CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

ORDER NO. 92-065

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
CITY OF BLYTHE
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
Blythe - Riverside County

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

1. The City of Blythe (hereinafter also referred to as the discharger), 220 North Spring Street, Blythe, California, 92225, verified via the City's consulting engineer, the below updated information on the discharge of wastes on September 24, 1991. The discharger owns and operates the facility. The address of the wastewater treatment plant is 15901 So. Broadway, Blythe, CA 92225.

2. The discharger is presently treating average daily flows of 1.1 million gallons per day (mgd) of municipal wastewater in the winter months and 1.6 mgd in the summer. The design capacity of the plant is 1.5 mgd. Therefore, the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is presently operating over design capacity for part of the year. In addition, the City of Blythe WWTP has demonstrated difficulty in meeting present waste discharge requirement effluent limits due to design problems. Gravity flow was not designed into the flow of the present plant. The process waters need to be pumped from one process area of the plant to another; thus lacking the quiescent flow necessary for trickling filters to function at optimal efficiency.

3. Due to the design problems and the fact that the plant is operating over design capacity, the City has retained an engineering consulting firm to analyze the WWTP's present design and to make recommendations for improvements. This engineering analysis was completed in April of 1992. At their June 9, 1992 meeting, the Blythe City Council accepted the consultant report and directed City staff to pursue funding through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program for an upgrade to the WWTP as recommended in the report. These changes would allow the plant to primarily use gravity flow to create quiescent flows of process waters throughout the treatment process.

4. This upgrade could take over two years to complete. Therefore the Regional Board has chosen to update Board Order No. 87-011 and will do a further update when the new facilities are completed. A time schedule is included as part of this Order which details compliance dates for the WWTP upgrade.

5. The discharger presently operates a trickling filter plant which discharges effluent into infiltration basins for final disposal by evaporation and infiltration. Raw wastewater enters the plant from two separate effluent sewers. One sewer line extends from the City of Blythe and is screened by

Superseded May 17, 1994 by Bd. Order No. 94-039

means of a mechanical bar screen. The second line extends from the unincorporated area of East Blythe and is unscreened. Raw wastewater is pumped to the center well of the primary clarifier where it is blended with primary trickling filter effluent. Secondary clarifier effluent is split into two flow streams; one stream discharges to the secondary trickling filter where it is blended with primary clarifier effluent, and the second stream becomes final plant effluent. Final plant effluent is disposed of by means of 12 percolation/evaporation ponds. Sludge drying beds are utilized to dewater the sludge, which is then stockpiled on site.

6. The wastewater treatment plant is located in the E½, SW¼ of Section 5, T7S, R23E, SBB&M as shown in Attachment "A" incorporated herein and made a part of this Board Order.

7. There are no domestic wells within 500 feet of the discharge facilities described in Finding No. 5, above.

8. The discharge has been subject to waste discharge requirements adopted in Board Order No. 87-011.

9. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California was adopted on May 15, 1991, and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this Region.

10. The beneficial uses of ground waters in the Colorado Hydrologic Unit are:

    a. Municipal supply (MUN)
    b. Industrial supply (IND)
    c. Agricultural supply (AGR)

11. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to update waste discharge requirements for said discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public meeting and an opportunity to submit comments.

12. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

13. In accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, the issuance of these waste discharge requirements, which govern the operation of an existing facility involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Board Order No. 87-011 is rescinded, and in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and Regulations adopted thereunder, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Specifications

1. Wastewater discharged to infiltration basins shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

Constituent	Unit	30-Day Arithmetic Mean	7-Day Arithmetic Mean
20°C BOD_5	mg/L	30	45
Suspended Solids	mg/L	30	45
Settleable Matter	ml/L	0.3	0.5

2. The increase in concentration of total dissolved solids (TDS) in the discharged wastewater over that contained in the water supply to the community shall not exceed 400 mg/L. Whenever this TDS value is exceeded, the discharger shall develop and implement, upon approval of the Regional Board's Executive Officer, mitigation measures to address the impacts of the discharger's effluent on the Colorado Hydrologic Unit.

3. A minimum freeboard of two (2) feet shall be maintained at all times in all infiltration basins.

4. Facilities shall be available to keep the treatment plant in operation in the event of commercial power failure.

5. Facilities shall be available for measurement of wastewater flow.

6. Infiltration basins shall be maintained and operated so as to minimize the increase in total dissolved solids content of the infiltrating wastewater.

