

State of California
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, LOS ANGELES REGION

ORDER NO. R4-2003-0149
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0062537

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
AND
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
ELIXIR INDUSTRIES

The California Regional Water Quality Board, Los Angeles Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds:

Background

1. Elixir Industries (hereinafter Elixir or Discharger) discharges treated groundwater from a Groundwater Treatment Facility (GWTF or Facility) under waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit contained in Order No. 97-005 (NPDES Permit No. CA0062537) adopted by the Regional Board on January 27, 1997. Order No. 97-005 expired on December 10, 2001.
2. Elixir filed a report of waste discharge and has applied for renewal of its WDRs and NPDES permit for discharge of wastes to surface waters. The tentative Order is the reissuance of the WDRs and NPDES permit for discharges from Elixir.

Purpose of Order

3. The purpose of this Order is to renew the WDRs for the discharge from the GWTF. This NPDES permit regulates the discharge of treated ground water and storm water to a storm drain through Discharge Serial No. 001 that conveys the treated ground water to Dominguez Channel, a water of the United States. The point of discharge of treated ground water is located at Latitude 33°51'00", Longitude 118°16'75".

Facility Description

4. The Discharger formerly operated a paint manufacturing facility located at 18037 South Broadway Street, Gardena, California. Soil and groundwater contamination were found on-site which originated from leaking underground storage tanks and/or associated piping. The Discharger is currently working with this Regional Board to perform remediation at this site. The GWTF has been in operation since 1992.
5. The groundwater remediation system is located at 18037 S. Broadway, Gardena, California, and is owned and operated by Elixir Industries. Supplemental information to the renewal application states the Facility is currently operating only on weekdays. Figure 1 shows the Facility location map.

Discharge Description

6. The GWTF consists of a pump and treatment system which uses three wells to extract organically contaminated groundwater. The GWTF contains a solvent separator for pretreatment to remove free product from the contaminated groundwater. However, this pretreatment stage is currently inactive now that the source of contamination has been removed, and as a result there is no free product to be skimmed into the solvent tank. The contaminated groundwater is then processed in the GWTF using a biophysical reactor system and is then discharged to Dominguez Channel. The biophysical reactor, called a PACT reactor, uses microorganisms and powdered activated carbon concurrently to biodegrade the organic constituents in the groundwater. Storm water that collects within the treatment facility is typically allowed to evaporate, but if it does not evaporate, it is directed to a sump and is then processed through the same groundwater treatment system and then discharged through Discharge Serial No. 001.
7. Elixir Industries proposes to discharge up to 10,000 gpd of treated groundwater from the cleanup of the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and alcohol constituents via a drainage pipe (Discharge Serial No. 001) located at latitude 33° 51' 00", Longitude 118° 16' 75". The drainage pipe directs the waste to a storm drain that flows into Dominguez Channel. Figure 2 depicts the wastewater flow diagram of the facility.
8. Elixir is exploring the potential to percolate wastewater to groundwater through upgradient wells at the site, rather than discharging it to surface water.

Applicable Plans, Policies, and Regulations

9. On June 13, 1994, the Regional Board adopted a revised *Water Quality Control Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties* (Basin Plan) as amended on January 27, 1997 by Regional Board Resolution No. 97-02. The Basin Plan (i) designates beneficial uses for surface and groundwaters, (ii) sets narrative and numerical objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect the designated beneficial uses and conform to the state antidegradation policy (*Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California*, State Board Resolution No. 68-16, October 28, 1968), and (iii) describes implementation programs to protect all waters in the Region. In addition, the Basin Plan incorporates (by reference) applicable State and Regional Board plans and policies and other pertinent water quality policies and regulations. The Regional Board prepared the 1994 update of the Basin Plan to be consistent with all previously adopted State and Regional Board plans and policies. This Order implements the plans, policies and provisions of the Regional Board's Basin Plan.
10. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives and beneficial uses for inland surface waters and for the Pacific Ocean. Inland surface waters consist of rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, and inland wetlands. Beneficial uses for a surface water can be designated, whether or not they have been attained on a waterbody, in order to implement either federal or state mandates and goals (such as fishable and swimmable for regional waters).
11. The receiving waters for the permitted discharge covered by this permit is the Dominguez Channel. The beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan for the Dominguez Channel are:

Existing uses: non-water contact recreation, preservation of rare and endangered species.

