



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams  
Agency Secretary

Recipient of the 2001 Environmental Leadership Award from Keep California Beautiful

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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

July 25, 2006

Mr. Marc Romero  
3823 Mandeville Canyon Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
CLAIM NO. 7002 2030 0006 2095 2871

**GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE PERMIT ENROLLMENT UNDER GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS (ORDER NO. R4-2004-0146; SERIES 007, C.I. NO. 9120): 3663 MANDEVILLE CANYON ROAD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90049 (FILE NO. 06-124)**

Dear Mr. Romero:

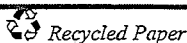
We have received your Notice of Intent dated June 12, 2006 for enrollment under Regional Board Order No. R4-2004-0146 General Waste Discharge Requirements for Residential Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTSs). You have proposed to install a septic system that is composed of a 3,436-gallon septic tank and one five-foot diameter, 20 feet deep seepage pit. The septic system would be equipped with an advanced treatment system.

You have proposed to install the MicroSeptic Enviroserver E12 (Microseptic) with ultraviolet (UV) disinfection. The Microseptic system consists of a single tank with five internal chambers. Raw sewage enters the primary settling chamber where the solids settle to form a sludge; the fats, oils and grease float to form a scum layer and a clear layer remaining in the middle. The clear layer flows into the first aeration chamber where fine air bubbles aerate the bacteria that live in the treated effluent and in the Biomedia balls installed in the chamber. The effluent flows into a second aeration chamber and finally to the final clarifier chamber prior to its discharge into the seepage pit. In the final clarifier chamber, the biosolids generated from the aeration process are re-circulated back to the primary settling chamber. The treated effluent passes through an additional gravity-fed chamber with ultraviolet light for disinfection prior to passing into the final effluent chamber and then discharged into the seepage pit.

Your residence is located in an unsewered area of the City of Los Angeles. The nearest sewer connection is at the intersection of Mandeville Canyon Road and Chalon Road which is approximately 2.7 miles from the property; and you have stated that a sewer connection would cost millions of dollars. Your water supply comes from the Los Angeles City Department of Water and Power. Based on historical data, groundwater is estimated at 35 feet below the surface. You indicated that there is no well in the immediate vicinity of your residence and that your residence is less than 100 feet of the Mandeville Canyon Creek.

Regional Board staff has reviewed the information provided and have determined that the proposed discharge meets the conditions specified in Order No. R4-2004-0146, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Residential Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, adopted by the Regional Board on September 2, 2004. Please note that we have determined that your

**California Environmental Protection Agency**



*Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.*

discharge is "High Risk" because it is within 100 feet from Mandeville Canyon Creek. This creek is a tributary to the Santa Monica Beach, a water body that is identified as impaired for nutrients and/or bacteria under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act.

The City of Los Angeles (City) and the Regional Board entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on October 8, 2004 where the Regional Board designated the City and the City accepted the designation as the Qualified Lead Agency (QLA) for the regulation of City-regulated OWTs, within the City. However, city-regulated OWTs do not include those systems that upon mutual agreement of the City and the Regional Board require the issuance of a WDR to the operator of such OWTs. Dischargers located in areas identified as high-risks could be required to install advanced treatment systems with their OWTs. OWTs with advanced treatment systems need an operating permit from the City to discharge waste. The City has not yet adopted an ordinance that gives them authority to issue an operating permit and the Regional Board has agreed to consider issuance of WDRs to such Dischargers.

Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements, consisting of Order No. R4-2004-0146 and Monitoring and Reporting Program CI 9120 specific to 3663 Mandeville Canyon Road. Dischargers meeting the High risk criteria must comply with the Discharge Prohibitions, General Provisions and Compliance and Enforcement provisions, as well as Specific Provisions, Receiving Water Limitations and Monitoring and Reporting Requirements of parts D, E, F, G, H, and I and the Standard Provisions in Attachment A of Order No. R4-2004-0146. In addition, you are required to comply with any local agency requirements with respect to septic systems and wastewater disposal.

