

# CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

## LOS ANGELES REGION

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**ORDER NO. R4-2009-0074**  
**NPDES NO. CA0054216**

### WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, VALENCIA WATER RECLAMATION PLANT DISCHARGE TO SANTA CLARA RIVER

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 1. Discharger Information**

<b>Discharger</b>	Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County
<b>Name of Facility</b>	Valencia Water Reclamation Plant
<b>Facility Address</b>	28185 The Old Road
	Santa Clarita, CA 91355
	Los Angeles County
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) have classified this discharge as a major discharge.	

The discharge by the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County from the discharge points identified below is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

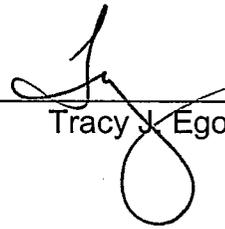
**Table 2. Discharge Location**

<b>Discharge Point</b>	<b>Effluent Description</b>	<b>Discharge Point Latitude</b>	<b>Discharge Point Longitude</b>	<b>Receiving Water</b>
001	Tertiary treated effluent	34 °, 25', 49.6" N	118°, 35',33.37" W	Santa Clara River
002	Tertiary treated effluent	34 °, 25', 48.27" N	118°, 35',31.95" W	Santa Clara River

**Table 3. Administrative Information**

This Order was adopted by the Regional Water Board on:	June 4, 2009
This Order shall become effective on:	July 24, 2009
This Order shall expire on:	May 10, 2014
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with title 23, California Code of Regulations, as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements no later than:	180 days prior to the Order expiration date (Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, part 122.21(d))

I, Tracy J. Egoscue, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Board, Los Angeles Region, on June 4, 2009.



Tracy J. Egoscue, Executive Officer

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## I. FACILITY INFORMATION

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 4. Facility Information**

<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County</b>
<b>Name of Facility</b>	<b>Valencia Water Reclamation Plant</b>
<b>Facility Address</b>	<b>28185 The Old Road</b>
	<b>Santa Clarita, CA 91355</b>
	<b>Los Angeles County</b>
<b>Facility Contact, Title, and Phone</b>	<b>Thomas Weiland, Supervising Engineer, (562) 908-4288 X2855</b>
<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>1955 Workman Mill Road Whittier, CA 90601</b>
<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Publicly Owned Treatment Works</b>
<b>Facility Design Flow</b>	<b>21.6 million gallons per day (MGD)</b>

## II. FINDINGS

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

**A. Background.** Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County (hereinafter Discharger or SCVSD, formerly referred to as Los Angeles County Sanitation District) is currently discharging wastewater pursuant to Order No. R4-2003-0145 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0054216. The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated April 11, 2008, and applied for an NPDES permit renewal to discharge up to 21.6 MGD of tertiary-treated wastewater from the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant (hereinafter Facility). The application was deemed complete on June 30, 2008.

For the purposes of this Order, references to the “discharger” or “permittee” in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

**B. Facility Description.** The Discharger owns and operates the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant, a publicly owned treatment works (POTW). The treatment system consists of comminution, screening, grit removal, primary sedimentation, flow equalization, activated sludge aeration with nitrogen removal, secondary sedimentation, dual-media pressure filtration, chlorination, and dechlorination (sodium bisulfite). Waste activated sludge is concentrated by dissolved air flotation, blended with primary sludge, and anaerobically digested. The digested solids are thickened using a filter press. Dried solids are trucked away offsite either to a landfill or to a site for land application. The Valencia WRP is part of the SCVSD’s regional system, known as the Santa Clarita Valley Joint Sewerage System, which also includes the Saugus Water Reclamation Plant (Saugus WRP). The regional system allows biosolids, solids, and excess influent flows from the Saugus WRP to be diverted to the Valencia WRP for treatment and disposal. Under normal conditions, treated wastewater is discharged by gravity flow from Discharge Points 001 (see table on cover page) to the Santa Clara River, a water of the United States, within Santa Clara River Watershed. However, when the water level rises in the stream to the extent that Discharge Point 001 is partially or completely submerged (i.e., during heavy storm events), the final effluent is also discharged to the Santa Clara River, through Discharge Serial No. 002, located a few feet away from Discharge Point 001. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the facility.

**C. Legal Authorities.** This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this facility to surface waters. This Order also serves as Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260).

- D. Background and Rationale for Requirements.** The Regional Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the application, through monitoring and reporting programs, and other available information. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F), which contains background information and rationale for Order requirements, is hereby incorporated into this Order and constitutes part of the Findings for this Order. Attachments A through K are also incorporated into this Order.
- E. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).** Under California Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of CEQA, Public Resources Code sections 21100-21177.
- F. Technology-based Effluent Limitations.** Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at part 122.44, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Secondary Treatment Standards at part 133 and Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with Part 125.3. A detailed discussion of the technology-based effluent limitations development is included in the Fact Sheet (Attachment F).
- G. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations.** Section 301(b) of the CWA and part 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards. This Order contains requirements for BOD and TSS, expressed as a technology equivalence requirement, more stringent than secondary treatment requirements that are necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The rationale for these requirements, which consist of tertiary treatment, is discussed in the Fact Sheet.

Part 122.44(d)(1)(i) mandates that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) must be established using: (1) USEPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in Part 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

- H. Water Quality Control Plans.** The Regional Water Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region: Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (hereinafter Basin Plan) on June 13, 1994 that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters

addressed through the plan. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. Beneficial uses applicable to the receiving waters are as follows:

**Table 5a. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses – Surface Waters**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001 and 002	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.51)	<u>Existing:</u> industrial service supply (IND), industrial process supply (PROC), and agricultural supply (AGR); groundwater recharge (GWR); freshwater replenishment (FRSH); water contact (REC-1) and non-contact water recreation (REC-2); rare, threatened, or endangered species (RARE); warm freshwater habitat (WARM), wildlife habitat (WILD), and wetland <sup>[1]</sup> habitat (WET).  <u>Potential:</u> Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN).
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.41)	<u>Existing:</u> IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE; migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR); WARM, WILD, WET  <u>Potential:</u> MUN.
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.31)	<u>Existing:</u> IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE, MIGR, WARM, WILD, and WET; <u>Potential:</u> MUN.
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.21)	<u>Existing:</u> IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE, MIGR, WARM, WILD, and WET <u>Potential:</u> MUN.
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.11)	<u>Existing:</u> IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE, MIGR, WARM, COLD, WILD, and WET <u>Potential:</u> MUN;
	Santa Clara River Estuary (Hydro unit 403.11)	<u>Existing:</u> navigation (NAV), REC-1, REC-2, commercial and sport fishing (COMM), estuarine habitat (EST), marine habitat (MAR), WILD, WET, RARE, MIGR, spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN).

\* The potential municipal and domestic supply (p\* MUN) beneficial use for the waterbody is consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 88-63 and Regional Water Board Resolution No. 89-003; however, the Regional Water Board has only conditionally designated the MUN beneficial use of the surface water and at this time cannot establish effluent limitations designed to protect the conditional designation.

The beneficial uses of the receiving ground waters are as follows:

**Table 5b. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses – Ground Waters**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001, 002	Eastern Santa Clara (DWR Basin No. 4-4.07)	South Fork – Existing Beneficial Uses: Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN), industrial service supply (IND), industrial process supply (PROC), and agricultural supply (AGR);  Placerita Canyon – Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, AGR  Santa Clara/Bouquet & San Francisquito Canyons - Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, AGR  Castaic Valley- Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, AGR  Saugus Aquifer- Existing Beneficial Use: MUN
	Ventura Central Basin (DWR Basin No. 4-4)	Santa Clara, Lower Area East of Piru Creek Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, and AGR;  Santa Clara, Lower Area West of Piru Creek Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara, Upper Sespe area Existing Beneficial Uses: IND and AGR Potential Beneficial Uses: MUN and PROC  Santa Clara – Fillmore area: Pole Creek Fan area Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara – Fillmore area: South side of Santa Clara River Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara - Remaining Fillmore area Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara – Santa Paula area; East of Peck Road Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara – Santa Paula area: West of Peck Road Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;
	Oxnard Plain (DWR Basin No. 4-4)	Oxnard Forebay Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, and AGR;

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
		<p><u>Confined Aquifers</u>                      Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, and AGR;</p> <p><u>Unconfined and perched aquifers</u>                      Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN and AGR;                      Potential Beneficial Use: IND</p>

Requirements of this Order implement the Basin Plan.

The 1994 Basin Plan provided water quality objectives for ammonia to protect aquatic life, in Tables 3-1 through Tables 3-4. However, those ammonia objectives were revised on April 25, 2002, by the Regional Water Board with the adoption of Resolution No. 2002-011, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Update the Ammonia Objectives for Inland Surface Waters (Including Enclosed Bays, Estuaries and Wetlands) with Beneficial Use Designations for Protection of Aquatic Life*. The ammonia Basin Plan amendment was approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and USEPA on April 30, 2003, June 5, 2003, and June 19, 2003, respectively. On December 1, 2005, Resolution No. 2005-014, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Revise the Early Life Stage Implementation Provision of the Freshwater Ammonia Objectives for Inland Surface Waters (including enclosed bays, estuaries and wetlands) for Protection of Aquatic Life*, was adopted by the Regional Water Board. Resolution No. 2005-014 was approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and USEPA on July 19, 2006, August 31, 2006, and April 5, 2007, respectively. Although the revised ammonia water quality objectives may be less stringent than those contained in the 1994 Basin Plan, they are still protective of aquatic life and are consistent with USEPA's 1999 ammonia criteria update.

On October 25, 2006, the State Water Board adopted a revised 303(d) list. The 2006 303(d) list was partially approved by the USEPA on November 30, 2006. However, on March 8, 2007, USEPA partially disapproved the State's 303(d) List, by disapproving the State's omission of impaired waters that met federal listing regulations or guidance. USEPA is adding 64 waters and 37 associated pollutants to the State's 303(d) list. On June 28, 2007, USEPA transmitted the final approved 2004-2006 Section 303(d) List, which serves as the State's most recent list of impaired waterbodies. The list (hereinafter referred to as the 303(d) List) was prepared in accordance with Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act to identify specific impaired waterbodies where water quality standards are not expected to be met after implementation of technology-based effluent limitations on point sources.

Santa Clara River is on the 2006 303(d) List. The following pollutants/stressors, from point and non-point sources, were identified as impacting the receiving waters:

1. Santa Clara River Reach 7 (Bouquet Canyon Rd to above Lang Gauging Station, was named Santa Clara River Reach 9 on 2002 303(d) list) Hydro Unit 403.51 - Coliform Bacteria;
  2. Santa Clara River Reach 6 (West Pier Hwy 99 to Bouquet Canyon Rd., was named Santa Clara River Reach 8 on 2002 303(d) list) Hydro Unit 403.51 – Chlorpyrifos, Coliform Bacteria, Diazinon, Toxicity, ammonia, and chloride;
  3. Santa Clara River Reach 5 (Blue cut to West Pier Hwy 99 Bridge, was named Santa Clara River Reach 7 on 2002 303(d) list) - Coliform Bacteria, ammonia, chloride, nitrate and nitrite;
  4. Santa Clara River Reach 3 (Freeman Diversion to A Street) – Total Dissolved Solids, ammonia, and chloride;
  5. Santa Clara River Reach 1 (Estuary to Hwy 101 Bridge) – Toxicity;
  6. Santa Clara River Estuary – Chem A, Coliform Bacteria, Toxaphene.
- I. National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** USEPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, USEPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain water quality criteria for priority pollutants.
- J. State Implementation Policy.** On March 2, 2000, the State Water 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 became effective on April 28, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the USEPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005 that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.
- K. Compliance Schedules and Interim Requirements.** Section 2.1 of the SIP provides that, based on a Discharger's request and demonstration that it is infeasible for an existing Discharger to achieve immediate compliance with an effluent limitation derived from a CTR criterion, compliance schedules may be allowed in an NPDES permit. Unless an exception has been granted under section 5.3 of the SIP, a compliance schedule may not exceed 5 years from the date that the permit is issued or reissued, nor may it extend beyond 10 years from the effective date of the SIP (or May 17, 2010)

to establish and comply with CTR criterion-based effluent limitations. Where a compliance schedule for a final effluent limitation exceeds 1 year, the Order must include interim numeric limitations for that constituent or parameter. Where allowed by the Basin Plan, compliance schedules and interim effluent limitations or discharge specifications may also be granted to allow time to implement a new or revised water quality objective. This Order does include TMDL-based compliance schedules and interim effluent limitations. A detailed discussion of the basis for the compliance schedule(s) and interim effluent limitation(s) is included in the Fact Sheet.