Potential uses: municipal and domestic supply, water contact recreation, warm freshwater habitat, wildlife habitat.

12. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted a *Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Water and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California* (Thermal Plan) on May 18, 1972, and amended this plan on September 18, 1975. This plan contains temperature objectives for inland surface waters.
13. On May 18, 2000, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) promulgated numeric criteria for priority pollutants for the State of California [known as the *California Toxics Rule* (CTR) and codified as 40 CFR 131.38]. In the CTR, USEPA promulgated criteria that protect the general population at an incremental cancer risk level of one in a million (10^{-6}), for all priority toxic pollutants regulated as carcinogens. The CTR also allows for a schedule of compliance not to exceed five years from the date of permit issuance for a point source discharge if the Discharger demonstrates that it is infeasible to promptly comply with the CTR criteria.
14. On March 2, 2000, the State Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP was effective on April 28, 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the USEPA through the National Toxics Rule (NTR), and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Boards in their basin plans, with the exception of the provision on alternate test procedures for individual discharges that have been approved by the USEPA Regional Administrator. The alternate test procedures provision was effective on May 22, 2000. The SIP was effective on May 18, 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The SIP requires the dischargers' submittal of data sufficient to conduct the determination of priority pollutants requiring water quality-based effluent limits (WQBELs) and to calculate the effluent limitations. The discharge is directed to the Dominguez Channel, above the estuary. The CTR criteria for fresh water or human health for consumption of organisms, whichever is more stringent, are used to develop the effluent limitations in this Order to protect the beneficial uses of the Dominguez Channel.
15. Under 40 CFR 122.44(d), Water Quality Standards and State Requirements, "Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, non-conventional, or toxic pollutants), which the Director [permitting authority] determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality." Where numeric effluent limitations for a pollutant or pollutant parameter have not been established in the applicable state water quality control plan, 40 CFR section 122.44(d)(1)(vi) specifies that WQBELs may be set based on USEPA criteria, and may be supplemented where necessary by other relevant information to attain and maintain narrative water quality criteria, and to fully protect designated beneficial uses.

16. Effluent limitation guidelines requiring the application of best practicable control technology currently available (BPT), best conventional pollutant control technology (BCT), and best available technology economically achievable (BAT), were promulgated by the USEPA for some pollutants in this discharge. Effluent limitations for pollutants not subject to the USEPA effluent limitation guidelines are based on one of the following: best professional judgment (BPJ) of BPT, BCT or BAT; current plant performance; or WQBELs. The WQBELs are based on the Basin Plan, other State plans and policies, or USEPA water quality criteria which are taken from the CTR. These requirements, as they are met, will protect and maintain existing beneficial uses of the receiving water. The attached Fact Sheet for this Order includes specific bases for the effluent limitations.
17. 40 CFR section 122.45(f)(1) requires that except under certain conditions, all permit limits, standards, or prohibitions be expressed in terms of mass units. 40 CFR section 122.45(f)(2) allows the permit writer, at his its discretion, to express limits in additional units (e.g., concentration units). The regulations mandate that, where limits are expressed in more than one unit, the permittee must comply with both.

Generally, mass-based limits ensure that proper treatment, and not dilution is employed to comply with the final effluent concentration limits. Concentration-based effluent limits, on the other hand, discourage the reduction in treatment efficiency during low-flow periods and require proper operation of the treatment units at all times. In the absence of concentration-based effluent limits, a permittee would be able to increase its effluent concentration (i.e., reduce its level of treatment) during low-flow periods and still meet its mass-based limits. To account for this, this permit includes mass and concentration limits.

