CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. 95-200

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR CITY OF DINUBA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY TULARE COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Board) finds that:

- Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 82-113, adopted by the Board on 24 September 1982, prescribes requirements for a discharge of 3.0 million gallons per day of domestic waste from a wastewater treatment facility owned and operated by the City of Dinuba (hereafter Discharger). Order No. 82-113 describes the treatment facility as consisting of headworks, a trickling filter, primary and secondary clarifiers, primary and secondary sludge digesters, and aeration ponds, with final disposal to eleven acres of evaporation/percolation ponds and spray irrigation of fields.
- 2. The current treatment and disposal system consists of a headworks, primary and secondary clarifiers, a trickling filter, primary and secondary sludge digesters, three polishing ponds, sludge beds, and 48.8 acres of evaporation/percolation ponds. Wastewater is also reclaimed by irrigating crops such as alfalfa and oats on 20 acres of adjacent city-owned land. The Discharger proposes to construct three additional evaporation/percolation ponds on another 25 acres of adjacent city-owned land. The proposed expansion project is scheduled for completion by September 1995.
- 3. Since 1991, the treatment facility has experienced excessive grease loading from local industrial food processing facilities which discharge wastewater to the sewage system. The excessive grease loading has consistently upset the biological treatment process and has caused sealing of the evaporation/percolation ponds. The Discharger attempted to correct the disposal problem by increasing disposal area and ripping pond bottoms. In 1994, the Discharger began requiring food processing industries discharging to the sewage system to implement a pretreatment program. The pretreatment program has been effective in decreasing grease and organic matter in the waste stream and has significantly decreased the likelihood of biological upsets at the treatment facility.
- 4. On 16 December 1992, the Discharger submitted its *Wastewater Reclamation Facilities Plan*, as prepared by John Corollo Engineers. In the plan, Corollo evaluated the performance of the wastewater reclamation facility, determined requirements to bring the facility into compliance with waste discharge requirements, and included recommendations for expanding treatment and disposal capacity needs to the year 2010. The plan evaluated the possible reclamation opportunities of treated effluent on adjacent agricultural land. Crops grown in the area are predominantly vineyards and orchards. Because water in the area is relatively cheap and of good

quality, the farmers are reluctant to use lower quality reclaimed water on such salt sensitive crops. The plan recommended that Dinuba continue to pursue supplying water to neighboring farmers, but not to depend on reclamation as the primary means of wastewater disposal.

- 5. On 4 May 1993, staff inspected the facility and discovered that the Discharger was constructing a wastewater disposal pond within the boundaries of a closed City of Dinuba Solid Waste Disposal Site (SWDS). In addition, wastewater was being discharged to the surface of the SWDS. On 18 August 1993, the Executive Officer issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 93-707, which required the Discharger to cease discharging wastewater to the SWDS and to relocate the wastewater disposal pond away from the SWDS. The Discharger ceased discharge to the SWDS, completed work to relocate the disposal pond away from the SWDS, and removed unearthed debris from the site. The effects of the disposal of wastewater to the surface of the SWDS are being assessed as a separate matter.
- 6. Order No. 82-113 is neither adequate to describe this facility nor consistent with current plans and policies of the Board.
- 7. The current thirty-day average daily wastewater flow is about 1.6 mgd. The maximum daily wastewater flow to the facility is 3.0 million gallons.
- 8. The facility is in Section 13, T16S, R23E, MDB&M, as shown on Attachment A, a part of this Order. Surface water drainage is to Sand Ridge Ditch and the Kennedy Wasteway Aqueduct, as shown on Attachment B, a part of this Order. Sand Ridge Ditch and the Kennedy Wasteway Aqueduct are part of the water delivery system of the Alta Irrigation District with operational spills to Cross Creek. Cross Creek is a Valley Floor Water.
- 9. The site lies within the Alta Hydrologic Area (No. 551.60) in the South Valley Floor Hydrologic Unit, as defined on interagency hydrologic maps prepared by the Department of Water Resources in August 1986.
- 10. The Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (hereafter Basin Plan) which contains water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin. These requirements implement the Basin Plan.
- 11. The designated beneficial uses of Valley Floor Waters are agricultural and industrial supply, water contact and non-contact water recreation; warm fresh water habitat, wildlife habitat, preservation of rare and endangered species, and ground water recharge.
- 12. Soils in the area are predominately Delhi loamy sand with high permeability characteristics. Average annual precipitation and pan evaporation at this facility are 11 and 60 inches, respectively.

