

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 92-091  
AGAINST  
DAVID WILLIAMS, OWNER  
YUCCA VALLEY CAR WASH  
Yucca Valley - San Bernardino County

The Executive Officer of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. David Williams, owner of Yucca Valley Car Wash (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), 53905 Pinon Drive, Yucca Valley, CA 92284 discharges car wash wastewater into a grease interceptor that flows into two seepage pits. The facility is located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 3, T1S, R5E, SBB&M, with a street address of 55873 Highway 62 in Yucca Valley.
2. The Regional Board staff conducted a site investigation of this self-service car wash on July 29, 1992 by sampling the wastewater in one of the seepage pits. The analysis using EPA Methods 601 and 602 revealed excessive amounts of benzene at 4.5  $\mu$ g/L, methylene chloride at 1500  $\mu$ g/L, naphthalene at 101  $\mu$ g/L and lead at 80  $\mu$ g/L. The maximum contaminant levels (MCL) listed in the California Drinking Water Standards for benzene is 1.0  $\mu$ g/L and for lead is 50  $\mu$ g/L. Also, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Health Advisory Standards list methylene chloride at 6.0  $\mu$ g/L and naphthalene at 20  $\mu$ g/L. These high levels of contaminants are suspected to be the result of patrons using cleaning solvents to remove grease, oil, gasoline and other petroleum hydrocarbons that accumulate in the grease interceptor and overflow into the seepage pits. Other volatile organic compounds and heavy metals were detected in concentrations below regulatory limits.
3. The EPA "Handbook of Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals and Carcinogens" lists benzene, methylene chloride, naphthalene and lead as hazardous compounds contained in detergents, motor fuels, cleaning solvents, decreasing agents, lubricants and oil.
4. Hi-Desert County Water District reports the nearest well is about 1/4 mile north and downgradient of the site. Depth to ground water is approximately 400 feet.
5. The site is located on relatively flat terrain consisting of a sandy alluvial floodplain. The soil is known to be very permeable.
6. The hazardous constituents noted in Finding No. 2 indicate soil contamination, which threatens to pollute ground water.
7. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California was adopted May 15, 1991, and designates the beneficial uses of ground water and surface waters in this Region.

9/28/93  
Revised

8. The beneficial uses of ground waters in the Joshua Tree Hydrologic Unit are:
  - a. Municipal supply (MUN)
  - b. Industrial supply (IND)
9. Contamination of ground water at this site would adversely impact the above listed beneficial uses.
10. Section 13304 of the California Water Code states, in part, that:
 

"Any person...who has caused or permitted...any waste to be discharged or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged into the waters of the State and creates, or threatens to create, a condition of pollution or nuisance, shall upon order of the regional board cleanup such waste or abate the effects thereof, or, in the case of threatened pollution or nuisance, take other necessary remedial action."
11. Section 13267 of the California Water Code states, in part that:
 

"...Any person discharging...waste within its (the Board's) region...that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, those technical or monitoring program reports as the board may specify."
12. This enforcement action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15321, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that pursuant to Section 13304 and Section 13267 of Division 7 of the California Water Code, the discharger shall comply with the following:

1. Cleanup and abate all contaminated soil in addition to contaminated waste in the treatment and disposal system to levels which are determined acceptable by the Regional Board Executive Officer.
2. By March 1, 1993, submit to the Regional Board Executive Officer for approval a workplan and time schedule for remedial action to remove all wastewater and contaminated soil. The workplan must include design specifications for a ground water monitoring system. The time schedule should provide a schedule for testing the soil to determine the aerial and vertical extent of pollution, and propose a schedule for remedial actions to cleanup polluted wastewater and soil.
3. On April 1, 1993, submit to the Regional Board Executive Officer a progress report describing the cleanup investigation.
4. By June 30, 1993, complete all remediation and cleanup work, and submit a final technical report containing the results of the cleanup work.
5. All technical reports submitted to the Regional Board office for consideration shall be prepared by a professional who is registered as a civil engineer, or certified as an engineering geologist in the State of California.

If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, this Order is not complied with in a reasonable and timely manner, the Executive Officer will recommend additional enforcement action by the Regional Board, which may include the imposition of administrative civil liabilities, or referral to the State Attorney General for such legal action as may be deemed appropriate.

ORDERED BY: Phil Gmenberg  
Executive Officer

12-29-92  
Date