18. State and Federal antibacksliding and antidegradation policies require Regional Board actions to protect the water quality of a water body and to ensure that the waterbody will not be further degraded. The antibacksliding provisions are specified in section 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR), section 122.44(l). Those provisions require a reissued permit to be as stringent as the previous permit with some exceptions where effluent limitations may be relaxed.
19. Effluent limitations are established in accordance with sections 301, 304, 306, and 307 of the CWA, and amendments thereto. These requirements, as they are met, will maintain and protect the beneficial uses of the Dominguez Channel.

Watershed Management Approach and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

20. The Regional Board has implemented the Watershed Management Approach to address water quality issues in the region. Watershed management may include diverse issues as defined by stakeholders to identify comprehensive solutions to protect, maintain, enhance, and restore water quality and beneficial uses. To achieve this goal, the Watershed Management Approach integrates the Regional Board's many diverse programs, particularly Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), to better assess cumulative impacts of pollutants from all point and non-point sources. A TMDL is a tool for implementing water quality standards and is based on the relationship between pollution sources and in-stream water quality conditions. The TMDL establishes the allowable loadings or other

quantifiable parameters for a waterbody and thereby provides the basis to establish water quality-based controls. These controls should provide the pollution reduction necessary for a waterbody to meet water quality standards. This process facilitates the development of watershed-specific solutions that balance the environmental and economic impacts within the watershed. The TMDLs will establish waste load allocation (WLAs) and load allocations (LAs) for point and non-point sources, and will result in achieving water quality standards for the waterbody.

21. Dominguez Channel receives discharges from highly industrial areas. The USEPA approved the State's 2002 303(d) list of impaired water bodies on July 25, 2003. The 2002 State Board's California 303(d) List classifies Dominguez Channel as impaired. The pollutants of concern, detected in the water column, in the sediment, and in the fish tissue, include aldrin, ammonia benthic community effects, Chem A [refers to the sum of aldrin, dieldrin, chlordane, endrin, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, HCH (including lindane), endosulfan, and toxaphene], chlordane, chromium, copper, DDT, deldrin, high coliform count, lead, PAHs, PCBs, and zinc.

Data Availability and Reasonable Potential Monitoring

22. 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(ii) requires that each toxic pollutant be analyzed with respect to its reasonable potential when determining whether a discharge (1) causes; (2) has the reasonable potential to cause; or (3) contributes to the exceedance of a receiving water quality objective. This is done by performing a reasonable potential analysis (RPA) for each pollutant.
23. Section 1.3 of the SIP requires that a limit be imposed for a toxic pollutant if (1) the maximum effluent concentration (MEC) is greater than the most stringent CTR criteria, or (2) the background concentration is greater than the CTR criteria, or (3) other information is available. Sufficient effluent data are needed for this analysis.
24. Regional Board staff has determined that pollutants that have effluent limits in the current permit will be included in this permit. Certain effluent limitations have been established based on the revised water quality criteria contained in the CTR and the requirements contained in Section 1.4 of the SIP. This Order will require the Discharger to continue to monitor the effluent and the receiving water annually for priority pollutants to provide the data necessary to complete an RPA for all priority pollutants.
25. In accordance with Section 13267 of the California Water Code, the Regional Board, in a letter dated July 27, 2001, required the Discharger to conduct an interim monitoring program of the effluent and the receiving water for seven quarters (July 2001 to March 2003). The data collected for the period from November 2001 through March 2003 has been used to determine the reasonable potential of the priority pollutants and to calculate the effluent limitations. Based on the RPA, there was reasonable potential to exceed water quality criteria for mercury.
26. The existing permit contains acute toxicity limitations and monitoring requirements. This Order will require Elixir Industries to continue to monitor the discharge for acute toxicity and establishes new chronic toxicity monitoring requirements.

