CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 87-113

AGAINST

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MCCAIN VALLEY CONSERVATION CAMP

North of Boulevard - San Diego County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region finds that:

- California Department of Corrections (hereinafter also referred to as the discharger) P.O. Box 1252, Boulevard, California 92005, discharges domestic sewage from one of its dormitories into a septic tank/leach field disposal system, which is failing. The site is located in the SW¹/₄ of the SE¹/₄ of Section 16, T17S, R7E, SBB&M.
- 2. On June 19, 1987, the Regional Board staff inspected the subject site in response to receipt of a Report of Waste Discharge for a proposed oxidation/infiltration basin system. The staff observed ponding of septic tank effluent above the failing system. The staff was informed at that time that the septic tank in this system was pumped every other day.
- 3. On July 28, 1987, the Regional Board staff sent a Notice of Violation to the discharger requesting a description of corrective measures to be taken to insure continued abatement of surfacing. The staff received a response letter from the discharger on August 11, 1987 stating that the septic tanks were currently being pumped five times per week resulting in the cessation of surfacing of effluent.
- 4. On October 28, 1987, the Regional Board staff conducted a followup inspection of the site to verify compliance. The staff again observed septic tank effluent surfacing above the same septic tank noted above. The discharger informed the staff that the tank is being pumped every day. Apparently the failing leach field is so completely saturated that the septic tank serves only as a holding tank.
- 5. Surfacing of sewage effluent is a threat of pollution and nuisance as set forth in Section 13304 of the California Water Code. This Order is necessary to insure cessation and abatement of surfacing.
- This enforcement action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et. seq.) in accordance with Section 2714, Chapter 3, Title 14, California Administrative Code.

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that pursuant to Section 13304 of Division 7 of the California Water Code, the discharger shall:

- 1. Take immediate measures to prevent the surfacing of sewage effluent, and provide necessary corrective measures to insure continued abatement of surfacing.
- 2. Install by December 1, 1987, adequate treatment and disposal facilities that would not pose a nuisance or a threat to the quality of state waters.

Failure to comply with this Order as directed may result in referral to the Attorney General for appropriate legal action without further notice, and the discharger may also be subject to Administrative Civil Liability under Article 2.5 of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of the California Water Code.

October 29, 1987

Executive Officer