**L. Alaska Rule.** On March 30, 2000, USEPA revised its regulation that specifies when new and revised state and tribal water quality standards (WQS) become effective for CWA purposes. (40 C.F.R. § 131.21; 65 Fed. Reg. 24641 (April 27, 2000).) Under the revised regulation (also known as the Alaska rule), new and revised standards submitted to USEPA after May 30, 2000, must be approved by USEPA before being used for CWA purposes. The final rule also provides that standards already in effect and submitted to USEPA by May 30, 2000 may be used for CWA purposes, whether or not approved by USEPA.

**M. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants.** This Order contains both technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for individual pollutants. The technology-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on BOD, TSS, pH, and percent removal of BOD and TSS. Restrictions on BOD, TSS and pH are discussed in Section IV.B. of the Fact Sheet. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements.

Water quality-based effluent limitations have been scientifically derived to implement water quality objectives that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. To the extent that toxic pollutant water quality-based effluent limitations were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to part 131.38. The scientific procedures for calculating the individual water quality-based effluent limitations for priority pollutants are based on the CTR-SIP, which was approved by USEPA on May 18, 2000. Most beneficial uses and water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by USEPA prior to May 30, 2000. Any water quality objectives and beneficial uses submitted to USEPA prior to May 30, 2000, but not approved by USEPA before that date, are nonetheless "applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA" pursuant to part 131.21(c)(1). For the most part, this Order's restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA.

**N. Antidegradation Policy.** Part 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing

quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies. As discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet the permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provision of part 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.

- O. Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at title 40, Code of Federal Regulations part 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions where limitations may be relaxed. Some effluent limitations in this Order are less stringent than those in the previous Order. As discussed in detail in the Fact Sheet this relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and federal regulations.
- P. Endangered Species Act.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code sections 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. sections 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state. The discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.
- Q. Monitoring and Reporting.** Part 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. California Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and State requirements. This Monitoring and Reporting Program is provided in Attachment E.
- R. Standard and Special Provisions.** Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with part 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with part 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under part 122.42. The Regional Water Board has also included in this Order special provisions applicable to the Discharger. A rationale for the special provisions contained in this Order is provided in the attached Fact Sheet.
- S. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law.** The provisions/requirements in subsection V.B of this Order are included to implement state law only. These provisions/requirements are not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of these provisions/requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.
- T. Notification of Interested Parties.** The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste

Discharge Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of notification are provided in the Fact Sheet of this Order.

**U. Consideration of Public Comment.** The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet of this Order.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Order Nos. R4-2003-0145 and R4-2005-0032 are superseded upon the effective date of this Order except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order.

### **III. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS**

- A.** Discharge of wastewater at a location different from that described in this Order is prohibited.
- B.** The bypass or overflow of untreated wastewater or wastes to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited, except as allowed in Standard Provision I.G. of Attachment D, Standard Provisions.
- C.** The monthly average effluent dry weather discharge flow rate from the facility shall not exceed the design capacity.
- D.** The Discharger shall not cause degradation of any water supply, except as consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 68-16.
- E.** The treatment or disposal of wastes from the facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as determined in section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), of the California Water Code.
- F.** The discharge of any substances in concentrations toxic to animal or plant is prohibited.
- G.** The discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent or high level radiological waste is prohibited.

**IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

**A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Points 001 and 002**

**1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Points 001 and 002**

- a. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Points 001 and 002 into Santa Clara River, with compliance measured at Monitoring Locations EFF001 and EFF002, respectively, as described in the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program:

**Table 6. Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Ave. Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instant. Minimum	Instant. Maximum
Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5-day @ 20°C	mg/L	20	30	45	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	3600	5400	8100	--	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	15	40	45	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	2700	7200	8100	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.1	--	0.3	--	--
Oil and grease	mg/L	10	--	15	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	1800		2700	--	--
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	--	--	0.1	--	--
Total dissolved solids (TDS)	mg/L	1,000	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	180,000	--	--	--	--
Sulfate	mg/L	400	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	72,000	--	--	--	--
Boron	mg/L	1.5	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	270	--	--	--	--
MBAS	mg/L	0.5	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	90	--	--	--	--

<sup>1</sup> The mass emission rates are based on the plant design flow rate of 21.6 MGD, and are calculated as follows: Flow(MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34 (conversion factor) = lbs/day. During wet-weather storm events in which the flow exceeds the design capacity, the mass discharge rate limitations shall not apply, and concentration limitations will provide the only applicable effluent limitations.

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Ave. Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instant. Minimum	Instant. Maximum
Chloride	mg/L	--	--	100 <sup>2</sup>	--	--
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH <sub>3</sub> -N)	mg/L	1.75 <sup>3</sup>	--	5.2 <sup>3</sup>	--	--
Nitrate + Nitrite as Nitrogen (NO <sub>3</sub> -N + NO <sub>2</sub> -N)	mg/L	6.8 <sup>3</sup>	--	--	--	--
Nitrite as Nitrogen (NO <sub>2</sub> -N)	mg/L	0.9 <sup>3</sup>	--	--	--	--
Nitrate as N ( NO <sub>3</sub> -N)	mg/L	6.8 <sup>3</sup>	--	--	--	--
Arsenic	µg/L	10	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day	1.8	--	--	--	--
Mercury	µg/L	0.051	--	0.094	--	--
	lbs/day	0.0092	--	0.017	--	--
Selenium	µg/L	4.4	--	7.3	--	--
	lbs/day	0.79	--	1.3	--	--
Iron	µg/L	300	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day	54	--	--	--	--
Total trihalomethanes <sup>4</sup>	µg/L	80	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day	14	--	--	--	--

**b. Percent Removal:** The average monthly percent removal of BOD 5-day 20°C and total suspended solids shall not be less than 85 percent.

<sup>2</sup> This limitation is derived from the waste load allocation for chloride, as set forth in the *Chloride TMDL for the Upper Santa Clara River*, Resolution No. 004-004, Revision of interim waste load allocations and implementation plan for chloride in the Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to include a TMDL for Chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River (Resolution No. 03-008), adopted by the Regional Water Board on May 6, 2004. This effluent limitation is superceded by the interim effluent limit for chloride, based upon the interim waste load allocation, shown in Table 7 of this NPDES Order. According to Resolution No. R4-2006-016, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region through revision of the Implementation Plan for the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL*, which proposed to shorten the compliance period by two years, the WLA-based final effluent limit for chloride shall become operative 11 years after the effective date of the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL.

<sup>3</sup> This limitation is derived from the final waste load allocation, as set forth in Resolution No. 03-011, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to include a TMDL for Nitrogen Compounds in the Santa Clara River*, adopted by the Regional Water Board on August 7, 2003. The TMDL Implementation section specifies that the Waste Load Allocation shall become operative after the completion of additional treatment or modifications to achieve WLAs by POTWs, in as short a period of time as possible, but no later than eight years after the effective date of the TMDL (before March 23, 2012). At the Regional Water Board's discretion, interim limits based upon the interim waste load allocations, were allowed for a period not to exceed five years from the effective date of the TMDL. Since the Valencia WRP has completed its nitrification/denitrification upgrades, this effluent limitation is in effect.

<sup>4</sup> Total trihalomethanes is the sum of concentrations of the trihalomethane compounds: bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane. This limit is based on the Basin Plan WQO incorporation of MCLs by reference.

- c. The temperature of wastes discharged shall not exceed 86 °F except as a result of external ambient temperature.
- d. The radioactivity of the wastes discharged shall not exceed the limits specified in Title 22, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 64443, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), or subsequent revisions.
- e. The wastes discharged to water courses shall at all times be adequately disinfected. For the purpose of this requirement, the wastes shall be considered adequately disinfected if: 1) the median number of total coliform bacteria measured in the disinfected effluent does not exceed an MPN or CFU of 2.2 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed; 2) the number of total coliform organisms does not exceed an MPN or CFU of 23 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30-day period; and, 3) no sample exceeds 240 MPN or CFU of total coliform bacteria per 100 milliliters. Samples shall be collected at a time when wastewater flow and characteristics are most demanding on treatment facilities and the disinfection processes.
- f. For the protection of the water contact recreation beneficial use, the wastes discharged to water courses shall have received adequate treatment, so that the turbidity of the treated wastewater does not exceed: (a) an average of 2 Nephelometric turbidity units (NTUs) within a 24 hour period; (b) 5 NTUs more than 5 percent of the time (72 minutes) during any 24 hour period; and (c) 10 NTUs at any time.
- g. To protect underlying ground water basins, pollutants shall not be present in the wastes discharged at concentrations that pose a threat to ground water quality.
- h. Acute Toxicity Limitation and Effluent Requirements:
  - i. The acute toxicity of the effluent shall be such that:
    - (a) The average survival in the undiluted effluent for any three (3) consecutive 96-hour static renewal bioassay tests shall be at least 90%, and
    - (b) No single test produces less than 70% survival.
  - ii. If either of the above requirements (h)(i)(a) or (h)(i)(b) is not met, the Discharger shall conduct six additional tests over a twelve-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 5 business days of the receipt of the result. If the additional tests indicate compliance with acute toxicity limitation, the Discharger may resume testing at the regular frequency as specified in the monitoring and reporting program. 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 sources of toxicity. Once the sources are identified, the Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to reduce toxicity to meet the limits.

- iii. If the initial test and any of the additional six acute toxicity bioassay tests result in less than 70 % survival, the Discharger shall immediately implement the Initial Investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Workplan described later in this section.
  - iv. The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity monitoring as specified in Attachment E - Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP).
- i. Chronic Toxicity Trigger and Requirements:

- i. 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.

- ii. There shall be no chronic toxicity in the effluent discharge.
- iii. If the chronic toxicity of the effluent exceeds the 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub> monthly median trigger, the Discharger shall immediately implement accelerated chronic toxicity testing according to Attachment E –MRP, Section V.B.3. If any three out of the initial test and the six accelerated test results exceed 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub>, the Discharger shall initiate a TIE and implement the Initial Investigation TRE Workplan, as specified in Attachment E – MRP, Sections V.D and V.E.
- iv. The Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity monitoring as specified in Attachment E – MRP.

## 2. Interim Effluent Limitations

- a. Consistent with the Santa Clara River Watershed Chloride TMDL, during the period beginning July 24, 2009 (permit effective date) and ending on May 10, 2014<sup>5</sup> (permit expiration date), the Discharger shall maintain compliance with the

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<sup>5</sup> Should this NPDES permit be administratively extended, beyond the May 10, 2014 expiration date, then the chloride compliance date shall also be administratively extended, but not beyond the compliance date established in the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL.

following interim effluent limitation in Table 7 of this NPDES Order, at Discharge Points 001 and 002 compliance measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001 and EFF-002, as described in the attached MRP. This interim effluent limitation shall apply in lieu of the corresponding final effluent limitations, until the final effluent limitation becomes operative as delineated in Footnote 2 of Table 6, for the same parameter during the time period indicated in this provision.

**Table 7. Interim Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations			
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Chloride	mg/L	<sup>6</sup>	--	--	--

**B. Land Discharge Specifications**

[Not Applicable.]

**Table 8. Land Discharge Specifications**

Parameter	Units	Discharge Specifications		
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Average Annual
N/A				

**C. Reclamation Specifications**

**Water Reclamation Requirements for Irrigation & Industrial Use.** The discharger currently recycles treated effluent and plans on increasing the amount of water it recycles. The production, distribution, and reuse of recycled water for direct, non-potable applications are presently regulated under Water Reclamation Requirements (WRR) Order No. 87-48, adopted by this Regional Water Board on April 27, 1987.