Compliance Schedules and Interim Limitations

27. Elixir may not be able to achieve immediate compliance with the WQBELs for mercury contained in Section I.B.4. of this Order. Data submitted in self-monitoring reports indicate that these constituents have been detected at concentrations greater than the new limit proposed in this Order.
28. 40 CFR 131.38(e) provides conditions under which interim effluent limits and compliance schedules may be issued. The CTR and SIP allow inclusion of an interim limit with a specific compliance schedule included in a NPDES permit for priority pollutants if the limit for the priority pollutant is CTR-based and the discharger demonstrates infeasibility to comply with final WQBELs. Interim limits have been included in this Order for mercury.
29. The SIP requires that the Regional Board establish other interim requirements such as requiring the discharger to develop a pollutant minimization plan and/or source control measures and participate in the activities necessary to achieve the final effluent limitations. These interim limitations shall be effective until December 31, 2006, after which, the Discharger shall demonstrate compliance with the final effluent limitations.
30. According to the SIP, pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. Mercury has strong bioaccumulative properties and can cause adverse human health impacts, and because the RPA determined that it could exceed the WQBELs, this permit requires that the Discharger develop and implement a pollution minimization plan for mercury.

CEQA and Notifications

31. The Regional Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for this discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
32. The Regional Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge and to the tentative requirements.
33. This Order shall serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit pursuant to Section 402 of the Federal Clean Water Act or amendments thereto, and shall take effect at the end of ten days from the date of its adoption provided the Regional Administrator, USEPA, has no objections.
34. Pursuant to California Water Code section 13320, any aggrieved party may seek review of this Order by filing a petition with the State Board. A petition must be sent to the State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel, ATTN: Elizabeth Miller Jennings, Senior Staff Counsel, 1001 I Street, 22nd Floor, Sacramento, California, 95814, within 30 days of adoption of this Order.

35. The issuance of waste discharge requirements for this discharge is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code (CEQA) in accordance with the California Water Code, section 13389.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Elixir Industries, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted there under, and the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act and regulations and guidelines adopted there under, shall comply with the following:

I. DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. Wastes discharged shall be limited to a maximum of 10,000 gpd of treated ground water as described in the findings. The discharge of wastes from accidental spills or other sources is prohibited.
2. Discharges of water, materials, thermal wastes, elevated temperature wastes, toxic wastes, deleterious substances, or wastes other than those authorized by this Order, to a storm drain system, Dominguez Channel, or waters of the State, are prohibited.

B. Effluent Limitations

The discharge of an effluent in excess of the following limitations is prohibited:

1. A pH value less than 6.5 or greater than 8.5.
2. Temperature:
 - a. A temperature greater than 85 °F; and
 - b. The maximum temperature of the discharge shall not exceed the natural receiving water temperature by more than 20 °F.
3. Toxicity limitations:
 - a. Acute Toxicity Limitation and Requirements
 - i. The acute toxicity of the effluent shall be such that (i) the average survival in the undiluted effluent for any three (3) consecutive 96-hour static or continuous flow bioassay tests shall be at least 90%, and (ii) no single test producing less than 70% survival.
 - ii. If either of the above requirements [Section I.B.3.a.i] is not met, the Discharger shall conduct six additional tests over a 6-week period. The Discharger shall ensure that they receive results of a failing acute

toxicity test within 24 hours of the completion of the test, and the additional tests shall begin within 3 business days of the receipt of the result. If the additional tests indicate compliance with acute toxicity limitation, the Discharger may resume regular testing. However if the results of any two of the six accelerated tests are less than 90% survival, then the Discharger shall begin a Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE). The TIE shall include all reasonable steps to identify the source(s) of toxicity. Once the source(s) of toxicity is identified, the Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to reduce the toxicity to meet the objective.

