

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 91-154

AMENDMENT OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS, ORDER NO. 89-101

NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0037664

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
SOUTHEAST WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT

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

1. The City and County of San Francisco (hereinafter the City) owns and operates the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant. The plant treats sewage from the eastern two-thirds of the city, discharging it to San Francisco Bay via a deep water outfall at Pier 80 (Army Street terminal). During wet weather periods, effluent flows in excess of 110 mgd are discharged to Islais Creek via a near shore outfall at Quint Street. Such discharges occur, on average, 600 hours per year and do not receive 10:1 initial dilution.
2. On June 20, 1984, the Board issued waste discharge requirements for the Southeast plant in Order No. 84-027 (NPDES permit CA0037664). On the same date, the Board adopted Order No. 84-029, requiring the City to cease and desist from discharging waste contrary to the requirements in Order No. 84-027. Specifically, the City was violating the prohibition against discharge of waste with less than 10:1 initial dilution.
3. On June 15, 1988, the Board adopted Order No. 88-105, revising certain compliance dates set forth in the earlier cease and desist order (Order No. 84-029). On June 21, 1989, the Board reissued the Southeast plant's NPDES permit in Order No. 89-101.
4. The Quint Street outfall will continue to discharge effluent to Islais Creek for at least another five years. In February 1990, the City requested a delay in selecting an alternative that would provide 10:1 initial dilution. On October 16, 1991, the Board adopted Order No. 91-153, amending Cease and Desist Order No. 88-105, giving the City until November 1994 to select an alternative. The most likely alternatives - new Bay outfall or cross-town transport - will take several years to design and construct.

5. Order No. 89-101, the current NPDES permit, distinguishes between discharges to the deepwater outfall and to Islais Creek but does not apply a shallow-water effluent limit for acute toxicity to the Quint Street discharge. The Board's 1986 Basin Plan establishes a more stringent effluent limit for acute toxicity for discharges receiving less than 10:1 initial dilution. Given that the Quint Street discharge will continue for several more years, the NPDES permit should be amended to apply the shallow-water effluent limit.
6. This action to amend an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code (CEQA) pursuant to Section 13389 of the California Water Code.
7. The discharger and interested persons have been notified of the Board's intent to amend waste discharge requirements for the existing discharge, and have been provided with the opportunity for a public hearing and the opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
8. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

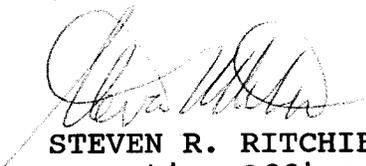
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder and the provisions of the Clean Water Act as amended and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, Order No. 89-101 is amended as follows:

- A. Effluent limitation B.5 (acute toxicity) shall be revised to read:

For Waste 001, the survival of test organisms acceptable to the Executive Officer in 96-hour bioassays shall achieve a 90th percentile value of not less than 50% survival based on the ten most recent consecutive samples. For Waste 002, the survival of test organisms acceptable to the Executive Officer in 96-hour bioassays shall achieve not less than 70% survival (any single sample).¹

- (1) This limit shall apply to any 96-hour bioassay during which time effluent was discharged to Islais Creek for at least 2 hours.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, 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 October 16, 1991.



STEVEN R. RITCHIE
Executive Officer