**Table 9. Reclamation Discharge Specifications**

Parameter	Units	Discharge Specifications		
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Average Annual
N/A				

<sup>6</sup> The chloride interim limit is equal to the sum of the State Water Project treated water supply chloride concentration plus 134 mg/L, expressed as a 12-month rolling average, not to exceed a daily maximum of 230 mg/L.

## V. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

### A. Surface Water Limitation

Receiving water limitations are based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this Order. The discharge shall not cause the following in the Santa Clara River:

1. For waters designated with a warm freshwater habitat (WARM) beneficial use, the temperature of the receiving water at any time or place and within any given 24-hour period shall not be altered by more than 5°F above the natural temperature due to the discharge of effluent at the receiving water station located downstream of the discharge. Natural conditions shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.
2. The pH of inland surface waters shall not be depressed below 6.5 or raised above 8.5 as a result of wastes discharged. Ambient pH levels shall not be changed more than 0.5 units from natural conditions as a result of wastes discharged. Natural conditions shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.
3. The dissolved oxygen in the receiving water shall not be depressed below 5 mg/L as a result of the wastes discharged.
4. The fecal coliform concentration in the receiving water shall not exceed the following, as a result of wastes discharged:
  - a. Geometric Mean Limits
    - i. E.coli density shall not exceed 126/100 mL.
    - ii. Fecal coliform density shall not exceed 200/100 mL.
  - b. Single Sample Limits
    - i. E.coli density shall not exceed 235/100 mL.
    - ii. Fecal coliform density shall not exceed 400/100 mL.
5. Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. Increases in natural turbidity attributable to controllable water quality factors shall not exceed the following limits, as a result of wastes discharged:
  - a. Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 20%, and

- b. Where natural turbidity is greater than 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 10%.
6. The wastes discharged shall not produce concentrations of toxic substances in the receiving water that are toxic to or cause detrimental physiological responses in human, animal, or aquatic life.
7. The wastes discharged shall not cause concentrations of contaminants to occur at levels that are harmful to human health in waters which are existing or potential sources of drinking water.
8. The concentrations of toxic pollutants in the water column, sediments, or biota shall not adversely affect beneficial uses as a result of the wastes discharged.
9. The wastes discharged shall not contain substances that result in increases in BOD, which adversely affect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters.
10. Waters shall not contain biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growth to the extent that such growth causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
11. The wastes discharged shall not cause the receiving waters to contain any substance in concentrations that adversely affect any designated beneficial use.
12. The wastes discharged shall not alter the natural taste, odor, and color of fish, shellfish, or other surface water resources used for human consumption.
13. The wastes discharged shall not result in problems due to breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests.
14. The wastes discharged shall not result in visible floating particulates, foams, and oil and grease in the receiving waters.
15. The wastes discharged shall not alter the color of the receiving waters; create a visual contrast with the natural appearance of the water; nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters.
16. The wastes discharged shall not contain any individual pesticide or combination of pesticides in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses of the receiving waters. There shall be no increase in pesticide concentrations found in bottom sediments or aquatic life as a result of the wastes discharged.
17. Acute Toxicity Receiving Water Quality Objective
  - a. There shall be no acute toxicity in ambient waters as a result of wastes discharged.

- b. Receiving water and effluent toxicity testing shall be performed on the same day as close to concurrently as possible.
- c. The acute toxicity of the receiving water, at monitoring location RSW-002D located immediately downstream of the discharge(s), including mixing zone shall be such that: (i) the average survival in the undiluted receiving water for any three (3) consecutive 96-hour static, static renewal, or continuous flow bioassay tests shall be at least 90%, and (ii) no single test produces less than 70% survival. Static-renewal bioassay tests may be used, as allowed by the most current USEPA test method for measuring acute toxicity.
- d. If the upstream acute toxicity of the receiving water is greater than the downstream acute toxicity but the effluent acute toxicity is in compliance, acute toxicity accelerated monitoring in the receiving water according to Attachment E - MRP Section V.A.2.d does not apply.

#### **18. Chronic Toxicity Receiving Water Quality Objective**

- a. There shall be no chronic toxicity in ambient waters as a result of wastes discharged.
- b. Receiving water and effluent toxicity testing shall be performed on the same day as close to concurrently as possible.
- c. If the chronic toxicity in the receiving water at the monitoring station immediately downstream of the discharge exceeds the monthly median of 1.0 TUc trigger in a critical life stage test and the toxicity cannot be attributed to upstream toxicity, as assessed by the Discharger, then the Discharger shall immediately implement an accelerated chronic toxicity testing according to Attachment E – MRP Section V.B.3. If two of the six tests exceed a 1.0 TUc trigger, the Discharger shall initiate a TIE and implement the Initial Investigation TRE Workplan.
- d. If the chronic toxicity of the receiving water upstream of the discharge is greater than the downstream and the TUc of the effluent chronic toxicity test is less than or equal to a monthly median of 1 TUc trigger, then accelerated monitoring need not be implemented.

## **B. Groundwater Limitations**

Groundwater limitations are based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this Order. The discharge shall not cause the following in the groundwater basins:

1. In ground waters used for domestic or municipal supply the concentration of coliform organisms over any seven day period shall be less than 1.1/ 100 ml.
2. Ground waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents and radionuclides in excess of the limits specified in the provisions of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, which are incorporated by reference into the Basin Plan.
3. Ground waters shall not exceed 10 mg/L nitrogen as nitrate-nitrogen plus nitrite-nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_3\text{-N} + \text{NO}_2\text{-N}$ ), 45 mg/L as nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3$ ), 10 mg/L as nitrate-nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ ), or 1 mg/L as nitrite-nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$ ).
4. Groundwaters shall not contain taste or odor producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

## VI. PROVISIONS

### A. Standard Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D of this Order.
2. **Regional Water Board-specific Standard Provisions.** The Discharger shall comply with the following Regional Water Board-specific provisions:
  - a. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of pollutants shall create pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined by Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
  - b. Odors, vectors, and other nuisances of sewage or sludge origin beyond the limits of the treatment plant site or the sewage collection system due to improper operation of facilities, as determined by the Regional Water Board, are prohibited.
  - c. All facilities used for collection, transport, treatment, or disposal of "wastes" shall be adequately protected against damage resulting from overflow, washout, or inundation from a storm or flood having a recurrence interval of once in 100 years.
  - d. Collection, treatment, and disposal systems shall be operated in a manner that precludes public contact with wastewater.
  - e. Collected screenings, sludges, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board.
  - f. The provisions of this order are severable. If any provision of this order is found invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected.
  - g. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the discharger from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the CWA.
  - h. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the discharger from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the discharger is or may be subject to under Section 311 of the CWA.
  - i. 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 Water Board to local agencies.

- j.** Discharge to wastes to any point other than specifically described in this Order is prohibited, and constitutes a violation thereof.
- k.** 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, 403, and 405 of the Federal CWA and amendments thereto.
- l.** These requirements do not exempt the operator of the waste disposal facility from compliance with any other laws, regulations, or ordinances which may be applicable; they do not legalize this waste disposal facility, and they leave unaffected any further restraints on the disposal of wastes at this site which may be contained in other statutes or required by other agencies.
- m.** Oil or oily material, chemicals, refuse, or other polluting materials shall not be stored or deposited in areas where they may be picked up by rainfall and carried off of the property and/or discharged to surface waters. Any such spill of such materials shall be contained and removed immediately.
- n.** A copy of these waste discharge specifications shall be maintained at the discharge facility so as to be available at all times to operating personnel.
- o.** If there is any storage of hazardous or toxic materials or hydrocarbons at this facility and if the facility is not manned at all times, a 24-hour emergency response telephone number shall be prominently posted where it can easily be read from the outside.
- p.** The Discharger shall file with the Regional Water Board a report of waste discharge at least 120 days before making any proposed change in the character, location or volume of the discharge.
- q.** In the event of any change in name, ownership, or control of these waste disposal facilities, the discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board of such change and shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Regional Water Board.
- r.** California Water Code section 13385 provides that any person who violates a waste discharge requirement or a provision of the California Water Code is subject to civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per day, \$10,000 per day, or \$25,000 per day of violation, or when the violation involves the discharge of pollutants, is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10 per gallon per day or \$25 per gallon per day of violation; or some combination thereof, depending on the violation, or upon the combination of violations. Violation of any of the provisions of the NPDES program or of any of the provisions of this Order may subject the violator to any

of the penalties described herein, or any combination thereof, at the discretion of the prosecuting authority; except that only one kind of penalty may be applied for each kind of violation.

- s.** Pursuant to California Water Code 13387(e), any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this order, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance, or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained in this order and is subject to a fine of not more than \$25,000, imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. For a subsequent conviction, such a person shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$25,000 per day of violation, by imprisonment of not more than four years, or by both.
- t.** The discharge of any waste resulting from the combustion of toxic or hazardous wastes to any waste stream that ultimately discharges to waters of the United States is prohibited, unless specifically authorized elsewhere in this permit.
- u.** The Discharger shall notify the Executive Officer in writing no later than 6 months prior to planned discharge of any chemical, other than the products previously reported to the Executive Officer, which may be toxic to aquatic life. Such notification shall include:
  - i.** Name and general composition of the chemical,
  - ii.** Frequency of use,
  - iii.** Quantities to be used,
  - iv.** Proposed discharge concentrations, and
  - v.** USEPA registration number, if applicable.
- v.** Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from this facility, may subject the Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities.
- w.** In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation of this Order, the Discharger shall notify the Watershed Regulatory Section Chief at the Regional Water Board by telephone at (213) 576-6616, or electronically at [dhung@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:dhung@waterboards.ca.gov), within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing to the Regional Water Board within five days, unless the Regional Water Board waives confirmation.

The written notification shall state the nature, time, duration, and cause of non-compliance, and shall describe the measures being taken to remedy the current noncompliance, and the measures to prevent recurrence including, where applicable, a schedule of implementation. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.

- x. Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. (Wat. Code § 1211.)

## **B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements**

The Discharger shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E of this Order.

## **C. Special Provisions**

### **1. Reopener Provisions**

- a. This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause, including, but not limited to:

(1) Violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;

(2) Obtaining this Order by misrepresentation, or by failure to disclose fully all relevant facts;

(3) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.

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 noncompliances does not stay any condition of this Order.

- b. This Order may be reopened and modified, in accordance with SIP section 2.2.2.A to incorporate the results of revised reasonable potential analyses to be conducted upon receipt of additional data.
- c. This Order may be modified, in accordance with the provisions set forth in 40 C.F.R., Parts 122 and 124 to include requirements for the implementation of the watershed protection management approach.
- d. The Board may modify, or revoke and reissue this Order if present or future investigations demonstrate that the discharge(s) governed by this Order will cause,

have the potential to cause, or will contribute to adverse impacts on water quality and/or beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

- e.** This Order may also be modified, revoked, and reissued or terminated in accordance with the provisions of 40 C.F.R., parts 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, 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 District 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.
- f.** This Order may be modified, in accordance with the provisions set forth in 40 C.F.R., parts 122 to 124, to include new MLs.
- g.** If an applicable toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under section 307(a) of the CWA for a toxic pollutant and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in this Order, the Regional Water Board may institute proceedings under these regulations to modify or revoke and reissue the Order to conform to the toxic effluent standard or prohibition.
- h.** The waste discharged shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to Section 303 of the CWA, or amendments, thereto, the Regional Water Board will revise and modify this Order in accordance with such standards.
- i.** This Order may be reopened and modified to revise effluent limitations as a result of future Basin Plan Amendments, such as an update of a water quality objective, the adoption of a site specific objective, or the adoption of a TMDL for the Santa Clara River Watershed.
- j.** This Order may be reopened and modified to revise the chronic toxicity effluent limitation or the residual chlorine effluent limitation, to the extent necessary, to be consistent with State Water Board precedential decisions, new policies, new laws, or new regulations.
- k.** Upon the request of the Discharger, the Regional Board will evaluate future studies conducted , to evaluate the appropriateness of applying dilution credits and/or attenuation factors demonstrated to be appropriate and protective of the GWR beneficial use, on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis. Following this evaluation, this Order may be reopened to modify final effluent limitations, if at the conclusion of necessary studies conducted by the Discharger, the Regional

Water Board determines that dilution credits, attenuation factors, or metal translators are warranted.