- iii. If the initial test and any of the additional six acute toxicity bioassay tests result in less than 70% survival, including the initial test, the Discharger shall immediately begin a TIE.
- iv. The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity monitoring as specified in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 7104.

b. Chronic Toxicity Limitation and Requirements

- i. This Order includes a chronic testing toxicity trigger defined as an exceedance of 1.0 TU_c in a critical life stage test for 100% effluent. (The monthly median for chronic toxicity of 100% effluent shall not exceed, 1 TU_c in a critical life stage test.)
- ii. If the chronic toxicity of the effluent exceeds 1.0 TU_c , the Discharger shall immediately implement accelerated chronic toxicity testing according to Monitoring and Reporting Program 7104, Item IV.D.1, and conduct six additional tests over a 6-week period. If the results of two of the six accelerated tests exceed 1.0 TU_c , the Discharger shall initiate a TIE and implement the Initial investigation TRE Workplan.
- iii. The Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity monitoring as specified in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 7104.
- iv. The chronic toxicity of the effluent shall be expressed and reported in toxic units, where:

$$TU_c = \frac{100}{NOEC}$$

The No Observable Effect Concentration (NOEC) is expressed as the maximum percent effluent concentration that causes no observable effect on test organisms, as determined by the results of a critical life stage toxicity test.

- v. Preparation of an Initial Investigation TRE Workplan

- aa. The Discharger shall submit a copy of the Discharger's initial investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) workplan (1-2 pages) to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board for approval within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. If the Regional Board Executive Officer does not disapprove the workplan within 60 days, the workplan shall become effective. The Discharger shall use EPA manuals EPA/600/2-88/070 (industrial) or EPA/833B-99/002 (municipal) as guidance. This workplan shall describe the steps the Discharger intends to follow if toxicity is detected, and should include, at a minimum, the elements described in ii through iv below.
 - ab. A description of the investigation and evaluation techniques that would be used to identify potential causes and sources of toxicity, effluent variability, and treatment system efficiency;
 - ac. A description of the facility's methods of maximizing in-house treatment efficiency and good housekeeping practices, and a list of all chemicals used in operation of the facility; and
 - ad. If a TIE is necessary, an indication of the person who would conduct the TIEs (i.e., an in-house expert or an outside contractor) (Section IV.E.3. of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 7104 provides references for the guidance manuals that should be used for performing TIEs.)
4. Final Effluent Limitations: In addition to the Requirements I.B.1 through I.B.3, the discharge of treated groundwater from Discharge Serial No. 001 containing constituents in excess of the following limits is prohibited:

Constituents	Units	Maximum Daily Discharge Limitations	Average Monthly Discharge Limitations
		Concentration	Concentration
pH	s.u.	Between 6.5 – 8.5	Between 6.5 – 8.5
BOD ₅ @ 20°C	mg/L	30	20
Oil and grease	mg/L	15	8
Total suspended solids	mg/L	75	50
Settleable solids	ml/L	0.2	0.1
Turbidity	NTU	75	50
Lead ²	µg/L	30.50	15.2
Mercury ³	µg/L	0.102	0.051
Benzene	µg/L	1	
Toluene	µg/L	10	
Xylene	µg/L	10	
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	10	

Constituents	Units	Maximum Daily Discharge Limitations	Average Monthly Discharge Limitations
		Concentration	Concentration
Ethylene dibromide	µg/L	0.02	
Vinyl chloride	µg/L	0.5	
1,1-Dichloroethane	µg/L	5.0	
1,2-Dichloroethane	µg/L	0.5	
Dichloroethylene	µg/L	6	
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	µg/L	10	
Trichloroethylene	µg/L	5	
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/L	5	
Ethanol	mg/L	1	
Methanol	mg/L	1	
Isopropanol	mg/L	1	
Butanol	mg/L	1	

¹ The monthly average concentration shall be the arithmetic average of all the values of daily concentrations calculated using the results of analyses of all samples collected during the month. If only one sample is taken in that month, compliance shall be based on this sample result.

The mass emission (in lbs/day) for the discharge shall be calculated and reported using the limitation concentration and the actual flow rate measured at the time of discharge, using the formula:

$$m = 8.34 * C * Q \text{ where:}$$

m = mass limit for a pollutant in lbs/day
 C = concentration limit for a pollutant, mg/L
 Q = maximum discharge flow rate, mgd

² Discharge limitations for these metals are expressed as total recoverable.

³ The interim limits in Section I.B.5 below are applicable from the date of adoption of the Order through June 30, 2006.