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13. Ground water is first encountered in an unconfined state at depths of 53 to 62 feet beneath the ground surface and is generally of good quality (EC about 345 to 500 μmhos/cm). The beneficial uses of underlying ground water are municipal and domestic, industrial, and agricultural supply.

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- 14. The action to update waste discharge requirements for this existing facility is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15301.
- 15. The California Department of Health Services has established statewide reclamation criteria in Title 22, CCR, Section 60301, et seq. (hereafter Title 22) for the use of reclaimed water and has developed guidelines for specific uses.
- 16. The Board consulted with the Department of Health Services, County Health Department, and Mosquito Abatement District and considered their recommendations regarding public health aspects for use of reclaimed water.
- 17. The Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
- 18. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 82-113 is rescinded and the City of Dinuba, its agents, successors and assigns, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Prohibitions:

- 1. Discharge of waste to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
- 2. Bypass or overflow of untreated or partially treated domestic wastewater is prohibited.
- 3. Discharge of waste classified as 'hazardous' or 'designated', as defined in Sections 2521(a) and 2522(a) of Title 23, CCR, Section 2510, et seq. (hereafter Chapter 15) is prohibited.
- 4. Discharge of wastewater from the wastewater treatment facility to the landfill, or adjacent to the landfill such that it increases moisture in fill material, is prohibited.

B. Discharge Specifications:

1. The monthly average dry weather discharge flow shall not exceed 3.0 million gallons per day. (See Provision No. 4)

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- 2. Objectionable odors originating at this facility shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the Discharger's property.
- 3. As a means of discerning compliance with Discharge Specification B.2, the dissolved oxygen content in the upper zone (1 foot) of wastewater in the disposal ponds shall not be less than 1.0 mg/l.
- 4. The treatment and disposal facilities shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.
- 5. The effluent from the treatment facility shall not exceed the following limits:

Constituent	<u>Units</u>	Monthly <u>Average</u>	Daily <u>Maximum</u>
BOD ¹	mg/l	40	80
Settleable Solids	ml/l	0.2	0.5

¹ Five-day, 20° Celsius biochemical oxygen demand.

- 6. The maximum electrical conductivity (EC) of the discharge shall not exceed the average EC of the source water plus 500 μmhos/cm.
- 7. The effluent in the disposal ponds shall not have a pH less than 6.5 or greater than 8.5.
- 8. Pond cells shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitos. In particular:
 - a. An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
 - b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, or herbicides.

c. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.

9. Public contact with wastewater shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, or other acceptable alternatives.

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- 10. The ponds shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow and design seasonal precipitation and ancillary inflow and infiltration. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns. Freeboard shall never be less than two feet (measured vertically) or a lesser freeboard if certified by a registered civil engineer as adequate to prevent overtopping, overflows, or levee failures.
- 11. On **1 October of each year**, available pond storage capacity shall at least equal the volume necessary to comply with Discharge Specification B.10.
- C. Reclamation Specifications:

Setback Distance (feet)

- 1. Use of reclaimed water shall be limited to flood or furrow irrigation of orchards and vineyards, and irrigation of pasture, fodder, fiber, and seed crops.
- 2. Public contact with reclaimed water shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, and irrigation management practices.
- 3. Reclaimed water for irrigation shall be managed to minimize erosion, runoff, and movement of aerosols from the disposal area.
- 4. The Discharger shall maintain the following setback distances from areas irrigated with reclaimed water:

15Property line adjacent to existing reclamation area and
land zoned agriculture25All other property lines30Public roads50Drainage courses100Irrigation wells150Domestic wells

To

5. The Discharger may not irrigate with effluent during rainfall when the ground is saturated.

6. Stormwater runoff from irrigated fields shall not be discharged to any surface water drainage course within 30 days of the last application of reclaimed water.