## 2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements

### a. Toxicity Reduction Requirements

The Discharger shall prepare and submit a copy of the Discharger's initial investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) workplan to the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board for approval within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. If the Executive Officer does not disapprove the workplan within 60 days from the date in which it was received, the workplan shall become effective. The Discharger shall use USEPA manual EPA/833B-99/002 (municipal) as guidance, or most current version. At a minimum, the initial investigation TRE workplan must contain the provisions in **Attachment G**. This workplan shall describe the steps the Discharger intends to follow if toxicity is detected, and should include, at a minimum:

- (1) A description of the investigation and evaluation techniques that will be used to identify potential causes and sources of toxicity, effluent variability, and treatment system efficiency.
- (2) 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 the operation of the facility; and,
- (3) If a toxicity identification evaluation (TIE) is necessary, an indication of the person who would conduct the TIEs (i.e., an in-house expert or an outside contractor).

If the effluent toxicity test result exceeds the 1.0 TUc monthly median toxicity trigger, then the Discharger shall immediately implement accelerated toxicity testing that consists of six additional tests, approximately every two weeks, over a 12-week period. Effluent sampling for the first test of the six additional tests shall commence within 5 business days of receipt of the test results exceeding the toxicity trigger.

If the results of any two of the six tests (any two tests in a 12-week period) exceed the limitation, the Discharger shall initiate a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE).

If results of the implementation of the facility's initial investigation TRE workplan (as described above) indicate the need to continue the TRE/TIE, the Discharger shall expeditiously develop a more detailed TRE workplan for submittal to the Executive Officer within 15 days of completion of the initial investigation TRE.

Detailed toxicity testing and reporting requirements are contained in Section V of the MRP (Attachment E).

#### **b. Treatment Plant Capacity**

The Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board within 90 days after the “30-day (monthly) average” daily dry-weather flow equals or exceeds 75 percent of the design capacity of waste treatment and/or disposal facilities. The Discharger's senior administrative officer shall sign a letter, which transmits that report and certifies that the discharger's policy-making body is adequately informed of the report's contents. The report shall include the following:

- (1) The average daily flow for the month, the date on which the peak flow occurred, the rate of that peak flow, and the total flow for the day;
- (2) The best estimate of when the monthly average daily dry-weather flow rate will equal or exceed the design capacity of the facilities; and
- (3) A schedule for studies, design, and other steps needed to provide additional capacity for waste treatment and/or disposal facilities before the waste flow rate equals the capacity of present units.

This requirement is applicable to those facilities which have not reached 75 percent of capacity as of the effective date of this Order. For those facilities that have reached 75 percent of capacity by that date but for which no such report has been previously submitted, such report shall be filed within 90 days of the issuance of this Order.

### **3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention**

#### **a. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) – Not Applicable**

Within 90 days of the effective date of this Order the Discharger shall submit an updated SWPPP that describes site-specific management practices for minimizing contamination of storm water runoff and for preventing contaminated storm water runoff from being discharged directly to waters of the State to the Regional Water Board. The SWPPP shall be developed in accordance with the requirements in *Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Requirements* (Attachment H). If all storm water is captured and treated on-site and no storm water is discharged or allowed to run off-site from the Facility, the Discharge shall provide certification with descriptions of on-site storm water management to the Regional Water Board.

#### **b. Spill Clean-up Contingency Plan (SCP)**

Within ninety days, the Discharger is required to submit a Spill Clean-up Contingency Plan, which describes the activities and protocols, to address cleanup of spills, overflows, and bypasses of untreated or partially treated wastewater from the Discharger's collection system or treatment facilities, that reach water bodies, including dry channels and beach sands. At a minimum, the Plan shall include sections on spill clean-up and containment measures, public notification, and monitoring. The Discharger shall review and amend the Plan as appropriate after each spill from the facility or in the service area of the facility. The Discharger shall include a discussion in the annual summary report of any modifications to the Plan and the application of the Plan to all spills during the year.

**c. Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)**

Reporting protocols in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E, Section X.B.4 describe sample results that are to be reported as Detected but Not Quantified (DNQ) or Not Detected (ND). Definitions for a reported Minimum Level (ML) and Method Detection Limit (MDL) are provided in Attachment A. These reporting protocols and definitions are used in determining the need to conduct a Pollution Minimization Program (PMP) as follows:

The Discharger shall be required to develop and conduct a PMP as further described below when there is evidence (e.g., sample results reported as DNQ when the effluent limitation is less than the MDL, sample results from analytical methods more sensitive than those methods required by this Order, presence of whole effluent toxicity, health advisories for fish consumption, results of benthic or aquatic organism tissue sampling) that a priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and either:

- i. The concentration of the pollutant is reported as DNQ and the effluent limitation is less than the reported ML; or
- ii. The concentration of the pollutant is reported as ND and the effluent limitation is less than the MDL.

The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a pollutant through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Regional Water Board may consider cost-effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to CWC Section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

The PMP shall include, but not be limited to, the following actions and submittals acceptable to the Regional Water Board:

- i. An annual review and semi-annual monitoring of potential sources of the reportable priority pollutant(s), which may include fish tissue monitoring and other bio-uptake sampling;
- ii. Quarterly monitoring for the reportable priority pollutant(s) in the influent to the wastewater treatment system;
- iii. Submittal of a control strategy designed to proceed toward the goal of maintaining concentrations of the reportable priority pollutant(s) in the effluent at or below the effluent limitation;
- iv. Implementation of appropriate cost-effective control measures for the reportable priority pollutant(s), consistent with the control strategy; and
- v. An annual status report that shall be sent to the Regional Water Board including:
  - (a) All PMP monitoring results for the previous year;
  - (b) A list of potential sources of the reportable pollutant(s);
  - (c) A summary of all actions undertaken pursuant to the control strategy; and
  - (d) A description of actions to be taken in the following year.

#### **4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications**

- a. Wastewater treatment facilities subject to this Order shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certificates of appropriate grade pursuant to section 13625 of the California Water Code.
- b. The Discharger shall maintain in good working order a sufficient alternate power source for operating the wastewater treatment and disposal facilities. All equipment shall be located to minimize failure due to moisture, liquid spray, flooding, and other physical phenomena. The alternate power source shall be designed to permit inspection and maintenance and shall provide for periodic testing. If such alternate power source is not in existence, the discharger shall halt, reduce, or otherwise control all discharges upon the reduction, loss, or failure of the primary source of power.

#### **5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)**

##### **a. Sludge Disposal Requirements**

- (1) All sludge generated at the wastewater treatment plant will be disposed of, treated, or applied to land in accordance with federal regulations contained in 40 C.F.R. part 503. The Discharger shall comply with the requirements of Part 503, in general, and in particular with the requirements in Attachment I of

this Order, [Biosolids Use and Disposal Requirements]. These requirements are enforceable by USEPA.

- (2) The Discharger shall ensure compliance with the requirements in SWRCB Order No. 2004-10-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharge of Biosolids to Land for Use as a Soil Amendment in Agricultural, Silvicultural, Horticultural and Land Reclamation Activities" for those sites receiving the Discharger's biosolids which a Regional Water Board has placed under this general order, and with the requirements in individual Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) issued by a Regional Water Board for sites receiving the Discharger's biosolids.
- (3) The Discharger shall comply, if applicable, with WDRs issued by other Regional Water Boards to which jurisdiction the biosolids are transported and applied.
- (4) The Discharger shall furnish this Regional Water Board with a copy of any report submitted to USEPA, State Water Board or other Regional Water Board, with respect to municipal sludge or biosolids.

**b. Pretreatment Requirements**

- (1) This Order includes the Discharger's Pretreatment Program as previously submitted to this Regional Water Board. Any change to the Program shall be reported to the Regional Water Board in writing and shall not become effective until approved by the Executive Officer in accordance with procedures established in 40 C.F.R. Part 403.18.
- (2) The Discharger shall enforce the requirements promulgated under Sections 307(b), 307(c), 307(d), and 402(b) of the Federal Clean Water Act with timely, appropriate, and effective enforcement actions. The Discharger shall require industrial users to comply with Federal Categorical Standards and shall initiate enforcement actions against those users who do not comply with the standards. The Discharger shall require industrial users subject to the Federal Categorical Standards to achieve compliance no later than the date specified in those requirements or, in the case of a new industrial user, upon commencement of the discharge.
- (3) The Discharger shall perform the pretreatment functions as required in Federal Regulations 40 C.F.R. part 403 including, but not limited to:
  - A. Implement the necessary legal authorities as provided in 40 C.F.R. Part 403.8(f)(1);
  - B. Enforce the pretreatment requirements under 40 C.F.R. Parts 403.5 and 403.6;

- C. Implement the programmatic functions as provided in 40 C.F.R. Part 403.8(f)(2); and,
  - D. Provide the requisite funding of personnel to implement the Pretreatment Program as provided in 40 C.F.R. Part 403.8(f)(3).
- (4) The Discharger shall submit semiannual and annual reports to the Regional Water Board, with copies to the State Water Board and USEPA Region IX, describing the Discharger's pretreatment activities over the period. The annual and semiannual reports shall contain, but not be limited to the information required in the attached Pretreatment Reporting Requirements (Attachment J), or an approved revised version thereof. If the Discharger is not in compliance with any conditions or requirements of this Order, the Discharger shall include the reasons for noncompliance and shall state how and when the Discharger will comply with such conditions and requirements.
- (5) The Discharger shall be responsible and liable for the performance of all control authority pretreatment requirements contained in 40 C.F.R. Part 403, including subsequent regulatory revisions thereof. Where part 403 or subsequent revisions places mandatory actions upon the Discharger as Control Authority but does not specify a timetable for completion of the actions, the Discharger shall complete the required actions within six months from the effective date of this Order or the effective date of part 403 revisions, whichever comes later. For violations of pretreatment requirements, the Discharger shall be subject to enforcement actions, penalties, fines, and other remedies by the Regional Water Board, USEPA, or other appropriate parties, as provided in the Federal Clean Water Act. The Regional Water Board or USEPA may initiate enforcement action against an industrial user for noncompliance with acceptable standards and requirements as provided in the Federal Clean Water Act and/or the California Water Code.
- c. The Discharger's collection system is part of the system that is subject to this Order. As such, the Discharger must properly operate and maintain its collection system (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e)). The Discharger must report any non-compliance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l), subsections (6) and (7)) and mitigate any discharge from the collection system in violation of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d)). See Attachment D, subsections I.D, V.E, V.H, and I.C., and the following section (Spill Reporting Requirements) of this Order.

## **6. Spill Reporting Requirements**

### **A. Notification**

Although State and Regional Water Board staff do not have duties as first responders, this requirement is an appropriate mechanism to ensure that the agencies that do have first responder duties are notified in a timely manner in

order to protect public health and beneficial uses. For certain spills, overflows and bypasses, the Discharger shall make notifications as required below:

- a. *In accordance with the requirements of Health and Safety Code section 5411.5, the discharger shall provide notification to the local health officer or the director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water body of any unauthorized release of sewage or other waste that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to any waters of the state.*
- b. *In accordance with the requirements of Water Code section 13271, the discharger shall provide notification to the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) of the release of reportable amounts of hazardous substances or sewage that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to any waters of the state. The California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 2250, defines a reportable amount of sewage as being 1,000 gallons. The phone number for reporting these releases to Cal EMA is (800) 852-7550.*
- c. *The discharger shall notify the Regional Water Quality Control Board of any unauthorized release of sewage from its wastewater treatment plant that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to a water of the state as soon as possible, but not later than **two (2)** hours after becoming aware of the release. This notification does not need to be made if the discharger has notified Cal EMA. The phone number for reporting these releases of sewage to the Regional Water Quality Control Board is (213) 576-6657. At a minimum, the following information shall be provided:*
  - (i) *The location, date, and time of the release.*
  - (ii) *The water body that received or will receive the discharge.*
  - (iii) *An estimate of the amount of sewage or other waste released and the amount that reached a surface water at the time of notification.*
  - (iv) *If ongoing, the estimated flow rate of the release at the time of the notification.*
  - (v) *The name, organization, phone number and email address of the reporting representative.*

## B. Monitoring

For certain spills, overflows and bypasses, the Discharger shall monitor as required below:

- a. To define the geographical extent of spill's impact the Discharger shall obtain grab samples (if feasible, accessible, and safe) for spills, overflows or

bypasses of any volume that reach receiving waters. The Discharger shall analyze the samples for total and fecal coliforms or E. coli, and enterococcus, and relevant pollutants of concern, upstream and downstream of the point of entry of the spill (if feasible, accessible and safe). This monitoring shall be done on a daily basis from time the spill is known until the results of two consecutive sets of bacteriological monitoring indicate the return to the background level or the County Department of Public Health authorizes cessation of monitoring.