5. Interim Effluent Limitations. From the effective date of this Order until June 30, 2006, the discharge of an effluent in excess of the following limitations is prohibited:

Constituents	Discharge Limitations (Maximum Daily)
	Concentration (µg/L)
Mercury ¹	2.1

¹ Discharge limitations for these metals are expressed as total recoverable.

Discharges after June 30, 2006 must comply with the limits for these constituents stipulated in the table in section I.B.4.

C. Receiving Water Limitations

1. The discharge shall not cause the following conditions to exist in the receiving waters:
 - a. Floating, suspended, or deposited macroscopic particulate matter or foam;
 - b. Alteration of temperature, turbidity, or apparent color beyond present natural background levels;
 - c. Visible, floating, suspended or deposited oil or other products of petroleum origin;
 - d. Bottom deposits or aquatic growths; or,
 - e. Toxic or other deleterious substances present in concentrations or quantities that cause deleterious effects on aquatic biota, wildlife, or waterfowl or render any of these unfit for human consumption either at levels created in the receiving waters or as a result of biological concentration.
2. The discharge shall not cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses of the receiving water.
3. No discharge shall cause a surface water temperature rise greater than 5°F above the natural temperature of the receiving waters at any time or place.
4. The discharge shall not cause the following limits to be exceeded in the receiving waters at any place within the waterbody of the receiving waters:
 - a. The pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5, nor caused to vary from normal ambient pH levels by more than 0.5 units;
 - b. Dissolved oxygen shall not be less than 5.0 mg/L anytime, and the median dissolved oxygen concentration for any three consecutive months shall not be less than 80 percent of the dissolved oxygen content at saturation;
 - c. Dissolved sulfide shall not be greater than 0.1 mg/L;
 - d. The ammonia in the 1994 Basin Plan were revised by Regional Board Resolution No. 2002-011, adopted on April 28, 2002, to be consistent with the 1999 USEPA update on ammonia criteria. Regional Board Resolution No. 2002-011 was approved by State Board, OAL and USEPA on April 30, 2003, June 5, 2003, and June 19, 2003, respectively and is now in

effect. Total ammonia (as N) shall not exceed concentrations specified in the Regional Board Resolution 2002-011.

- e. The discharge shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Board or State Board. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to Section 303 of the Clean Water Act, or amendments thereto, the Regional Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such standards.
5. The discharge shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Board or State Board. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to Section 303 of the Clean Water Act, or amendments thereto, the Regional Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such standards.
 6. The discharge shall not cause the following to be present in receiving waters:
 - a. Biostimulatory substances at concentrations that promote aquatic growth to the extent that such growth causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses;
 - b. Chemical substances in amounts that adversely affect any designated beneficial use;
 - c. Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the receiving water or on objects in the water;
 - d. Suspended or settleable materials in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses;
 - e. Taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that alter the natural taste, odor, and/or color of fish, shellfish, or other edible aquatic resources; cause nuisance; or adversely affect beneficial uses;
 - f. Substances that result in increases of BOD₅20⁰C that adversely affect beneficial uses;
 7. The discharge shall not alter the color, create a visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters.
 8. The discharge shall not degrade surface water communities and population including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species.

9. The discharge shall not damage, discolor, nor cause formation of sludge deposits on flood control structures or facilities nor overload their design capacity.
10. The discharge shall not cause problems associated with breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests.

II. REQUIREMENTS

A. Compliance Plan

1. The Discharger shall develop a pollutant minimization program (PMP) to maintain effluent concentrations of mercury at or below the effluent limitations specified in Section I.B.4. The PMP shall include the following:
 - a. Annual review and semi-annual monitoring of the potential sources of mercury;
 - b. Quarterly monitoring of the influent to the wastewater treatment system;
 - c. Submittal of a control strategy designed to proceed toward the goal of maintaining effluent concentrations at or below the effluent limitation;
 - d. Implementation of appropriate cost-effective control measures consistent with the control strategy;
 - e. An annual status report that shall be sent to the Regional Board at the same time the annual summary report is submitted in accordance with Section I.B of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 7104, and include:
 - All PMP monitoring results for the previous year
 - A list of potential sources of mercury
 - A summary of all actions undertaken pursuant to the control strategy
 - A description of actions to be taken in the following year.
2. The interim limits stipulated in section I.B.5 shall be in effect for a period not to extend beyond June 30, 2006. Thereafter, the Discharger shall comply with the limitations specified in Section I.B.4 of this Order.

