

State of California
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

March 14, 2014

STAFF REPORT

ITEM: 09

SUBJECT: Amendment of Waste Discharge Requirements for Treatment and Beneficial Reuse of Wastewater from the Surface Impoundments at the Access Business Group, LLC, Nutrilite Facility, Order No. R8-2014-0014

DISCUSSION:

The Access Business Group, LLC (hereinafter discharger) owns and operates two surface impoundments at its Nutrilite facility located at 19600 Sixth Street in the Lakeview area of Riverside County. The discharge of wastewater into the surface impoundments is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), Order No. R8-2004-0017.

On February 3, 2014, the discharger submitted a clean closure workplan for the surface impoundments. The closure plan indicates that the site is scheduled for closure in summer of 2015. As part of the closure, the discharger is proposing to treat the wastewater within the surface impoundments and reuse the treated wastewater for irrigation of the alfalfa fields located within the property boundaries. The existing WDRs (Order No. R8-2004-0017) do not contain provisions for these additional activities and therefore, the existing WDRs are being amended by Order No. R8-2014-0014 to prescribe effluent limits for the treated wastewater that would be used at the alfalfa fields.

The facility overlies the Lakeview/Hemet North Groundwater Management Zone (GMZ). The Basin Plan prescribes water quality objectives for the Lakeview/Hemet North GMZ for total dissolved solids at 520 mg/l and for nitrate (as nitrogen) at 1.8 mg/l. Since the treated wastewater is being used for irrigation of alfalfa fields, and the nitrate will be utilized by the plants, an effluent limit for nitrate is not necessary. The Lakeview/Hemet GMZ lacks assimilative capacity for TDS; therefore the concentration of TDS in the treated wastewater should meet the Basin Plan objective for TDS of 520 mg/l.

The requirements stipulated in this order implement the Basin Plan and are expected to be protective of water quality in the Region.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Order No: R8-2014-0014 as presented.

Comments were solicited from the following agencies and/or persons:

Leslie Graves, SWRCB, Division of Clean Water Programs (lgraves@waterboards.ca.gov)
Ed Pert, State Department of Fish and Wildlife (epert@dfg.ca.gov)
Eileen Sheehan, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 (sheehan.eileen@epa.gov)
Dianne Ohiosumua, CalRecycle (Dianne.Ohiosumua@CalRecycle.ca.gov)
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Pat Boldt, Western Riverside County Agricultural Coalition (mpboldt@aol.com)
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SANTA ANA REGION

ORDER NO. R8-2014-0014

AMENDMENT TO WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR TREATMENT AND BENEFICIAL REUSE OF WASTEWATER
FROM ACCESS BUSINESS GROUP, LLC
NUTRILITE FACILITY SURFACE IMPOUNDMENTS
LAKEVIEW, RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Tentative

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter Regional Board) finds that:

1. The Access Business Group, LLC (hereinafter discharger) owns and operates two lined surface impoundments (SIs) used for disposal of mixed liquid wastes at its Nutrilite facility located at 19600 Sixth Street in the Lakeview area of Riverside County. The facility is approximately 600 acres in size (including farmland) and is located at latitude 33°50'9.17" and longitude 117°06'22.91", in portions of Section 8, Township 4S, Range 2W, San Bernardino Baseline & Meridian.
2. Regulations governing SIs are included in the California Code of Regulations, Title 27, Division 2, Subdivision 1, and Consolidated Regulations for Treatment, Storage, Processing, or Disposal of Wastes (Title 27).
3. Pursuant to Title 27, §20950 and §21400, when SIs are no longer in use, they are required to be either clean closed or closed as a landfill in accordance with Title 27, §21090. On February 3, 2014, the discharger submitted a clean closure workplan for its SIs, with offsite disposal of accumulated wastes.
4. The SIs at Nutrilite facility are designated as ponds 1 and 2. Pond 1 is approximately 2.5 acres with a total capacity of 8 million gallons while pond 2 is approximately 5 acres with a total capacity of 32 million gallons.
5. On June 4, 2004, Regional Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R8-2004-0017, to regulate the discharge of process wastewater generated at the site to the lined surface impoundments (ponds 1 and 2). The Order includes discharge specifications, provisions, and monitoring and reporting requirements.
6. Order No. R8-2004-0017 requires groundwater monitoring on a quarterly basis. The results are then statistically analyzed to determine any contaminant release from the SIs to groundwater. A review of the groundwater monitoring results for the site indicates no impacts on groundwater beneath the site by the operation of the two ponds.
7. The discharger has indicated that the facility is scheduled for closure in the summer of 2015. As part of the facility closure, the discharger is proposing to treat the wastewater within the ponds and reuse the treated wastewater for irrigation on the alfalfa fields within the property boundaries. The existing WDRs do not include requirements for the treatment and disposal of wastewater contained in the ponds. This Order amends Order No. R8-2004-0017 to

