

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

ORDER NO. 01-158

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
WM. BOLTHOUSE FARMS, INC., HOLTVILLE PLANT, OWNER/OPERATOR  
WASHWATER TREATMENT FACILITY  
Holtville – Imperial County

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

1. Wm. Bolthouse Farms Inc., (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), 7200 E. Brundage Lane, Bakersfield, CA 93307, submitted a report of waste discharge on March 19, 2001 to update Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharger's carrot processing plant (hereinafter referred to as the facility) located at 275 Walnut Avenue, P.O. Box 27, Holtville, CA 92250.
2. The discharger owns and operates the facility which has a design disposal capacity of 10,000 gallons-per-day (gpd) and presently discharges an average of 1,500 gpd of wastewater (process wastewater and cooling tower blowdown) into two unlined evaporation/percolation ponds located in the NW 1/4 of Section 36, T15S, R15E, SBB&M. A site map is attached and is incorporated herein and made a part of this Order.
3. The discharged wastewater flows directly into a settling pond to allow gravity settling of any sediment present. Water from the settling pond then overflows through a pipe into a second pond. A portion of the discharged wastewater is applied to dirt roads for dust control and the remainder is allowed to percolate or evaporate from the ponds.
4. The discharge of the process wastewater and cooling tower blowdown are from the following activities:
  - a. Process wastewater is the result of rinsing, icing and boxing approximately 14 tons of bunched carrots per day. Bunched carrots are rinsed in the field during harvesting and contain only a small amount of sediment when arriving at the plant. The carrot processing plant is in operation from late November of each year through the end of May of the following year.
  - b. In addition, the discharger provides ice to other agricultural users on a year round basis resulting in the ongoing discharge of cooling tower blowdown. Approximately ten percent of the cooling water that is used in the cooling tower is discharged as cooling tower blowdown. Cooling tower blowdown is discharged to maintain the chemical properties of the cooling tower water.
5. Domestic water supply from the City of Holtville is used for carrot processing, ice making, and cooling tower makeup.
6. Storm water runoff from the City of Holtville and fresh water diversions from Holtville's reservoir system have occasionally entered the pond system due to the close proximity of the city's storm water channel. These discharges have been infrequent and have not impacted the operation of the ponds.

7. No chemicals are added to the carrot processing water. The following chemicals are added to the cooling tower water:

<u>Name of Chemical</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
COOLING CARE 8141 Sodium molybdate	Scale/corrosion control
MULTIBROM TABLETS Bromine, Chlorine	Biological growth control

8. The discharger reported the following average characteristics of the discharged wastewater:
- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| a. 20°C Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) | 35 mg/L <sup>1</sup> |
| b. Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)         | 1300 mg/L            |
| c. pH                                   | 8.20 mg/L            |
| d. Suspended Solids                     | 170 mg/L             |
9. There are no domestic water wells within 1000 feet of the discharge facilities described in Finding No. 2 above.
10. The depth-to-ground water at the site is about 14 feet.
11. The soil profile of the land where the wastewater is applied is clayish with small traces of sand.
12. Annual rainfall in the area ranges from one to one and one-half inches, and the evaporation rate at the site is about 84 inches per year.
13. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan), adopted on November 17, 1993, designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this Region.
14. The designated beneficial uses of ground water in the Imperial Hydrologic Unit are:
- Municipal Supply (MUN)
  - Industrial Supply (IND)
15. Within the Imperial Valley area of the Imperial Hydrologic Unit, much of the ground water is too saline for municipal use. The existing municipal use in this area is practically inconsequential.
16. This discharger has been subject to Waste Discharge Requirements adopted in Board Order No. 94-051 adopted on June 29, 1994.
17. This Board Order updates the Waste Discharge Requirements to comply with current laws and regulations as set forth in the California Water Code and the California Code of Regulations. 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 (CEQA) (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.).

18. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to issue Waste Discharge Requirements for said discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity for a public meeting and an opportunity to submit comments.
19. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Board Order No. 94-051 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. Effluent Limitations

1. The hydrogen ion (pH) of the effluent shall be maintained within the limits of 6.0 to 9.0.
2. Wastewater flow to the evaporation ponds shall not exceed 10,000 gpd.

B. Specifications

1. The treatment or disposal of wastes at this facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Sections 13050 of Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. A minimum depth of freeboard of two (2) feet shall be maintained at all times in the surface impoundment.
3. The discharger shall notify the Regional Board prior to the removal of pond sediments for the purpose of maintenance.
4. Sediments removed from the ponds shall be hauled away to an appropriate waste management facility.
5. The surface impoundment shall be protected from any washout or erosion of wastes or covering material and from any inundation which could occur as a result of floods having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.
6. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes as follows:
  - 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.
7. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any ground or surface water.
8. Discharge into the ponds shall cease in event of any failure in the system that threatens the beneficial water uses.

### C. Prohibitions

1. The direct discharge of any wastewater to any surface water or surface drainage courses is prohibited.
2. The discharge of process wastewater to a location or in a manner different from that described in Findings No. 2 and 3 above is prohibited.
3. The discharge or deposit of hazardous waste (as defined in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations), and other wastes that pose a potential threat to water quality at this facility is prohibited.
4. Bypass or overflow of untreated or partially treated wastewater is prohibited.

### D. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-158" and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
2. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the discharger shall transmit a copy of this Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Board.
3. Prior to any modifications in this facility, which would result in material change in the quality or quantity of discharge, or any material change in the location of the discharge, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
4. The discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the content of this Board Order, and shall maintain a copy of this Board Order at the site.
5. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
6. The Regional Board will review this Board Order periodically and may revise requirements when necessary.
7. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
  - a. Enter upon the premises regulated by this Board Order, or the place where records must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
  - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that shall be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
  - c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Board Order; and

- d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at this location.
8. The discharger shall comply with all of the conditions of this Board Order. Any noncompliance with this Board Order constitutes a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action.
9. This Board Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
10. Unless otherwise approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants", promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
11. The discharger shall provide an inventory of all hazardous materials that will be handled at the facility by May 15, 2002.
12. The discharger is the responsible party for the Waste Discharge Requirements, and the monitoring and reporting program for the facility. The discharger shall comply with all conditions of these Waste Discharge Requirements. Violations may result in enforcement actions, including Regional Board Orders or court orders, requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability or in modification or revocation of these Waste Discharge Requirements by the Regional Board.
13. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information including all calibration and maintenance records, copies of all reports required by this Board Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge or when requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
14. Records of monitoring information shall include:
  - a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling and measurements.
  - b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements.
  - c. The date(s) analyses were performed.
  - d. The individual(s) who performed the analysis.
  - e. The analytical techniques or methods used.
  - f. The result of such analysis.
15. The discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances), that are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with conditions of this Board Order.
16. The discharger shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical monitoring program reports, and such reports shall be submitted in accordance with the specifications prepared by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Such specifications are subject to periodic revisions as may be warranted.

17. Ponds shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow, design seasonal precipitation, ancillary inflow, and infiltration during the non-irrigation season. 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.
18. The discharger shall report any noncompliance that is likely to endanger human health or the environment, within 24 hours of becoming aware of its occurrence. The incident shall be reported to the Regional Board Office and to the Office of Emergency Services. During non-business hours, the discharger shall leave a message on the Regional Board's voice mail. The Office of Emergency Services is operational 24 hours a day. A written report shall be submitted to this office, within five (5) business days of the discharger becoming aware of the incident. The report shall contain a description of the noncompliance, its causes, the duration, and the actual or anticipated time for achieving compliance. The report shall include complete details of the steps that the discharger has taken or intends to take, in order to prevent recurrences. All intentional or accidental spills exceeding 1,000 gallons shall be reported as required by this provision.

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 14, 2001.

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Executive Officer