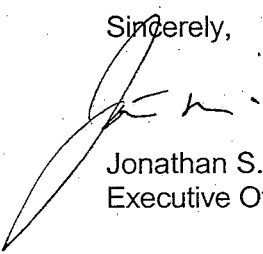
Groundwater monitoring is not required at this time due to the installation of the advanced treatment system. Section G.5. of Order R4-2004-0146 specify that Dischargers that provide advanced treatment of sewage effluent may demonstrate compliance by sampling effluent prior to discharge to the subsurface disposal system or "end of pipe" sampling. The Executive Officer, after considering the factors in this case' has set the following effluent standards:

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	30 milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	30 mg/L
Fecal Coliform	200 MPN/100mL
Enterococcus	104 MPN/100mL

Although your discharge is enrolled under the General Permit, it will be reviewed periodically. Should changes to your septic disposal system be needed, engineering drawings showing the change must be filed with the Regional Board a minimum of thirty days prior to the change. In addition, the change is subject to the review and approval of the City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Dionisia Rodriguez at (213) 620-6122.

Sincerely,



Jonathan S. Bishop  
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Order No. R4-2004-0146  
Monitoring and Reporting Program CI 9120  
Standard Provisions

cc: Dana Provost, City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety  
Adel Hagekhalil, City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation/WESD  
Kevin Poffenberger, EPD Consultants, Inc.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. CI-9120  
FOR

RESIDENCE OF MARC ROMERO  
(3663 MANDEVILLE CANYON ROAD)

ENROLLMENT UNDER GENERAL PERMIT  
ORDER NO. R4-2004-0146 (SERIES NO. 007)  
(FILE NO. 06-124)

**A. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Marc Romero (hereinafter Discharger) shall implement this monitoring program on the effective date of this enrollment July 25, 2006 under Regional Board Order No. R4-2004-0146. The first monitoring report under this program, for July - September 2006, shall be received at the Regional Board by October 15, 2006.

Monitoring reports shall be received by the dates in the following schedule:

<u>Reporting Period</u>	<u>Report Due</u>
January – March	April 15
April – June	July 15
July – September	October 15
October – December	January 15

If there is no discharge during any reporting period, the report shall so state. Monitoring reports must be addressed to the Regional Board, Attention: Information Technology Unit.

**B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

Medium and high-risk dischargers identified in parts A.3.b. and A.3.c. of Regional Board Order No. R4-2004-0146 shall submit an operation and maintenance program to the Regional Board no later than 90 days after enrollment under the Order and receipt of WDRs

1. The operation and maintenance program shall include, at a minimum, the following:
  - a. The name, address and telephone number of the person or company responsible for the operation and maintenance of the onsite wastewater treatment system.
  - b. Planned frequency of preventative maintenance, including
    1. Inspection and periodic pumping out of the septic tank.
    2. Inspection and maintenance of subsurface disposal system.
    3. Inspection and maintenance of any advanced treatment components.

- c. Corrective action plan for any signs of failure detected during inspection of septic tank, subsurface disposal system, or advanced treatment components.
2. Septic tanks shall be inspected annually for sludge depth and scum thickness in each component of each septic tank, distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device, and distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device.
3. Septic tanks shall be pumped when any one of the following conditions exists or may occur before the next inspection:
  - a. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one-third of the tank depth of the first compartment, or
  - b. The scum layer is within three inches of the outlet device, or
  - c. The sludge layer is within eight inches of the outlet device.

In the event that wastes are hauled offsite, the name and address of the hauler shall be reported, along with types and quantities hauled during the reporting period and the location of final point of disposal. In the event that no wastes are hauled during the reporting period, a statement to that effect shall be submitted.