7. There shall be no surface flow of wastewater away from the designated disposal areas.

8. There shall be no discharge of industrial wastewaters to the plant unless approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer in advance.

9. Collected screenings, grit and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in the manner approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

10. The treatment or disposal of wastes at this facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Sections 13050(l) and 13050(m) of Division 7 of the California Water Code.

B. Provisions

1. Prior to any modifications in this facility which would result in material change in the quality or quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of discharge, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board; and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.

2. The discharger shall comply with the attached "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 92-065", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

3. The discharger shall ensure that all site operating personnel are familiar with the content of this Board Order.

4. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

5. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that unauthorized persons are effectively excluded from contact with the wastewater.

6. The discharger shall report all instances of non-compliance. Reports of noncompliance shall be submitted with the discharger's next scheduled self-monitoring report or earlier if requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

8. The discharger's wastewater treatment plant shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certification of appropriate grade pursuant to Division 4, Chapter 14, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

9. The discharger shall implement acceptable operational and maintenance practices at the WWTP so that needed repairs and maintenance are performed in a timely manner. A yearly report shall be submitted to the Regional Board indicating any operational or maintenance problems.

10. The discharger shall provide a plan as to the method, treatment, handling and disposal of sludge that is consistent with all state and federal laws and regulations. In addition, the discharger shall submit an annual report stating the amount (in tons) and the method of all sludge disposal for the previous year.

11. The discharger shall obtain prior written approval from the Regional Board's Executive Officer specifying location and method of disposal, before disposing of treated or untreated sludge, or similar solid waste materials. In addition, the discharger shall provide the results of any sludge analyses as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. The discharger is encouraged to comply with the State of California guidance manual issued by the Department of Health Services entitled "Manual of Good Practice for Landspreading of Sewage Sludge". The discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order.

12. The discharger shall develop and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for this facility. The plan must be submitted to the

Regional Board's Executive Office for review and approval no later than ninety days after the adoption of this Order.

13. All storm water discharge from this facility must comply with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties, drainage districts and other local agencies regarding discharge of storm water to storm/drain system or other courses under their jurisdiction. Storm water that contacts wastewater should be kept on site and processed with wastewater.

14. The discharger shall comply with the following time schedule:

Item	Compliance Date
a. Submit Technical Report for Proposed Expansion	March 1, 1993
b. Implement Plant Expansion Work	June 1, 1993
c. Progress Report	September 1, 1993
d. Progress Report	June 1, 1994
e. Complete Expansion Work	January 1, 1995
f. Submit Final Report and Plans	April 1, 1995

15. Adequate protective works shall be provided to ensure that the WWTP units are protected against washout due to a flood which would be expected to occur on a frequency of once in a 100-year period.

16. All sampling and testing performed for the Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the California Department of Health Services.

17. Compliance with the discharge limitation shall be determined at the end of the discharge pipe.

18. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order and records of all data used to comply with this Order for a period of at least 5 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or compliance. This period may be extended by the Regional Board's Executive Officer at any time.

I, Philip A. Gruenberg, 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, Colorado River Basin Region, on November 18, 1992.

Philip A Gruenberg
Executive Officer

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 92-065
FOR
CITY OF BLYTHE
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
Blythe - Riverside County

Location of Discharge: E½, SW¼, Section 5, T7S, R23E, SBB&M

EFFLUENT MONITORING

1. All effluent samples shall be collected at the point of discharge (end of pipe). Wastewater discharged to the infiltration basins shall be monitored for the following:

Constituent	Unit	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
20°C BOD_5	mg/L[1]	24-Hr. Composite	Monthly
Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-Hr. Composite	Monthly
Settleable Matter	ml/L	Grab	Daily
Flow (Total Plant Effluent)	Gallons/ day	Flow Measurement	Daily[2]
Volatile Organics (EPA Methods 601 and 602)	µg/L[3]	24-Hr. Composite	Yearly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly

2. Wastewater contained in infiltration basins shall be monitored for the following:

Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly

[1] mg/L = milligram-per-Liter

[2] For each day with average monthly flow calculated

[3] µg/L = microgram-per-Liter

WATER SUPPLY TO THE COMMUNITY

The water supply shall be monitored for the following constituent. The sample analyzed shall be a weighted average of all sources.

Constituent	Unit	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly

REPORTING

1. Monthly monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board by the 15th day of the following month.

2. Yearly monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board by the 15th day of January.

3. Monitoring reports shall include:

   a. The date, exact location, and time of sampling or measurement

   b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurement

   c. The date(s) analyses were performed

   d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses

   e. The results of such analyses.