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- 7. Areas irrigated with reclaimed water shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitos. More specifically:
 - a. Tail water must be returned and all applied irrigation water must infiltrate completely within a 48-hour period.
 - b. Ditches not serving as wildlife habitat should be maintained free of emergent, marginal, and floating vegetation.
 - c. Low-pressure and unpressurized pipelines and ditches accessible to mosquitos shall not be used to store reclaimed water.
- 8. Signs with proper wording of sufficient size shall be placed at areas of access and around the perimeter of all areas used for effluent disposal to alert the public of the use of reclaimed water.
- 9. No physical connection shall exist between reclaimed water piping and any domestic water supply well, or between reclaimed water piping and any irrigation well that does not have an air gap or reduced pressure principle device.
- 10. Application of reclaimed wastewater to the reclamation area shall be at reasonable rates considering the crop, soil, climate, and irrigation management system. The nutrient loading of the reclamation area, including the nutritive value of organic and chemical fertilizers and of the reclaimed water, shall not exceed the crop demand.

D. Solids Disposal Specifications:

- 1. Collected screenings, sludges, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner that is consistent with Chapter 15 and approved by the Executive Officer.
- 2. Any proposed change in solids use or disposal practice shall be reported to the Executive Officer at least 90 days in advance of the change.
- 3. Use and disposal of sewage sludge shall comply with existing federal and state laws and regulations, including permitting requirements and technical standards included in 40 CFR 503.

If the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards implement regulations contained in 40 CFR 503, this Order may be reopened to incorporate appropriate time schedules and technical standards. The Discharger must comply with the standards and time schedules contained in 40 CFR 503 whether or not they have been incorporated into this Order.

E. Ground Water Limitations:

The discharge, in combination with other sources, shall not cause underlying ground water to:

- 1. Contain waste constituents in concentrations statistically greater than receiving water limits, where specified below, or background water quality where not specified. (For purposes of comparison, background water quality shall be determined when background monitoring provides sufficient data. Quality determined in this manner establishes "water quality protection standards.")
- Exceed an annual average incremental increase in specific electrical conductivity greater than 4 μmhos/cm, based on the most recent five-year period, or a maximum of 900 μmhos/cm, whichever is less.
- 3. Contain chemicals, heavy metals, or trace elements in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or exceed maximum contaminant levels specified in 22 CCR, Division 4, Chapter 15.
- 4. Exceed a most probable number of total coliform organisms of 2.2/100 ml over any sevenday period.
 - 5. Exceed concentrations of radionuclides specified in 22 CCR, Division 4, Chapter 15.
 - 6. Contain taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
 - 7. Contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect agricultural use.

F. Provisions:

1. The Discharger shall comply with all the items of the "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements," dated 1 March 1991, which are part of

this Order. This attachment and its individual paragraphs are referred to as "Standard Provision(s)."

- 2. The Discharger shall comply with attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No.95-200, which is part of this Order, and any revisions thereto, as ordered by the Executive Officer.
- 3. By **31 January 1996**, the Discharger must submit a reclamation management plan to this office for approval by the Executive Officer. For reclamation on properties not included in this Order, a Report of Water Reclamation shall be submitted with the management plan and shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Name and address of Landowner or User utilizing reclaimed water. Exact location of land to be irrigated, including maps showing section, township, and range.
 - b. Type of crops, acreage, total quantity of wastewater to be applied (monthly and annually), application method, and seasonal periods of use.
 - c. Nutrient loading rate from wastewater and amount of chemical fertilizers to be used.
- 4. Until the Board receives certification in writing from a registered civil engineer that the WWTF as designed, constructed, and operated has a treatment and disposal capacity of at least 3.0 mgd, monthly average dry weather flow shall not exceed 2.0 mgd.
- 5. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities described herein, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to this office.

To assume operation under this Order, the succeeding owner or operator must apply in writing to the Executive Officer requesting transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the State of incorporation if a corporation, the name and address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Board, and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory paragraph of Standard Provision B.3 and state that the new owner or operator assumes full responsibility for compliance with this Order. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without requirements, a violation of the California Water Code. Transfer shall be approved or disapproved in writing by the Executive Officer.

6. The Discharger shall use the best practicable cost-effective control technique currently available to comply with salinity limits specified in this order.