- B. Pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR 122.42(a), the Discharger must notify the Board as soon as it knows, or has reason to believe (1) that it has begun or expected to begin, to use or manufacture a toxic pollutant not reported in the permit application, or (2) a discharge of toxic pollutant not limited by this Order has occurred, or will occur, in concentrations that exceed the specified limits in 40 CFR 122.42(a).

- C. The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems installed or used to achieve compliance with this Order.
- D. The Discharger shall comply with the waste load allocations that will be developed from the TMDL process for the 303(d)-listed pollutants.
- E. The discharge of any product registered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to any waste stream which may ultimately be released to waters of the United States, is prohibited unless specifically authorized elsewhere in this permit or another NPDES permit. This requirement is not applicable to products used for lawn and agricultural purposes.
- F. The discharge of any waste resulting from the combustion of toxic or hazardous wastes to any waste stream which ultimately discharges to waters of the United States is prohibited, unless specifically authorized elsewhere in this permit.
- G. The Discharger shall notify the Executive Officer in writing no later than six months prior to the planned discharge of any chemical, other than chlorine or other product previously reported to the Executive Officer, which may be toxic to aquatic life. Such notification shall include:
 - a. Name and general composition of the chemical,
 - b. Frequency of use,
 - c. Quantities to be used,
 - c. Proposed discharge concentrations, and
 - d. USEPA registration number, if applicable.

No discharge of such chemical shall be made prior to the Executive Officer's approval.

- H. The Regional Board and USEPA shall be notified immediately, by telephone, of the presence of adverse conditions in the receiving waters as a result of wastes discharged; written confirmation shall follow as soon as possible but not later than five working days after occurrence.

III. PROVISIONS

- A. This Order includes the attached *Standard Provisions and General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements* (Standard Provisions, Attachment N). If there is any conflict between provisions stated herein and the attached Standard Provisions, those provisions stated herein shall prevail.
- B. This Order includes the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 7104. If there is any conflict between provisions stated in the Monitoring and Reporting Program and the Standard Provisions, those provisions stated in the former shall prevail.

- C. This Order may be modified, revoked, reissued, or terminated in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR sections 122.44, 122.62, 122.63, 122.64, 125.62 and 125.64. Causes for taking such actions include, but are not limited to: failure to comply with any condition of this Order; endangerment to human health or the environment resulting from the permitted activity; or acquisition of newly-obtained information which would have justified the application of different conditions if known at the time of Order adoption. The filing of a request by the Discharger for an Order modification, revocation, and issuance or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any condition of this Order.
- D. The Discharger must comply with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties, drainage districts, and other local agencies regarding discharges of storm water to storm drain systems or other water courses under their jurisdiction; including applicable requirements in municipal storm water management program developed to comply with NPDES permits issued by the Regional Board to local agencies.
- E. Discharge of wastes to any point other than specifically described in this Order and permit is prohibited and constitutes a violation thereof.
- F. The Discharger shall comply with all applicable effluent limitations, national standards of performance, toxic effluent standards, and all federal regulations established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303(d), 304, 306, 307, 316, and 423 of the Federal Clean Water Act and amendments thereto.
- G. Compliance Determination
 - 1. Compliance with single constituent effluent limitation – If the concentration of the pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Reporting Requirement II.C. of *M&RP* No. CI-7104), then the Discharger is out of compliance.
 - 2. Compliance with monthly average limitations - In determining compliance with monthly average limitations, the following provisions shall apply to all constituents:
 - a. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, does not exceed the monthly average limit for that constituent, the Discharger has demonstrated compliance with the monthly average limit for that month.
 - b. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, exceeds the monthly average limit for any constituent, the Discharger shall collect four additional samples at approximately equal intervals during the month. All five analytical results shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month, or 45 days after results for the additional samples were received, whichever is later.