prescribe requirements for the reuse of treated wastewater from the ponds for irrigation of the alfalfa fields within the Nutrilite property boundaries.

8. **Beneficial Uses** - The Nutrilite facility is located within the Lakeview/Hemet North Groundwater Management Zone (GMZ) and has the following beneficial uses:
 - a. Municipal and Domestic Supply,
 - b. Agricultural Supply,
 - c. Industrial Service Supply, and
 - d. Industrial Process Supply.
9. **Effluent Limits** -The Basin Plan includes water quality objectives for the Lakeview/Hemet North GMZ for total dissolved solids (TDS) of 520 mg/l and a nitrate (as nitrogen) of 1.8 mg/l. Since the treated wastewater will be used for irrigation of alfalfa, nitrate is expected to be taken up by the alfalfa crop. As such, no effluent limits are included for nitrate. The Lakeview/Hemet GMZ lacks assimilative capacity for TDS; therefore the TDS objective of 520 mg/l is specified as the effluent limit for this constituent.
10. **Treatment System Design** – The treatment system is designed to draw wastewater from ponds 1 and 2 through a 6-inch double contained pipe. Before the wastewater enters the treatment system, a descaling agent is added to facilitate solids settlement. The wastewater is then routed through a series of filters, including granular activated carbon filters, to remove solids and organic contaminants. The effluent from the filters is then routed through a reverse osmosis (RO) unit to reduce the TDS levels to acceptable levels for discharge to the alfalfa fields. The RO unit produces a small volume of brine waste. This waste stream will be stored in pond 1 for further treatment through the system and proper offsite disposal. Ultimately, the brine waste will be discharged to the Santa Ana Regional Interceptor (SARI) line and any solids will be disposed of at landfills. A diagram of the treatment system is included as Exhibit 1, which is hereby made a part of this Order.
11. This amendment pertains to the beneficial use of treated water at an existing facility and is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, §15301.
12. The Regional Board has notified interested agencies, the discharger, and all currently known interested parties of its intent to adopt amended waste discharge requirements for the Nutrilite facility.
13. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the adoption of the amended waste discharge requirements for this site.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. R8-2004-0017 be amended as follows:

1. Order No. R8-2004-0017, Section A, Waste Discharge Specifications, shall be amended to include the following requirements after Section A.4:
 5. The discharge of treated wastewater to the agricultural fields shall not cause or threaten to cause a nuisance or pollution as defined in §13050 of the California Water Code.