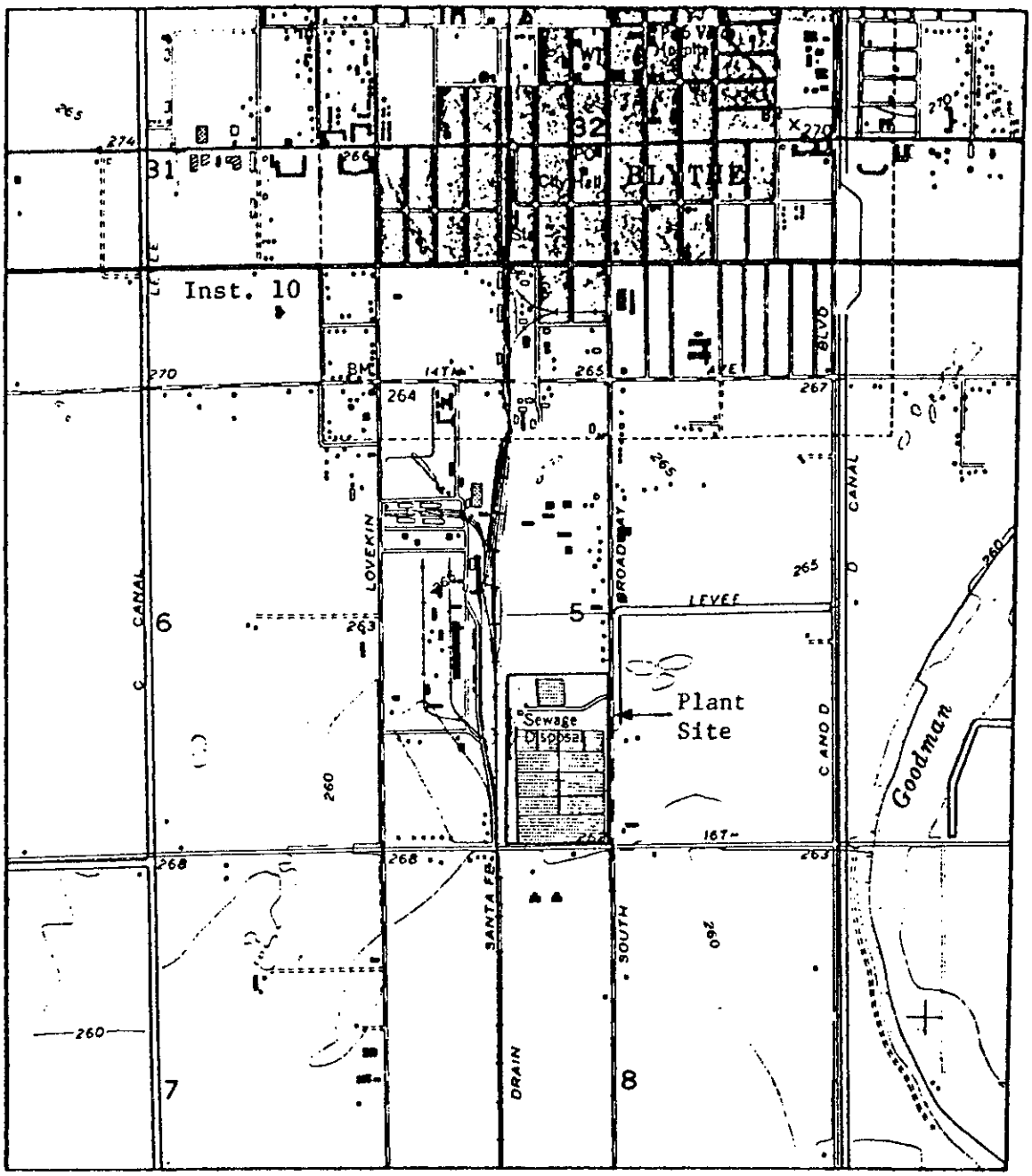
4. Submit monitoring reports to:

   California Regional Water Quality Control Board
   Colorado River Basin Region
   73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
   Palm Desert, CA 92260

ORDERED BY: Philip A Gruenberg
Executive Officer

November 18, 1992
Date

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD -7



ATTACHMENT "A"

SITE MAP
CITY OF BLYTHE
Riverside County
Portion of the $E\frac{1}{2}$, $SW\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 5, T7S, R23E, SBB&M
USGS Blythe 7.5 min. Topographic Map

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