When all sample results are greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Reporting Requirement II.C. of *M&RP* No. CI-7104), the numerical average of the analytical results of these five samples will be used for compliance determination.

When one or more sample results are reported as “Not-Detected (ND)” or “Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)” (see Reporting Requirement II. C. of *M&RP* No. CI-7104), the median value of these four samples shall be used for compliance determination. If one or both of the middle values is ND or DNQ, the median shall be the lower of the two middle values.

- c. In the event of noncompliance with a monthly average effluent limitation, the sampling frequency for that constituent shall be increased to weekly and shall continue at this level until compliance with the monthly average effluent limitation has been demonstrated.
 - d. If only one sample was obtained for the month or more than a monthly period and the result exceed the monthly average, then the Discharger is in violation of the monthly average limit.
3. Compliance with effluent limitations expressed as a sum of several constituents – If the sum of the individual pollutant concentrations is greater than the effluent limitation, then the Discharger is out of compliance. In calculating the sum of the concentrations of a group of pollutants, consider constituents reported as ND or DNQ to have concentrations equal to zero, provided that the applicable ML is used.
 4. Compliance with effluent limitations expressed as a median – in determining compliance with a median limitation, the analytical results in a set of data will be arranged in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order); and
 - a. If the number of measurements (n) is odd, then the median will be calculated as $= X_{(n+1)/2}$, or
 - b. If the number of measurements (n) is even, then the median will be calculated as $= [X_{n/2} + X_{(n/2)+1}]$, i.e. the midpoint between the $n/2$ and $n/2+1$ data points.
- H. In calculating mass emission rates from the monthly average concentrations, use one half of the method detection limit for “Not Detected” (ND) and the estimated concentration for “Detected, but Not Quantified” (DNQ) for the calculation of the monthly average concentration. To be consistent with section III.G.3., if all pollutants belonging to the same group are reported as ND or DNQ, the sum of the individual pollutant concentrations should be considered as zero for the calculation of the monthly average concentration.

IV. REOPENERS

- A. This Order may be reopened and modified, in accordance with SIP Section 2.2.2.A, to incorporate new limits based on future RPA to be conducted, upon completion of the collection of additional data by the Discharger.
- B. This Order may be reopened and modified, to incorporate in accordance with the provisions set forth in 40 CFR Parts 122 and 124, to include requirements for the implementation of the watershed management approach.
- C. This Order may be reopened and modified, in accordance with the provisions set forth in 40 CFR Parts 122 and 124, to include new MLs.
- D. This Order may be reopened and modified to revise effluent limitations as a result of future Basin Plan Amendments, such as an update of an objective or the adoption of a TMDL for the Dominguez Channel.
- E. This Order may be reopened upon submission by the Discharger of adequate information, as determined by the Regional Board, to provide for dilution credits or a mixing zone, as may be appropriate.
- F. This Order may be reopened and modified to revise the toxicity language once that language becomes standardized.
- G. This Order may also be reopened and modified, revoked, and reissued or terminated in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR sections 122.44, 122.62 to 122.64, 125.62, and 125.64. Causes for taking such actions include, but are not limited to, failure to comply with any condition of this Order and permit, and endangerment to human health or the environment resulting from the permitted activity.
- H. This Order may be modified or revoked based on the decision of the Regional Board in regards to the Dischargers application to revert the discharge practice to groundwater percolation into upgradient wells at the site.

V. EXPIRATION DATE

This Order expires on November 10, 2008.

The Discharger must file a Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with Title 23, California Code of Regulations, not later than 180 days in advance of such date as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements.

VI. RESCISSION

Order No. 97-005, adopted by this Regional Board on January 27, 1997, is hereby rescinded except for enforcement purposes.

I, Dennis Dickerson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on December 4, 2003.

Dennis A. Dickerson
Executive Officer