- 7. The Discharger must comply with all conditions of this Order, including timely submittal of technical and monitoring reports as directed by the Executive Officer. Violations may result in enforcement action, including Regional Board or court orders requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in revision or rescission of this Order.
- 8. A copy of this Order shall be kept by personnel responsible for operating and maintaining the treatment and disposal facility. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its contents.
- 9. If reclaimed water is used for construction purposes, it shall comply with the most current edition of "Guidelines for Use of Reclaimed Water for Construction Purposes". Other uses of reclaimed water not specifically authorized herein shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Officer and shall comply with 22 CCR, Division 4.
- 10. The Board will review this Order periodically and will revise requirements when necessary.

I, WILLIAM H. CROOKS, 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, Central Valley Region, on 17 August 1995.

WILLIAM H. CROOKS, Executive Officer

JGW:jgw/fmc:8/17/95

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 95-200

FOR

CITY OF DINUBA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY TULARE COUNTY

Specific sample station locations shall be established with concurrence of the Board's staff, and a description of the stations shall be submitted to the Board and attached to this program.

INFLUENT MONITORING

Influent samples shall be collected at the inlet of the headworks and approximately the same time as effluent samples. Influent monitoring shall include at least the following:

Constituent	<u>Units</u>	Type of Sample	Sampling <u>Frequency</u>
Flow	mgd	Continuous	Daily
Settleable Solids	ml/l	Grab	Weekly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	Grab	2/Month
BOD ₅ ¹	mg/l	Grab	2/Month
Oil and Grease	mg/l	Grab	2/Month

¹ Five-day, 20° Celsius biochemical oxygen demand.

EFFLUENT MONITORING

Effluent samples shall be collected just prior to discharge to the disposal ponds. Effluent samples should be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge. Time of collection of a grab sample shall be recorded. The following shall constitute the effluent monitoring program:

Constituent	<u>Units</u>	Type of Sample	Sampling <u>Frequency</u> ¹
pH	pH units	Grab	Weekly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	Grab	2/Month

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency ¹
BODs	mg/l	Grab	Weekly
Settleable Solids	ml/l	Grab	Monthly
Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Specific Electrical Conductivity (EC)@ 25°C	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Oil and Grease	mg/l	Grab	Monthly

¹ If results of monitoring a pollutant appear to violate effluent limitations, but monitoring frequency is not sufficient to validate violation (e.g., the monthly mean for BOD), or indicate a violation and potential upset of the treatment process, the frequency of sampling shall be increased to confirm the magnitude and duration of violation, if any, and aid in identification and resolution of the problem.

POND MONITORING

The freeboard shall be monitored on all evaporation/percolation ponds to the nearest tenth of a foot. Monitoring of the ponds shall include at least the following:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
Dissolved Oxygen ¹	mg/l	Grab	Weekly
Freeboard	feet	Observation	Weekly

¹ Samples shall be collected from each pond opposite of the inlet side at a depth of one foot and analyzed for dissolved oxygen. Samples will be collected between 0800 and 0900 hours.

A permanent marker shall be placed in the pond with calibration indicating the water level at design capacity and available operational freeboard.

In addition, the Discharger shall inspect the condition of the pond once per week and write visual observations in a bound log book. Notations shall include observations of whether weeds are developing in the water or along the bank, and their location; whether dead algae, vegetation, scum, or debris are accumulating on the pond surface and their location; whether burrowing animals or insects are present; and the color of the pond (e.g., dark sparkling green, dull green, yellow, grey, tan, brown, etc.). A copy of the entries made in the log during each month shall be submitted along with the monitoring report the following month. Where the O&M manual indicates remedial action is necessary, the Discharger shall briefly explain in the transmittal what action has been taken or is scheduled to be taken.

GROUND WATER MONITORING

By 15 September 1995, the Discharger shall develop a ground water monitoring network consisting of one or more background monitoring wells and three or more downgradient wells. All well locations and construction features are subject to the prior approval of the Executive Officer and must be sufficient to monitor potential impacts of the disposal operation on the uppermost ground-water aquifer.

Samples shall be taken quarterly from approved background monitoring well(s) for one year and analyzed for the parameters specified below. Data from these analyses shall be reported to the Board by **21 October 1996** for use in determining water quality protection standards.

If subsequent sampling of background monitoring wells indicate significant water quality changes due to seasonal fluctuations or other reasons unrelated to waste disposal activities, the Discharger may request modification of the water quality protection standards.