- b. The Discharger shall obtain a grab sample (if feasible, accessible, and safe) for spills, overflows or bypasses of any volume that flowed to receiving waters, entered a shallow ground water aquifer, or have the potential for public exposure; and for all spills, overflows or bypasses of 1,000 gallons or more. The Discharger shall characterize the sample for total and fecal coliforms or E. coli, and enterococcus, and analyze relevant pollutants of concern depending on the area and nature of spills or overflows if feasible, accessible and safe.

### C. Reporting

The Regional Water Board initial notification shall be followed by:

- a. *As soon as possible, but **not later than twenty four (24) hours** after becoming aware of an unauthorized discharge of sewage or other waste from its wastewater treatment plant to a water of the state, the discharger shall submit a statement to the Regional Water Quality Control Board by email at [aanijielo@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:aanijielo@waterboards.ca.gov). If the discharge is 1,000 gallons or more, this statement shall certify that Cal EMA has been notified of the discharge in accordance with Water Code section 13271. The statement shall also certify that the local health officer or director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water bodies has been notified of the discharge in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 5411.5. The statement shall also include at a minimum the following information:*
  - (i) *Agency, NPDES No., Order No., and MRP CI No., if applicable.*
  - (ii) *The location, date, and time of the discharge.*
  - (iii) *The water body that received the discharge.*
  - (iv) *A description of the level of treatment of the sewage or other waste discharged.*
  - (v) *An initial estimate of the amount of sewage or other waste released and the amount that reached a surface water.*

- (vi) The Cal EMA control number and the date and time that notification of the incident was provided to Cal EMA.*
- (vii) The name of the local health officer or director of environmental health representative notified (if contacted directly); the date and time of notification; and the method of notification (e.g., phone, fax, email).*
- b. A written preliminary report five working days after disclosure of the incident (submission to the Regional Water Board of the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) event number shall satisfy this requirement). Within 30 days after submitting the preliminary report, the Discharger shall submit the final written report to this Regional Water Board. (A copy of the final written report, for a given incident, already submitted pursuant to a Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Wastewater Collection System Agencies, may be submitted to the Regional Water Board to satisfy this requirement.) The written report shall document the information required in paragraph D. below, monitoring results and any other information required in provisions of the Standard Provisions document including corrective measures implemented or proposed to be implemented to prevent/minimize future occurrences. The Executive Officer for just cause can grant an extension for submittal of the final written report.
- c. The Discharger shall include a certification in the annual summary report (due according to the schedule in the Monitoring and Reporting Program) stating that the sewer system emergency equipment, including alarm systems, backup pumps, standby power generators, and other critical emergency pump station components were maintained and tested in accordance with the Discharger's Preventative Maintenance Plan. Any deviations from or modifications to the Plan shall be discussed.

#### D. Records

The Discharger shall develop and maintain a record of all spills, overflows or bypasses of raw or partially treated sewage from its collection system or treatment plant. This record shall be made available to the Regional Water Board upon request and a spill summary shall be included in the annual summary report. The records shall contain:

- a. the date and time of each spill, overflow or bypass;
- b. the location of each spill, overflow or bypass;
- c. the estimated volume of each spill, overflow or bypass including gross volume, amount recovered and amount not recovered, monitoring results as required by Section VI.C.6.B;
- d. the cause of each spill, overflow or bypass;

- e. whether each spill, overflow or bypass entered a receiving water and, if so, the name of the water body and whether it entered via storm drains or other man-made conveyances;
- f. mitigation measures implemented; and,
- g. corrective measures implemented or proposed to be implemented to prevent/minimize future occurrences.

#### E. Activities Coordination

In addition, Regional Water Board expects that the POTW's owners/operators will coordinate their compliance activities for consistency and efficiency with other entities that have responsibilities to implement: (i) this NPDES permit, including the Pretreatment Program, (ii) a MS4 NPDES permit that may contain spill prevention, sewer maintenance, reporting requirements and (iii) the SSO WDR.

#### F. Consistency with Sanitary Sewer Overflows WDRs

The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants from point sources to surface waters of the United States unless authorized under an NPDES permit. (33 U.S.C. §§1311, 1342). The State Water Board adopted General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Sanitary Sewer Systems, (WQ Order No. 2006- 0003) on May 2, 2006, to provide a consistent, statewide regulatory approach to address Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). The SSOs WDR requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems to develop and implement sewer system management plans and report all SSOs to the State Water Board's online SSOs database.

The requirements contained in this Order in Sections VI.C.3.b. (Spill Contingency Plan Section), VI.C.4. (Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications Section), and VI.C.6. (Spill Reporting Requirements) are intended to be consistent with the requirements of the SSOs WDR. The Regional Water Board recognizes that there may be some overlap between the NPDES permit provisions and SSOs WDR requirements. The requirements of the SSOs WDR are considered the minimum thresholds (see Finding 11 of WQ Order No. 2006-0003). The Regional Water Board will accept the documentation prepared by the Permittees under the SSOs WDR for compliance purposes, as satisfying the requirements in Sections VI.C.3.b., VI.C.4., and VI.C.6. provided any more specific or stringent provisions enumerated in this Order, have also been addressed.

#### G. Emergency Power Facilities

The Discharger shall provide standby or emergency power facilities and/or storage capacity or other means so that in the event of plant upset or outage due to power failure or other cause, discharge of raw or inadequately treated sewage does not occur.

## 7. Compliance Schedules

The compliance schedules and the interim limit in Section IV.A.2.a of this Order are authorized under TMDLs (Basin Plan Amendments) which have been adopted by the Regional Water Board and approved by USEPA. However, interim limits and compliance schedules may be provided in an administratively issued Time Schedule Order if the permit effective date precedes the TMDL effective date.

## 8. TMDL Tasks

The discharger shall comply with the applicable TMDL-related tasks, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment K of this Order.

## VII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Compliance with the effluent limitations contained in section IV of this Order will be determined as specified below:

### A. General.

Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined using sample reporting protocols defined in the MRP and Attachment A of this Order. For purposes of reporting and administrative enforcement by the Regional and State Water Boards, the Discharger shall be deemed out of compliance with effluent limitations if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reporting level (RL).

### B. Multiple Sample Data

When determining compliance with a measure of central tendency (arithmetic mean, geometric mean, median, etc.) of multiple sample analyses and the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

1. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
2. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

### **C. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)**

If the average (or when applicable, the median determined by subsection B above for multiple sample data) of daily discharges over a calendar month exceeds the AMEL for a given parameter, this will represent a single violation, though the Discharger may be considered out of compliance for each day of that month for that parameter (e.g., resulting in 31 days of non-compliance in a 31-day month). If only a single sample is taken during the calendar month and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the AMEL, the Discharger may be considered out of compliance for that calendar month. The Discharger will only be considered out of compliance for days when the discharge occurs. For any one calendar month during which no sample (daily discharge) is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar month with respect to the AMEL.

If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, does not exceed the AMEL for a given parameter, the Discharger will have demonstrated compliance with the AMEL for each day of that month for that parameter.

If the analytical result of any single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, exceeds the AMEL for any parameter, the Discharger shall collect up to four additional samples within the same calendar month. All analytical results shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month. The concentration of pollutant (an arithmetic mean or a median) in these samples estimated from the "Multiple Sample Data Reduction" Section above, will be used for compliance determination.

In the event of noncompliance with an AMEL, the sampling frequency for that parameter shall be increased to weekly and shall continue at this level until compliance with the AMEL has been demonstrated.

### **D. Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)**

If the average of daily discharges over a calendar week exceeds the AWEL for a given parameter, an alleged violation will be flagged and the discharger will be considered out of compliance for each day of that week for that parameter, resulting in 7 days of non-compliance. The average of daily discharges over the calendar week that exceeds the AWEL for a parameter will be considered out of compliance for that week only. If only a single sample is taken during the calendar week and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the AWEL, the discharger will be considered out of compliance for that calendar week. For any one calendar week during which no sample (daily discharge) is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar week with respect to the AWEL.

A calendar week will begin on Sunday and end on Saturday. Partial weeks consisting of four or more days at the end of any month will include the remaining days of the week, which occur in the following month in order to calculate a consecutive seven-day average. This value will be reported as a weekly average or seven-day average on the

SMR for the month containing the partial week of four or more days. Partial calendar weeks consisting of less than four days at the end of any month will be carried forward to the succeeding month and reported as a weekly average or a seven-day average for the calendar week that ends with the first Saturday of that month.

#### **E. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)**

If a daily discharge exceeds the MDEL for a given parameter, an alleged violation will be flagged and the discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that 1 day only within the reporting period. For any 1 day during which no sample is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that day with respect to the MDEL.

#### **F. Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation.**

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation for a parameter, a violation will be flagged and the discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both are lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation).

#### **G. Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation.**

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is higher than the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for a parameter, a violation will be flagged and the discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both exceed the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation).

#### **H. Six-month Median Effluent Limitation.**

If the median of daily discharges over any 180-day period exceeds the six-month median effluent limitation for a given parameter, an alleged violation will be flagged and the discharger will be considered out of compliance for each day of that 180-day period for that parameter. The next assessment of compliance will occur after the next sample is taken. If only a single sample is taken during a given 180-day period and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the six-month median, the discharger will be considered out of compliance for the 180-day period. For any 180-period during which no sample is taken, no compliance determination can be made for the six-month median effluent limitation.

## I. Percent Removal

The average monthly percent removal is the removal efficiency expressed in percentage across a treatment plant for a given pollutant parameter, as determined from the 30-day average values of pollutant concentrations (C in mg/L) of influent and effluent samples collected at about the same time using the following equation:

$$\text{Percent Removal (\%)} = [1 - (C_{\text{Effluent}} / C_{\text{Influent}})] \times 100 \%$$

When preferred, the Discharger may substitute mass loadings and mass emissions for the concentrations.

## J. Mass and Concentration Limitations

Compliance with mass and concentration effluent limitations for the same parameter shall be determined separately with their respective limitations. When the concentration of a constituent in an effluent sample is determined to be ND or DNQ, the corresponding mass emission rate determined from that sample concentration shall also be reported as ND or DNQ.

## K. Compliance with single constituent effluent limitations

Dischargers are out of compliance with the effluent limitation if the concentration of the pollutant (see Section B "Multiple Sample Data Reduction" above) in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the RML.

## L. Compliance with effluent limitations expresses as sum of several constituents

Dischargers are out of compliance with an effluent limitation which applies to the sum of a group of chemicals (e.g., PCB's) if the sum of the individual pollutant concentrations is greater than the effluent limitation. Individual pollutants of the group will be considered to have a concentration of zero if the constituent is reported as ND or DNQ.

## M. Mass Emission Rate

The mass emission rate shall be obtained from the following calculation for any calendar day:

$$\text{Mass emission rate (lb/day)} = \frac{8.34}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Q_i C_i$$

$$\text{Mass emission rate (kg/day)} = \frac{3.79}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Q_i C_i$$

in which 'N' is the number of samples analyzed in any calendar day. 'Qi' and 'Ci' are the flow rate (MGD) and the constituent concentration (mg/L), respectively, which are associated with each of the 'N' grab samples, which may be taken in any calendar day.

