analyses is given in Table I.

I, Fred H. Dierker, Executive Officer, hereby certify that the foregoing Self-Monitoring Program:

1. Has been developed in accordance with the procedure set forth in this Regional Board's Resolution No. 73-16 in order to obtain data and document compliance with waste discharge requirements established in Regional Board Order No. 79-84.
2. Does not include the following paragraphs of Part A:  

C-3; 4; 5:b,c,e; D-1; E-2:b; 4
3. Is effective on the date shown below.
4. May be reviewed at any time subsequent to the effective date upon written notice from the Executive Officer or request from the discharger, and revisions will be ordered by the Executive Officer.

FRED H. DIERKER  
Executive Officer

Attachment:  
Table I

Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

TABLE I  
 SCHEDULE FOR SAMPLING, MEASUREMENTS, AND ANALYSES  
 NPDES NO. CA0005614  
 ORDER NO. 79-84

SAMPLING STATIONS	E002 (Dry Weather)		E002 (Wet Weather)		E003		All C	G-1	All L
	C-24	G	G		C-24	G	G	G	G
TYPE OF SAMPLES	C-24	G	G		C-24	G	G	G	G
Flow Rate gals/day	M								
Oil & Grease mg/l		M							
Toxicity, % Survival in (undiluted) Waste as discharged		M							
Standard Observations		M	P*		2/M		P*		M
Total Suspended Solids mg/l	M								
Settleable Solids ml/l-hr		M							
Tin mg/l	3M					M*			
Lead mg/l	3M		P*			M*			
Iron mg/l	3M					M*			
Cyanide mg/l	3M					M*			
pH	W		P*		P*				
Temperature °F		M							
Turbidity JTU		M							

LEGEND FOR TABLE

- 3M = once every three months
- C-24 = 24 hr. composite
- G = grab sample
- M = once each month
- 2/M = twice each month
- W = weekly
- M\* = once every month during rain storms when discharge occurs.
- P\* = During rainstorms within the first hour of discharge.  
 A minimum of 3 grab samples per day taken at equal time interval.