The downgradient wells shall constitute "points of compliance (POC)". In conjunction with background monitoring, monitoring of POC's will enable one to determine compliance with water quality protection standards. The ground water surface elevation (in feet and hundredths, M.S.L.) in wells shall be measured on a quarterly basis and used to determine the gradient and direction of ground water flow. This information shall be displayed on a water flow net diagram for the site and submitted **20 October** of each year, along with an annual summary report of monitoring activities to the Executive Officer. Water samples shall be collected from wells in the approved monitoring network and analyzed as follows:

Constituent	<u>Units</u>	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
Standard Minerals ¹		Grab	Quarterly ²
Ground water elevation	feet	Observation	Quarterly

¹ Standard mineral analyses shall include calcium, carbonate, chloride, fluoride, iron, magnesium, nitrate, potassium, sodium, sulfate, total dissolved solids, specific electrical conductance, pH, and total phosphorous.

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² Ground water samples shall be taken quarterly from approved background monitoring well(s) for one year and annually thereafter and analyzed for the parameters specified above.

Following each sampling event, the Discharger shall determine whether there is statistically a significant increase over water quality protection standards for each parameter and constituent analyzed. If the Discharger or the Board finds there is a statistically significant increase in indicator parameters or waste constituents over the water quality protection standards at the POC's, the Discharger shall notify the Board, or acknowledge the Boards findings, and submit a technical report within 90 days. The report must contain a plan and time schedule for implementing a corrective action program designed to achieve compliance with water quality protection standards.

WATER SUPPLY MONITORING

A sampling station shall be established where a representative sample of the water supply can be obtained. Water supply monitoring shall include at least the following:

Constituent ¹	Units	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
Standard Minerals		Grab	Annually /

¹ If the source water is from more than one well, the EC shall be reported as a weighted average and include copies of supporting calculations.

SLUDGE MONITORING

When sludge is removed from ponds and treatment units, but prior to disposal, a composite sample shall be analyzed, on a dry weight basis, for Total Solids (%), Nitrogen (total, NH₄-N, and NO₃-N), Total Phosphorous, Total Potassium, Total PCBs, and totals of specific metals (Pb, Zn, Cu, Ni, Cd, and Ag). Analytical results shall be submitted to the Executive Officer. Analysis of soluble concentrations of these specific metals shall also be included. If final disposal is proposed to go to land, a technical report analyzing application rates and procedures relative to Department of Health Services' *Manual of Good Practices for Landspreading of Sewage Sludge* and EPA's *Process Design Manual for Land Application of Municipal Sludges* and Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 2511(f), shall be completed and submitted to the Executive Officer for approval. The report shall be prepared by a California registered civil engineer experienced in wastewater treatment and disposal.

Sampling records shall be retained for a minimum of five years. A log shall be kept of sludge quantities generated and of handling and disposal activities. The frequency of entries is discretionary; however, the log should be complete enough to serve as a basis for part of the annual report.

ANNUAL LAND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

By **30 January** of each year, the Discharger shall submit an annual summary report on the land management operation after the conclusion of the crop season. The report shall discuss total water application over the season; the total wastewater applied; the nutrient loading from wastewater, sludges, and chemical fertilizers; and amount of nutrients removed through harvest of crop. In short, the report shall present a mass balance relative to pollutants of concern and hydraulic loading.

REPORTING

Monitoring results shall be submitted to the Board by the 20th day of the month following sample collection. Quarterly and annual monitoring results, except as noted above for ground water, shall be submitted by the 20th day of the month following the calendar quarter and year.

In reporting the monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, the constituents, and the concentrations are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to illustrate clearly whether the discharge complies with waste discharge requirements, including calculation of all averages, etc.

If the Discharger monitors any pollutant at the locations designated herein more frequently than is required by this Order, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting

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of the values required in the discharge monitoring report form. Such increased frequency shall be indicated on the discharge monitoring report form.

By **31 January of each year**, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer containing the following:

- a. The names, titles, certificate grade (if any) and general responsibilities of persons operating and maintaining the wastewater treatment facility.
- b. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the facility for emergency and routine situations.
- c. A certified statement of when the flow meter and other monitoring instruments and devices were last calibrated, including identification of who did the calibration (Standard Provision C.4).
- d. A statement certifying whether the current operation and maintenance manual, and contingency plan, reflect the treatment and disposal system as currently constructed and operated, and the dates when these documents were last revised and last reviewed for adequacy.
- e. The total quantity of sludge disposed of during the previous year and ultimate disposal site(s).