If a composite sample is taken, 'Ci' is the concentration measured in the composite sample and 'Qi' is the average flow rate occurring during the period over which samples are composited.

The daily concentration of all constituents shall be determined from the flow-weighted average of the same constituents in the combined waste streams as follows:

$$\text{Daily concentration} = \frac{1}{Q_t} \sum_{i=1}^N Q_i C_i$$

in which 'N' is the number of component waste streams. 'Qi' and 'Ci' are the flow rate (MGD) and the constituent concentration (mg/L), respectively, which are associated with each of the 'N' waste streams. 'Qt' is the total flow rate of the combined waste streams.

## N. Bacterial Standards and Analysis

1. The geometric mean used for determining compliance with bacterial standards is calculated with the following equation:

$$\text{Geometric Mean} = (C_1 \times C_2 \times \dots \times C_n)^{1/n}$$

where n is the number of days samples were collected during the period and C is the concentration of bacteria (MPN/100 mL or CFU/100 mL) found on each day of sampling.

2. For bacterial analyses, sample dilutions should be performed so the expected range of values is bracketed (for example, with multiple tube fermentation method or membrane filtration method, 2 to 16,000 per 100 ml for total and fecal coliform, at a minimum, and 1 to 1000 per 100 ml for enterococcus). The detection methods used for each analysis shall be reported with the results of the analyses.
3. Detection methods used for coliforms (total and fecal) shall be those presented in Table 1A of 40 C.F.R. part 136 (revised March 12, 2007), unless alternate methods have been approved by USEPA pursuant to 40 C.F.R. part 136, or improved methods have been determined by the Executive Officer and/or USEPA.
4. Detection methods used for enterococcus shall be those presented in the USEPA publication EPA 600/4-85/076, *Test Methods for Escherichia coli and Enterococci in Water By Membrane Filter Procedure* or any improved method determined by the Executive Officer and/or USEPA to be appropriate.

## O. Single Operational Upset

A single operational upset (SOU) that leads to simultaneous violations of more than one pollutant parameter shall be treated as a single violation and limits the Discharger's liability in accordance with the following conditions:

1. A single operational upset is broadly defined as a single unusual event that temporarily disrupts the usually satisfactory operation of a system in such a way that it results in violation of multiple pollutant parameters.
2. A Discharger may assert SOU to limit liability only for those violations which the Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Provision V.E.2(b) of Attachment D – Standard Provisions.
3. For purpose outside of California Water Code section 13385, subsections (h) and (i), determination of compliance and civil liability (including any more specific definition of SOU, the requirements for Dischargers to assert the SOU limitation of liability, and the manner of counting violations) shall be in accordance with USEPA Memorandum “Issuance of Guidance Interpreting Single Operational Upset” (September 27, 1989).
4. For purpose of California Water Code section 13385, subsections (h) and (i), determination of compliance and civil liability (including any more specific definition of SOU, the requirements for Dischargers to assert the SOU limitation of liability, and the manner of counting violations) shall be in accordance with CWC Section 13385 (f)(2).

## **ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS**

### **Arithmetic Mean ( $\mu$ )**

Also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

Arithmetic mean =  $\mu = \Sigma x / n$       where:  $\Sigma x$  is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and  $n$  is the number of samples.

### **Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)**

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

### **Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)**

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

### **Bioaccumulative**

Those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

### **Carcinogenic**

Pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

### **Coefficient of Variation (CV)**

CV is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

### **Daily Discharge**

Daily Discharge is defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

### **Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)**

DNQ are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL.

### **Dilution Credit**

Dilution Credit is the amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

### **Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)**

ECA is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as waste load allocation (WLA) as used in USEPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

### **Enclosed Bays**

Enclosed Bays means indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays include, but are not limited to, Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drake's Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

### **Estimated Chemical Concentration**

The estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

### **Estuaries**

Estuaries means waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouths of streams that serve as areas of mixing for fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and seawater. Estuarine waters included, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in California Water Code section 12220, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to the Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Mad, Eel, Noyo, Russian, Klamath, San Diego, and Otay rivers. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

### **Inland Surface Waters**

All surface waters of the State that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

### **Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation**

The highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

### **Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation**

The lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

### **Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)**

The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

### **Median**

The middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of measurements ( $n$ ) is odd, then the median =  $X_{(n+1)/2}$ . If  $n$  is even, then the median =  $(X_{n/2} + X_{(n/2)+1})/2$  (i.e., the midpoint between the  $n/2$  and  $n/2+1$ ).

### **Method Detection Limit (MDL)**

MDL is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 136, Attachment B, revised as of July 3, 1999.

### **Minimum Level (ML)**

ML is the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

### **Mixing Zone**

Mixing Zone is a limited volume of receiving water that is allocated for mixing with a wastewater discharge where water quality criteria can be exceeded without causing adverse effects to the overall water body.

### **Not Detected (ND)**

Sample results which are less than the laboratory's MDL.

### **Ocean Waters**

The territorial marine waters of the State as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Water Board's California Ocean Plan.

## **Persistent Pollutants**

Persistent pollutants are substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

## **Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)**

PMP means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Regional Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to California Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

## **Pollution Prevention**

Pollution Prevention means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in California Water Code section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State or Regional Water Board.

## **Reporting Level (RL)**

RL is the ML (and its associated analytical method) chosen by the Discharger for reporting and compliance determination from the MLs included in this Order. The MLs included in this Order correspond to approved analytical methods for reporting a sample result that are selected by the Regional Water Board either from Appendix 4 of the SIP in accordance with section 2.4.2 of the SIP or established in accordance with section 2.4.3 of the SIP. The ML is based on the proper application of method-based analytical procedures for sample preparation and the absence of any matrix interferences. Other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the specific sample preparation steps employed. For example, the treatment typically applied in cases where there are matrix-effects is to dilute the sample or sample aliquot by a factor of ten. In such cases, this additional factor must be applied to the ML in the computation of the RL.

## **Satellite Collection System**

The portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

## **Source of Drinking Water**

Any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in a Regional Water Board Basin Plan.

### **Standard Deviation ( $\sigma$ )**

Standard Deviation is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = (\sum[(x - \mu)^2]/(n - 1))^{0.5}$$

where:

x is the observed value;

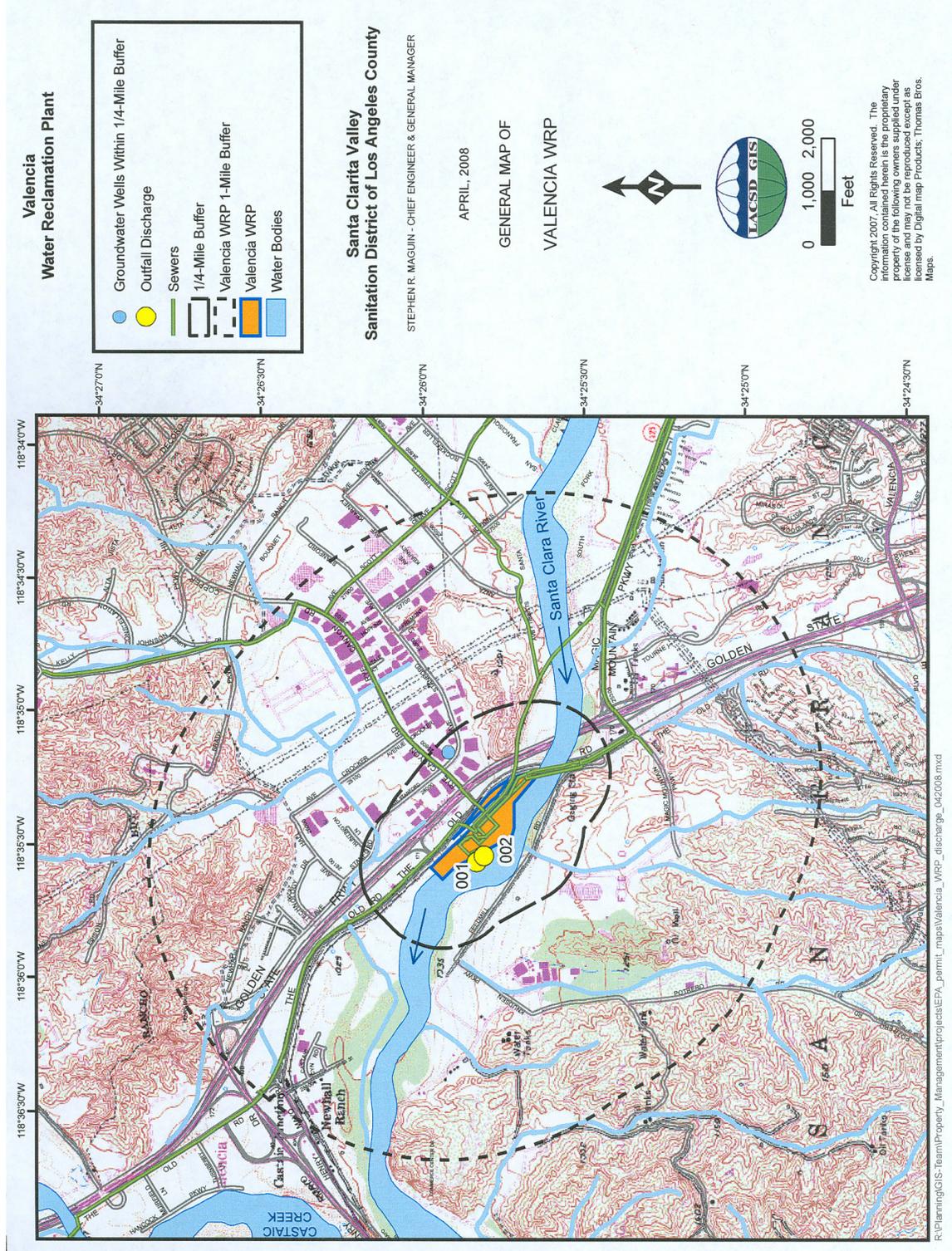
$\mu$  is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and

n is the number of samples.

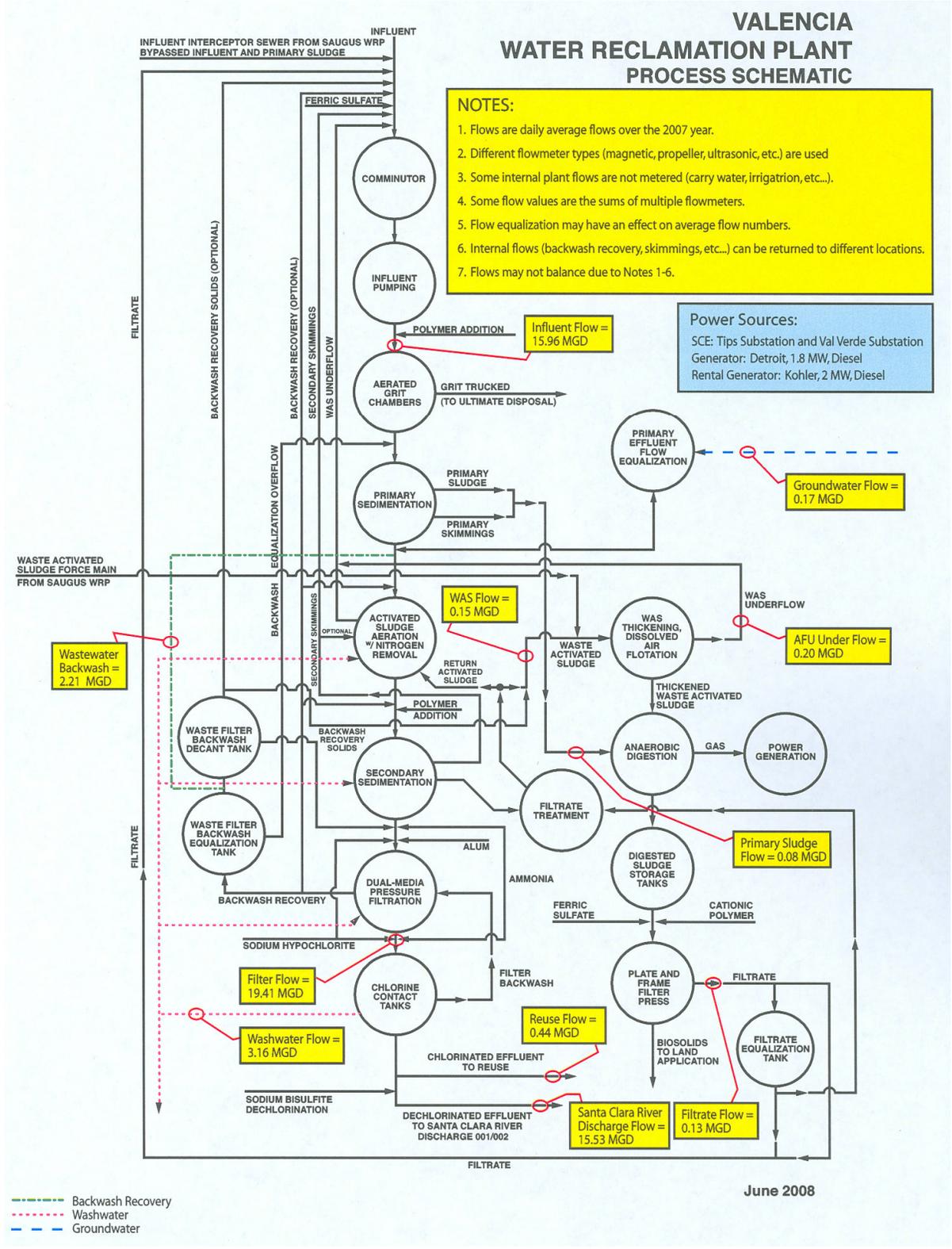
### **Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)**

