

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION**

320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013  
(213) 576-6600 • Fax (213) 576-6640

**ORDER NO. R4-2025-XXXX  
TERMINATION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

**FOR  
LAND TREATMENT UNIT OPERATIONS  
HALACO ENGINEERING CO.  
File No. 80-058**

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

1. The Halaco Engineering Co. (Discharger) operated a metal recycling facility to recover metals, primarily aluminum and magnesium with smaller amounts of zinc, from metal dross, skimmings, sludge, scrap, and aluminum cans.
2. Following the main recovery process, the residual slag-like material was run through a washing process to extract additional metals. The resulting wastewater was discharged to an unlined, bermed pond located on property. This industrial wastewater was pumped to the surface impoundment waste management unit (WMU), where suspended solids were allowed to settle.
3. Historically, solid waste from the WMU was dredged and deposited along the perimeter of the WMU. Later, dried waste materials were placed to the north of the WMU. In total, approximately 430,000 cubic yards of waste materials were deposited in the WMU, with material depths ranging from 20 to 40 feet. The WMU covered an area of at least 15 acres.
4. In late 2004, Halaco ceased all operations due to insufficient funding.
5. Preliminary site contamination investigations have identified several metals and radionuclides pollutants at the Halaco Metal Recycling Facility. On September 19, 2007, the State of California added the facility to the California Hazardous Waste Priority List due to the contamination concerns.
6. In 2006, 2007, and 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) directed or completed several removal actions to stabilize and secure the Site, minimizing the potential for off-site migration of contaminants while developing long-term cleanup plans.
7. Site characterization was completed from 2009 to 2015 as part of a remedial investigation (RI) to provide information on the sources, nature, extent, and movement of contamination, to identify human health and ecological risks posed by the contamination and identify areas needing remediation.

May 5, 2025

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8. The USEPA is proceeding with cleanup of contaminated soils, sediments, and groundwater in multiple areas of the site including the smelter property, Nature Conservancy property, City of Oxnard owned property, and the WMU area.
9. The USEPA continues to evaluate remediation strategies for the WMU. As part of this ongoing assessment, the agency is exploring various cleanup options, including leaving the wastes in place (“capping”); transporting the wastes to a licensed offsite disposal facility; or using the wastes in a “beneficial reuse” capacity, such as a partial substitute for Portland cement in ready-mix concrete. A proposed cleanup plan for the contaminated soils and sediments is expected to be released in 2025.
10. The WDRs established in Los Angeles Water Board Order No. 80-058 for the operation of the WMU no longer accurately reflect the closed-site conditions. The WDRs are no longer necessary, as the closure, post-closure maintenance, and any required remediation of the WMU are now under the oversight of the USEPA.
11. Termination of the WDRs is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061, subdivision (b)(3) (common sense exemption) because there is no possibility that a termination of WDRs may have a significant effect on the environment.
12. The Los Angeles Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested parties and persons of its intent to terminate the WDRs and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.
13. The Los Angeles Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments regarding the termination of the WDRs.
14. Pursuant to CWC section 13320, any aggrieved party may seek review of this Order by filing a petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). The petition must be received by the State Water Board, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812, within 30 days of the date this Order is adopted.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that WDRs Order No. R4-80-058 be terminated, except for enforcement purposes:

The Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board is authorized, and is hereby directed, to certify and submit a copy of this Order to the Discharger, and to such individuals and governmental agencies that request it.

I, Susana Arredondo, 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 June 26, 2025.

Susana Arredondo  
Executive Officer

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