The Discharger may also be requested to submit an annual report to the Board with both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. Any such request shall be made in writing. The report shall discuss the compliance record. If violations have occurred, the report shall also discuss the corrective actions taken and planned to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

All reports submitted in response to this Order shall comply with the signatory requirements of Standard Provision B.3.

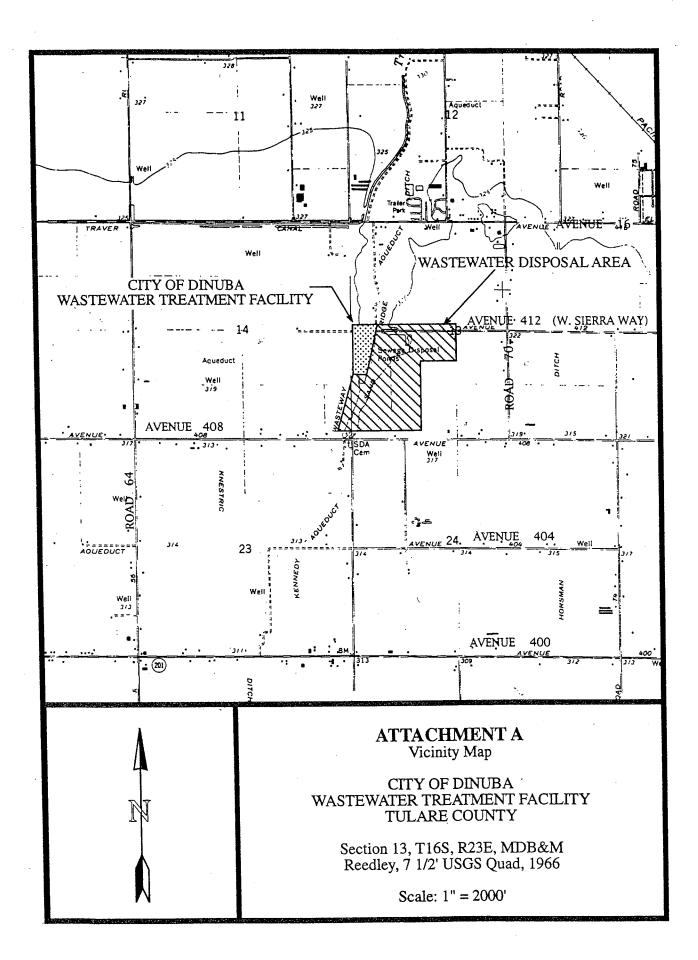
The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring program on the first day of the month following the effective date of this Order.

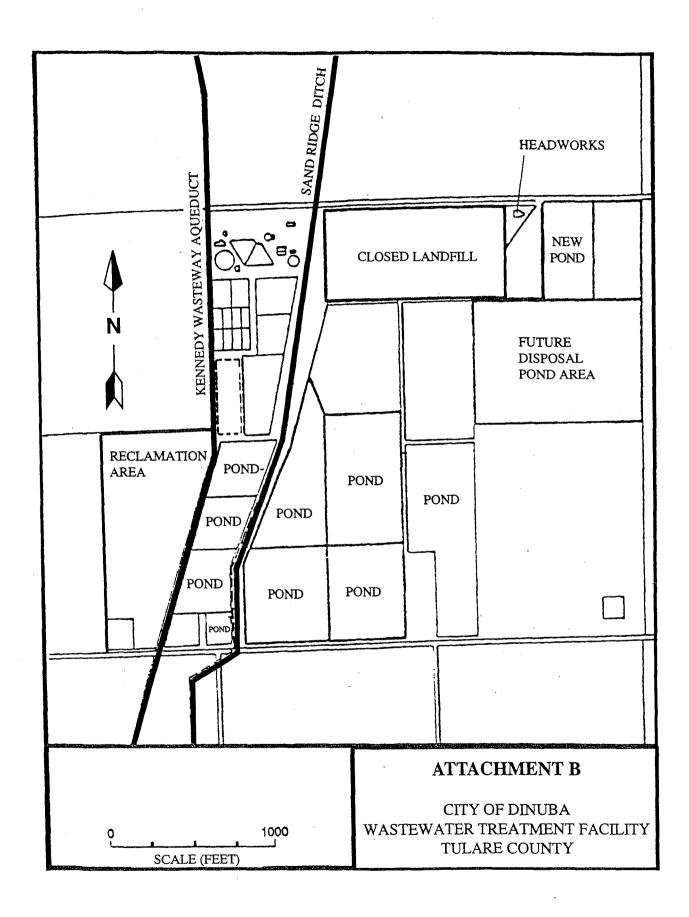
Ordered by:

WILLIAM H. CROOKS, Executive Officer

17 August 1995 (Date)

JGW:jgw/fmc:8/17/95





INFORMATION SHEET

CITY OF DINUBA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY TULARE COUNTY

The City of Dinuba owns and operates a wastewater treatment and disposal facility about two miles west of the city. The wastewater consists primarily of domestic sewage from the community of Dinuba and industrial waste from food processing plants. Excessive grease loadings from industrial food processing waste to the wastewater treatment and disposal facility has caused sealing of disposal ponds at the site. In an effort to maintain disposal capacity at the site, Dinuba has increased the total area for disposal ponds from 11 to 48.8 acres and has implemented a pretreatment program for its industrial dischargers. Dinuba proposes to expand its disposal capacity by constructing three additional disposal ponds on 25 acres of adjacent city-owned land. The expansion project is scheduled for completion in September 1995.

The Discharger submitted a wastewater reclamation plan which evaluated the possible reclamation opportunities of treated effluent on adjacent agricultural land. The adjacent agricultural land consists mostly of vineyards and orchards. Because water in the area is relatively cheap and of good quality, the farmers are reluctant to use lower quality reclaimed water on such salt sensitive crops. The plan recommended that Dinuba continue to pursue supplying water to neighboring farmers, but not to depend on reclamation as the primary means of wastewater disposal.

On 4 May 1993, staff inspected the facility and discovered that Dinuba was constructing a wastewater disposal pond within the boundaries of a closed City of Dinuba Solid Waste Disposal Site (SWDS) and discharging treated wastewater to the surface of the SWDS. On 18 August 1993, the Executive Officer issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 93-707, which required Dinuba to cease discharging wastewater to the SWDS and to relocate the wastewater disposal pond away from the SWDS. Dinuba ceased discharge to the SWDS in May 1993 and completed work in June 1993 that relocated the disposal pond away from the SWDS and removed unearthed debris from the site.

Dinuba has implemented ground water monitoring to assess the effects of past wastewater disposal practices over the SWDS. The assessment is being handled as a separate issue under the Solid Waste Assessment Test (SWAT) program. This Order prohibits any discharge over the solid waste disposal site or discharge to any location which increases moisture in landfilled materials.

Runoff from the topography flows to the Kennedy Wasteway Aqueduct and Sand Ridge Ditch. The Kennedy Wasteway Aqueduct is adjacent to the western property boundary of the site and Sand Ridge Ditch bisects the wastewater treatment plant property. Both are part of the water delivery system of the Alta Irrigation District with operational spills to Cross Creek. Cross Creek is a Valley Floor Water. The designated beneficial uses of Valley Floor Waters are agricultural and industrial supply, water contact and non-contact water recreation; warm fresh water habitat, wildlife habitat, preservation of rare and endangered species, and ground water recharge.

INFORMATION SHEET - Continued

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CITY OF DINUBA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY TULARE COUNTY

Ground water is first encountered in an unconfined state at depths of 53 to 62 feet beneath the ground surface and is generally of good quality (EC about 345 to 500 μ mhos/cm). The beneficial uses of underlying ground water are municipal and domestic, industrial, and agricultural supply.

Soils in the area are predominately Delhi sandy loam with high permeability characteristics. Average annual precipitation and pan evaporation at this facility are 11 and 60 inches, respectively.

This Order contains discharge specifications to limit nuisance conditions and contains reclamation requirements to prevent health hazards. The reclamation requirements specify a setback distance from property lines of 25 feet, but allow a lessor setback of 15 feet for the existing reclamation area from an adjacent property in agricultural production. Dinuba must also develop a ground water monitoring network to monitor potential impacts of the disposal operation on the uppermost ground water aquifer.

This is an existing facility and action to update waste discharge requirements for this facility is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15301.

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