TRE is a study conducted in a step-wise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity. The first steps of the TRE consist of the collection of data relevant to the toxicity, including additional toxicity testing, and an evaluation of facility operations and maintenance practices, and best management practices. A Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate. (A TIE is a set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.)

**ATTACHMENT B – MAP**



**ATTACHMENT C – FLOW SCHEMATIC**



## **ATTACHMENT D – STANDARD PROVISIONS**

### **I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE**

#### **A. Duty to Comply**

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a).)
2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

#### **B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense**

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

#### **C. Duty to Mitigate**

The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

#### **D. Proper Operation and Maintenance**

The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

#### **E. Property Rights**

1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)

2. The issuance of this Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. (40 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

## **F. Inspection and Entry**

The Discharger shall allow the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Cal. Wat. Code, § 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1));
2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2));
3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3)); and
4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4).)

## **G. Bypass**

1. Definitions
  - a. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).)
  - b. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)
2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)

3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Regional Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):
  - a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A));
  - b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and
  - c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Regional Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)
4. The Regional Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Regional Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)
5. Notice
  - a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)
  - b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

## H. Upset

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Discharger. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.H.2 below are met. No

determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).)

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):
  - a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));
  - b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));
  - c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and
  - d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)
3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

## **II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION**

### **A. General**

This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Order condition. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(f).)

### **B. Duty to Reapply**

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

### **C. Transfers**

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Regional Water Board. The Regional Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the California Water Code. (40 C.F.R. §§ 122.41(l)(3), 122.61.)

### **III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING**

- A.** Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)
- B.** Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures under Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under Part 136 unless otherwise specified in Part 503 unless other test procedures have been specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. §§ 122.41(j)(4), 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

### **IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS**

- A.** Except for records of monitoring information required by this Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by Part 503), the Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Regional Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)

#### **B. Records of monitoring information shall include:**

1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
3. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
5. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
6. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)

#### **C. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):**

1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

## **V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING**

### **A. Duty to Provide Information**

The Discharger shall furnish to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order or to determine compliance with this Order. Upon request, the Discharger shall also furnish to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA copies of records required to be kept by this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Cal. Wat. Code, § 13267.)

### **B. Signatory and Certification Requirements**

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, and/or USEPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, and V.B.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)
2. All permit applications shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this provision, a principal executive officer of a federal agency includes: (i) the chief executive officer of the agency, or (ii) a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency (e.g., Regional Administrators of USEPA). (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(3).)
3. All reports required by this Order and other information requested by the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(1));
  - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and
  - c. The written authorization is submitted to the Regional Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)

4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Regional Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c))
5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.3 above shall make the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.” (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

### **C. Monitoring Reports**

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(l)(4).)
2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Regional Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)
3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order using test procedures approved under Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under Part 136 unless otherwise specified in Part 503, or as specified in this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Regional Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)
4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

### **D. Compliance Schedules**

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this Order, shall be

submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

### **E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting**

1. The Discharger shall report to the Regional Water Board any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
  - a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
  - b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)
3. The Regional Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

### **F. Planned Changes**

The Discharger shall give notice to the Regional Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in part 122.29(b) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or
2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are not subject to effluent limitations in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(ii).)
3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during

the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

### **G. Anticipated Noncompliance**

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Regional Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with General Order requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

### **H. Other Noncompliance**

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

### **I. Other Information**

When the Discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

## **VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT**

- A.** The Regional Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the California Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

## **VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS**

### **A. Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)**

All POTWs shall provide adequate notice to the Regional Water Board of the following (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)):

1. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger that would be subject to sections 301 or 306 of the CWA if it were directly discharging those pollutants (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(1)); and
2. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of adoption of the Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(2).)
3. Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW as well as any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(3).)

## ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

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## **ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)**

The Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, Part 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. California Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements, which implement the federal and California regulations.

### **I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS**

- A.** All samples shall be representative of the waste discharge under conditions of peak load. Quarterly effluent analyses shall be performed during the months of January, April, July, and October. Semiannual analyses shall be performed during the months of January and July. Annual analyses shall be performed during the month of July (except for bioassessment monitoring, which will be conducted in the spring/summer; and, algal biomass, which will be conducted concurrently with the bioassessment monitoring). Biennial analyses shall be performed during the month of August. Should there be instances when monitoring could not be done during these specified months, the Discharger must notify the Regional Water Board, state the reason why monitoring could not be conducted, and obtain approval from the Executive Officer for an alternate schedule. Results of quarterly, semiannual, annual, and biennial analyses shall be reported in the third monthly monitoring report following the analysis.
- B.** Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. Parts 136.3, 136.4, and 136.5 (revised March 12, 2007); or where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, by methods approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board. Laboratories analyzing effluent samples and receiving water samples shall be certified by the California Department of Public Health Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) or approved by the Executive Officer and must include quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) data in their reports. A copy of the laboratory certification shall be provided each time a new certification and/or renewal of the certification is obtained from ELAP.
- C.** Water/wastewater samples must be analyzed within allowable holding time limits as specified in 40 C.F.R., Part 136.3. All QA/QC analyses must be run on the same dates that samples are actually analyzed. The Discharger shall retain the QA/QC documentation in its files and make available for inspection and/or submit them when requested by the Regional Water Board. Proper chain of custody procedures must be followed and a copy of that documentation shall be submitted with the monthly report.
- D.** The Discharger shall calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring instruments and to insure accuracy of measurements, or shall insure that both equipment activities will be conducted.

- E.** For any analyses performed for which no procedure is specified in the USEPA guidelines, or in the MRP, the constituent or parameter analyzed and the method or procedure used must be specified in the monitoring report.
- F.** Each monitoring report must affirm in writing that “all analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the Department of Public Health (formerly known as the Department of Health Services) or approved by the Executive Officer and in accordance with current USEPA guideline procedures or as specified in this MRP.”
- G.** The monitoring report shall specify the USEPA analytical method used, the Method Detection Limit (MDL), the minimum level (ML), and the Reported Minimum Level (RML) for each pollutant. The MLs are those published by the State Water Board in the *Policy for the Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, February 9, 2005, Appendix 4. The ML represents the lowest quantifiable concentration in a sample based on the proper application of all method-based analytical procedures and the absence of any matrix interference. When all specific analytical steps are followed and after appropriate application of method specific factors, the ML also represents the lowest standard in the calibration curve for that specific analytical technique. When there is deviation from the method analytical procedures, such as dilution or concentration of samples, other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the sample preparation. The resulting value is the reported minimum level.
- H.** The Discharger shall select the analytical method that provides a ML lower than the permit limit established for a given parameter, unless the Discharger can demonstrate that a particular ML is not attainable, in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R., Part 136, and obtains approval for a higher ML from the Executive Officer, as provided for in Section J below. If the effluent limitation is lower than all the MLs in Appendix 4, SIP, the Discharge must select the method with the lowest ML for compliance purposes. The Discharger shall include in the Annual Summary Report a list of the analytical methods employed for each test.
- I.** The Discharger shall instruct its laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve. In accordance with section J, below, the Discharger’s laboratory may employ a calibration standard lower than the ML in Appendix 4 of the SIP.
- J.** In accordance with Section 2.4.3 of the SIP, the Regional Water Board Executive Officer, in consultation with the State Water Board’s Quality Assurance Program Manager, may establish an ML that is not contained in Appendix 4 of the SIP to be included in the discharger’s permit in any of the following situations:

  - a. When the pollutant under consideration is not included in Appendix 4, SIP;

- b. When the discharger and the Regional Water Board agree to include in the permit a test method that is more sensitive than those specified in 40 C.F.R., Part 136 (revised as of March 12, 2007);
- c. When a discharger agrees to use an ML that is lower than those listed in Appendix 4;
- d. When a discharger demonstrates that the calibration standard matrix is sufficiently different from that used to establish the ML in Appendix 4 and proposes an appropriate ML for the matrix; or,
- e. When the discharger uses a method, which quantification practices are not consistent with the definition of the ML. Examples of such methods are USEPA-approved method 1613 for dioxins, and furans, method 1624 for volatile organic substances, and method 1625 for semi-volatile organic substances. In such cases, the discharger, the Regional Water Board, and the State Water Resources Control Board shall agree on a lowest quantifiable limit and that limit will substitute for the ML for reporting and compliance determination purposes.

If there is any conflict between foregoing provisions and the State Implementation Policy (SIP), the provisions stated in the SIP (Section 2.4) shall prevail.

- K.** If the Discharger samples and performs analyses (other than for process/operational control, startup, research, or equipment testing) on any influent, effluent, or receiving water constituent more frequently than required by this Program using approved analytical methods, the results of those analyses shall be included in the report. These results shall be reflected in the calculation of the average used in demonstrating compliance with the limitations set forth in this Order.
- L.** The Discharger shall develop and maintain a record of all spills or bypasses of raw or partially treated sewage from its collection system or treatment plant according to the requirements in the WDR section of this Order. This record shall be made available to the Regional Water Board upon request and a spill summary shall be included in the annual summary report.
- M.** For all bacteriological analyses, sample dilutions should be performed so the expected range of values is bracketed (for example, with multiple tube fermentation method or membrane filtration method, 2 to 16,000 per 100 ml for total and fecal coliform, at a minimum, and 1 to 1000 per 100 ml for enterococcus). The detection methods used for each analysis shall be reported with the results of the analyses.
  - a. Detection methods used for coliforms (total and fecal) shall be those presented in Table 1A of 40 C.F.R., Part 136 (revised March 12, 2007), unless alternate methods have been approved in advance by the United State Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 136.

- b. Detection methods used for enterococcus shall be those presented in the USEPA publication EPA 600/4-85/076, *Test Methods for Escherichia coli and Enterococci in Water By Membrane Filter Procedure* or any improved method determined by the Regional Water Board to be appropriate.
- N.** Since compliance monitoring focuses on the effects of a point source discharge, it is not designed to assess impacts from other sources of pollution (e.g., non-point source runoff, aerial fallout) or to evaluate the current status of important ecological resources on a regional basis.