4. Subsurface disposal systems shall be subject to an annual visual inspection for signs of failure. Signs to look for include:
  - a. Odors of sewage origin
  - b. Indication of surfacing wastewater,
  - c. Abnormal settling or erosion
  - d. Excessive vegetation in disposal area,
  - e. Ponding of wastewater in the disposal area, and
  - f. Excessive vegetation or algae growth in nearby surface waters.

If the subsurface disposal system has inspection pipes or a distribution box, they shall be inspected as well.

5. For alternative onsite wastewater treatment systems, the discharger shall submit a plan for the inspection and maintenance of advanced treatment components
6. The discharger shall keep current and submit to the Regional Board an operation and maintenance report every year.

**C. MONITORING PROGRAM**

1. High-risk dischargers identified in part A.3.c. of Regional Board Order No, R4-2004-0146 shall submit a monitoring program to the Regional Board not later than 90 days after enrollment under the Order and receipt of WDRs.
2. Discharges characterized as high-risk based on a groundwater quality concern shall submit a groundwater monitoring program. Dischargers that provide advanced treatment of sewage effluent may demonstrate compliance with

receiving water limits by sampling effluent prior to discharge to the subsurface disposal system. In such cases, dischargers shall submit an effluent sampling plan in lieu of a monitoring plan.

The following shall constitute the effluent sampling program:

Constituent	Units*	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency of Analysis
pH	pH Units	grab	quarterly
Total nitrogen	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Nitrate-nitrogen	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Nitrite-nitrogen	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Total coliform	MPN/100mL	grab	quarterly
Fecal coliform	MPN/100mL	grab	quarterly
Enterococcus	MPN/100mL	grab	quarterly

\* MPN/100mL: Most Probable Number per 100 milliliter; mg/L: milligrams per liter

3. Unless otherwise approved by the Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

4. If the discharger monitors any constituent more frequently than required by the General WDRs, the discharger shall submit the monitoring results to the Regional Board.
5. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information including all calibration and maintenance records, copies of all reports required by these general WDRs, and records of all data used to complete the application for these general WDRs. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of three years from the date of the sample, measurement, or report. This period may be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge or when requested by the Executive Officer.
6. Records of monitoring information shall include the following:
  - a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or 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 analyses,
  - e. The analytical techniques or method used, and
  - f. The results of such analyses.

7. All monitoring instruments and devices that are used by the discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy.
8. Each monitoring report must affirm in writing that "All analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California Department of Health Services and in accordance with current USEPA guideline procedures or as specified in this Monitoring Program." Proper chain of custody procedures must be followed and a copy of the chain of custody shall be submitted with the report.
9. If there is no discharge, during any reporting period, the report shall so state. Monitoring reports must be addressed to the Regional Board, Attention: Information Technology Unit.
10. For every item where the requirements are not met, the discharger shall submit a statement of the cause(s), and actions undertaken or proposed which will bring the discharge into full compliance with waste discharge requirements at the earliest possible time, including a timetable for implementation of those actions.
11. The discharger shall maintain all sampling and analytical results, including strip charts; date; exact place, and time of sampling; dates analyses were performed; analyst's name; analytical techniques used; and results of all analyses. Such records shall be retained for a minimum of three years. This period of retention shall be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge, or when requested by the Regional Board.
12. Any mitigation/remedial activity including any pre-discharge treatment conducted at the site must be reported in the quarterly monitoring report.
13. The discharger shall submit an annual report to the Regional Board by January 15 of each year. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. In addition, the discharger shall discuss the compliance record and the corrective actions taken or planned which may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the general WDRs.
14. Specifications in this monitoring program are subject to periodic revisions. Monitoring requirements may be modified or revised by the Executive Officer based on review of monitoring data submitted pursuant to this Order. Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted to a less frequent basis by the Executive Officer.
15. Each monitoring report shall contain a separate section titled "Summary of Non-compliance" which discusses the compliance record and the corrective actions taken or planned that may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the WDRs. This section shall be located at the front of the report and shall clearly list all non-compliance with WDRs, as well as all exceedances of effluent limitations.