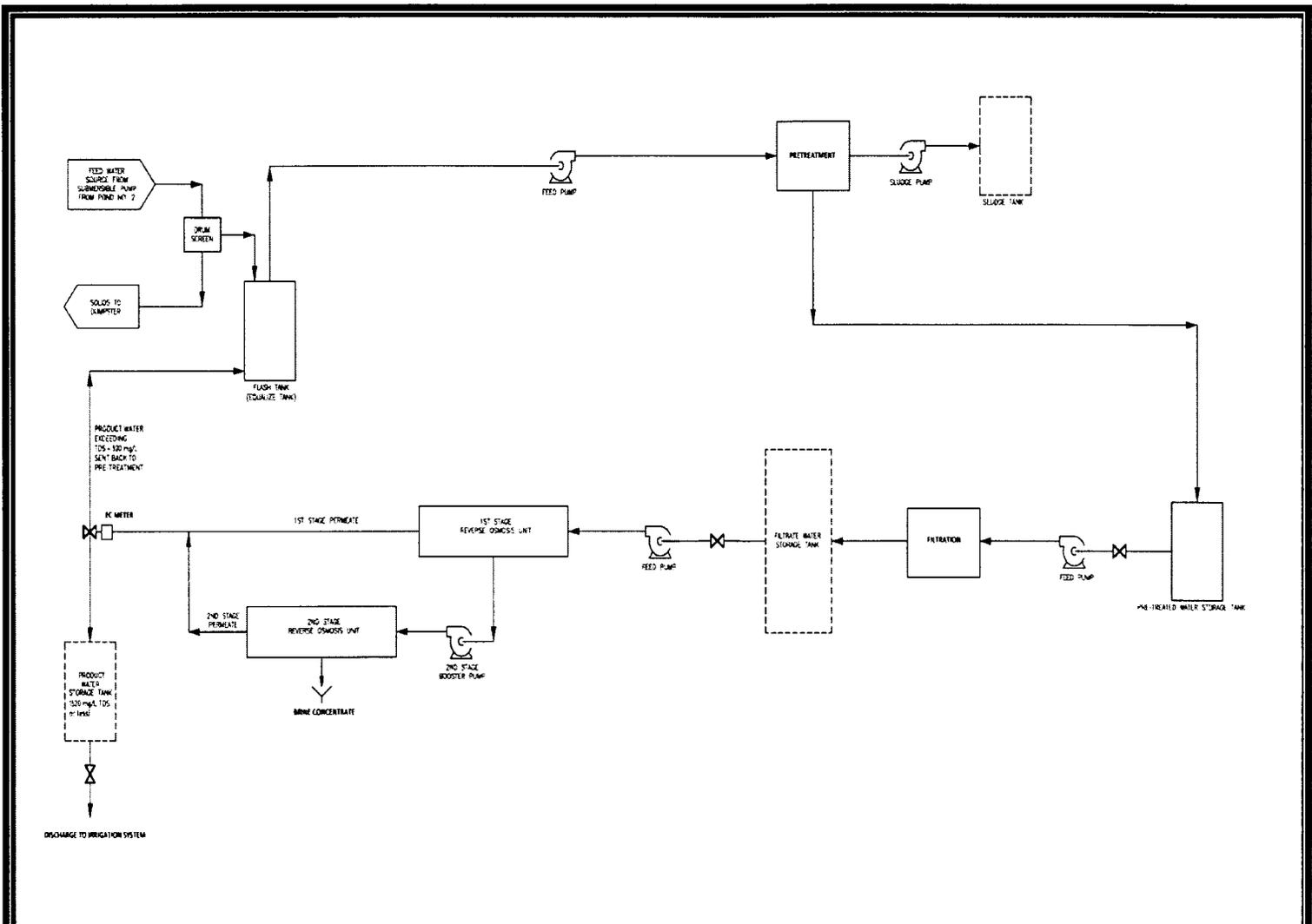
6. The average monthly (flow-weighted average) total dissolved solids concentration in the treated effluent shall not exceed 520 mg/L.
 7. All wastes generated during the treatment of wastewater contained in ponds 1 and 2 and any wastes remaining in the ponds shall be properly disposed of.
2. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R8-2004-0017 shall be amended to add the following after Section C.4:

5. Treated Water Effluent Monitoring: The effluent from the reverse osmosis system that is used for irrigation shall be analyzed for total dissolved solids on the first day of start of irrigation and on a weekly basis thereafter. The monitoring results, including the flow and flow-weighted average monthly total dissolved solids concentration, shall be reported with the quarterly reports required under Section D of the Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R8-2004-0017.

All other terms and conditions of Order No. R8-2004-0017 shall remain unchanged.

I, Kurt V. Berchtold, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on March 14, 2014.

Kurt V. Berchtold
Executive Officer



Proj: 10088.005	Eng/Geot: TC
Scale: NTS	Date: 2/4/2014
Reference:	

PROCESS DIAGRAM
 Proposed Water Filtration & Treatment System
 Nutrilite Plant, Lakeview, California

FIGURE 2



Leighton

EXHIBIT 1