The District shall participate in the development of an updated comprehensive Watershed-wide Monitoring Program and shall develop a plan for implementation of this monitoring program, in conjunction with other interested stakeholders by March 31, 2010. The Regional Board will provide some assistance through SWAMP to achieve these goals, but the District and other stakeholders may need to provide financial assistance to hire a facilitator or conduct other activities as necessary. To achieve the goals of the Watershed-wide Monitoring program, revisions to the Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements will be made under the direction of USEPA and the Regional Water Board. The District shall submit quarterly progress reports detailing ongoing efforts towards the implementation of the Watershed-wide Monitoring Program. The first report should be received in the Regional Water Board office by September 30, 2009. The District shall submit a copy of the proposed program to the Regional Water Board by March 31, 2010.

Changes to the compliance monitoring program may be required to fulfill the goals of the watershed-wide monitoring program, while retaining the compliance monitoring component required to evaluate compliance with the NPDES permit. Revisions to the Discharger's program will be made under the direction of the Regional Water Board, as necessary, to accomplish the goal, and may include a reduction or increase in the number of parameters to be monitored, the frequency of monitoring, and/or the number of samples collected.

Until such time when a watershed-wide monitoring program is developed, Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County shall implement the monitoring program in the following sections.

## II. MONITORING LOCATIONS

The Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

**Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations**

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description (include Latitude and Longitude when available)
--	INF-001	Sampling stations shall be established at each point of inflow to the sewage treatment plant and shall be located upstream of any in-plant return flows and where representative samples of the influent can be obtained.
001	EFF-001	The effluent sampling station shall be located downstream of any inplant return flows and after the final disinfection process, where representative samples of the effluent can be obtained. Under normal conditions, treated effluent is discharged through Discharge Point 001. Latitude 34°25' 49.6" and Longitude - 118°35'33.37"
002	EFF-002	The effluent sampling station shall be located downstream of any inplant return flows and after the final disinfection process, where representative samples of the effluent can be obtained. Under normal conditions, treated effluent is discharged through Discharge Point 002. Latitude 34°25' 48.27" and Longitude - 118°35'31.95"
--	RSW-001U	Santa Clara River, approximately 300 feet upstream of Discharge Serial No. 001 (station R-C)
--	RSW-002D	Santa Clara River, approximately 300 feet downstream of Discharge Serial No. 001 (station R-D)
--	RSW-003D	Santa Clara River, approximately 1.6 miles upstream of Chiquita Canyon Road (station R-E)
--	RGW-001	Groundwater shall be sampled at Well No. 4N/17W-14Q3

## III. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Influent monitoring is required to:

- Determine compliance with NPDES permit conditions.
- Assess treatment plant performance.
- Assess effectiveness of the Pretreatment Program

### A. Monitoring Location INF-001

a. The Discharger shall monitor influent to the facility at INF-001 as follows:

**Table E-2. Influent Monitoring**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	recorder	continuous <sup>1</sup>	<sup>2</sup>
pH	pH units	grab	weekly	<sup>2</sup>
Suspended solids	mg/L	24-hour composite	weekly	<sup>2</sup>
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	24-hour composite	weekly	<sup>2</sup>
Chloride	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	<sup>2</sup>
Ammonia as N	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	<sup>2</sup>
Remaining USEPA Priority Pollutants <sup>3</sup> (excluding asbestos)	µg/L	24-hour composite/ grab for VOCs, cyanide, and Chromium VI	semiannually	<sup>2</sup>

**IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

Effluent monitoring is required to:

- Determine compliance with NPDES permit conditions and water quality standards.
- Assess plant performance, identify operational problems and improve plant performance.
- Provide information

**A. Monitoring Location EFF-001 AND EFF-002**

1. The Discharger shall monitor EFF-001 AND EFF-002 as follows. If more than one analytical test method is listed for a given parameter, the Discharger must select from the listed methods and corresponding Minimum Level:

<sup>1</sup> Total daily flow and instantaneous peak daily flow (24-hr basis). Actual monitored flow shall be reported (not the maximum flow, i.e., design capacity).

<sup>2</sup> Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136; where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, by methods approved by this Regional Water Board or State Water Resources Control Board. For any pollutant whose effluent limitation is lower than all the minimum levels (MLs) specified in Attachment 4 of the SIP, the analytical method with the lowest ML must be selected.

<sup>3</sup> Priority pollutants are those constituents referred to in 40 C.F.R. 401.15; a list of these pollutants is provided as Appendix A to 40 C.F.R. 423.

**Table E-3. Effluent Monitoring**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method and (Minimum Level, units), respectively
Total waste flow	MGD	recorder	continuous <sup>4</sup>	<sup>5</sup>
Turbidity <sup>6</sup>	NTU	recorder	continuous <sup>4</sup>	<sup>5</sup>
Total residual chlorine	mg/L	recorder	continuous <sup>7</sup>	
Total residual chlorine	mg/L	grab	daily <sup>8</sup>	<sup>5</sup>
Total coliform <sup>6</sup>	CFU or MPN/100 mL	grab	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
Fecal coliform <sup>6</sup>	CFU or MPN/100 mL	grab	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
E.coli <sup>9, 6</sup>	CFU or MPN/100 mL	grab	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
Temperature <sup>11</sup>	°F	grab	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
pH <sup>11</sup>	pH units	grab	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
Settleable solids	mL/L	grab	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
Suspended solids	mg/L	24-hour composite	weekly	<sup>5</sup>
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20 °C	mg/L	24-hour composite	weekly <sup>10</sup>	<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Where continuous monitoring of a constituent is required, the following shall be reported:

Total waste flow – Total daily and peak daily flow (24-hr basis);  
 Turbidity – Maximum daily value, total amount of time each day the turbidity exceeded 5 NTU, flow proportioned average daily value.

<sup>5</sup> Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136; where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, by methods approved by this Regional Water Board or State Water Resources Control Board. For any pollutant whose effluent limitation is lower than all the minimum levels (MLs) specified in Attachment 4 of the SIP, the analytical method with the lowest ML must be selected.

<sup>6</sup> Coliform and turbidity samples shall be obtained at some point in the treatment process at a time when wastewater flow and characteristics are most demanding on the treatment facilities, filtration, and disinfection procedures. Fecal coliform testing shall be conducted only if total coliform test result is positive.

<sup>7</sup> Total residual chlorine shall be recorded continuously. The recorded data shall be maintained by the Permittee for at least five years. The Permittee shall extract the maximum daily peak, minimum daily peak, and average daily from the recorded media and shall be made available upon request of the Regional Water Board. The continuous monitoring data are not intended to be used for compliance determination purposes.

<sup>8</sup> Daily grab samples shall be collected at monitoring location EFF-001 and EFF-002 Monday through Friday only, except for holidays. Analytical results of daily grab samples will be used to determine compliance with total residual chlorine effluent limitation. Furthermore, additional monitoring requirements specified in section IV.A.2. shall be followed.

<sup>9</sup> E. coli testing shall be conducted only if fecal coliform testing is positive. If the fecal coliform analysis results in no detection, a result of less than (<) the reporting limit for fecal coliform will be reported for E. coli.

<sup>10</sup> If the result of the weekly BOD analysis yields a value greater than the 30-day average limit, the frequency of analysis shall be increased to daily within one week of knowledge of the test result for at least 30 days

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method and (Minimum Level, units), respectively
Oil and Grease	mg/L	grab	quarterly	5
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	grab	monthly	5
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Chloride	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Sulfate	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Boron	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Fluoride	mg/L	24-hour composite	quarterly	5
Ammonia nitrogen <sup>11</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Nitrate nitrogen <sup>11</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Nitrite nitrogen <sup>11</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Organic nitrogen <sup>11</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Total kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN) <sup>11</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Total nitrogen <sup>11</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Surfactants (MBAS) <sup>12</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Surfactants (CTAS) <sup>12</sup>	mg/L	24-hour composite	quarterly	5
Total hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Radioactivity (Including gross alpha, gross beta, radium-226 and radium-228, tritium, strontium-90 and uranium)	PCi/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	13
Chronic toxicity	TUc	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Acute toxicity	% Survival	24-hour composite	quarterly	5

and until compliance with the 7-day and 30-day average BOD limits is demonstrated; after which the frequency shall revert to weekly.

<sup>11</sup> Nitrate nitrogen, nitrite nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen, organic nitrogen, total kjeldahl nitrogen, pH, and temperature sampling shall be conducted on the same day or as close to concurrently as possible.

<sup>12</sup> MBAS is Methylene blue active substances and CTAS is cobalt thiocyanate active substances. Reaches of the Santa Clara River are unlined in several reaches downstream of the points of wastewater discharge and are designated with the beneficial use of groundwater recharge (GWR) in the Basin Plan. Monitoring is required to assess compliance with the Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives, based on the incorporation by reference of the MCLs contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, for the protection of the underlying groundwater quality with the MUN beneficial use.

<sup>13</sup> Analyze these radiochemicals by the following USEPA methods: method 900.0 for gross alpha and gross beta, method 903.0 or 903.1 for radium-226, method 904.0 for radium-228, method 906.0 for tritium, method 905.0 for strontium-90, and method 908.0 for uranium. Analysis for Radium-226 & 228 shall be conducted only if gross alpha results for the same sample exceed 15 pCi/L or beta greater than 50 pCi/L. If Radium-226 & 228 exceeds the stipulated criteria, analyze for Tritium, Strontium-90 and uranium.

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method and (Minimum Level, units), respectively
Antimony	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Arsenic	µg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Beryllium	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Cadmium	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Chromium III	µg/L	calculated	semiannually	5
Chromium VI	µg/L	grab	semiannually	5
Total Chromium	µg/L	grab	semiannually	5
Copper	µg/L	24-hour composite	quarterly	5
Iron	µg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Lead	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Mercury	µg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Nickel	µg/L	24-hour composite	quarterly	5
Selenium	µg/L	24-hour composite	monthly	5
Silver	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Thallium	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Zinc	µg/L	24-hour composite	quarterly	5
Cyanide	µg/L	grab	quarterly	5
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	µg/L	24-hour composite	quarterly	5
2,3,7,8-TCDD <sup>14</sup>	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Bromoform	µg/L	grab	monthly	5
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	grab	monthly	5
Chloroform	µg/L	grab	monthly	5
Bromodichloromethane	µg/L	grab	monthly	5
Total trihalomethanes <sup>15</sup>	µg/L	Calculated sum	monthly	5
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) <sup>16</sup>	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5

<sup>14</sup> In accordance with the SIP, the Discharger shall conduct effluent monitoring for the seventeen 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD or dioxin) congeners in the effluent and in the receiving water Station RSW-001U, located upstream of the discharge point. The Discharger shall use the appropriate Toxicity Equivalence Factor (TEF) to determine Toxic Equivalence (TEQ). Where TEQ equals the product between each of the 17 individual congeners' (i) concentration analytical result (C<sub>i</sub>) and their corresponding Toxicity Equivalence Factor (TEF<sub>i</sub>), (i.e., TEQ<sub>i</sub> = C<sub>i</sub> x TEF<sub>i</sub>). Compliance with the Dioxin limitation shall be determined by the summation of the seventeen individual TEQs, or the following equation:

$$\text{Dioxin concentration in effluent} = \sum_1^{17} (\text{TEQ}_i) = \sum_1^{17} (C_i)(\text{TEF}_i)$$

<sup>15</sup> Total trihalomethanes is the sum of concentrations of the trihalomethane compounds: bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane.

<sup>16</sup> PCBs is the sum of Aroclor 1016, Aroclor 1221, Aroclor 1232, Aroclor 1242, Aroclor 1248, Aroclor 1254, and Aroclor 1260.

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method and (Minimum Level, units), respectively
Remaining USEPA Priority Pollutants <sup>17</sup> (excluding asbestos)	µg/L	24-hour composite/grab for VOCs and Chromium VI	semiannually	5
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Diazinon	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Toxaphene	µg/L	24-hour composite	semiannually	5
Emerging chemicals <sup>18</sup>	µg/L	24-hour composite, grab for 1,2,3-TCP and MTBE	semiannually	18
Endocrine disrupting chemicals <sup>19</sup>	µg/L	To be decided	biennially	Approved by USEPA
Pharmaceuticals <sup>20</sup>	µg/L	To be decided	biennially	Approved by USEPA

## 2. Total Residual Chlorine Additional Monitoring

Continuous monitoring of total residual chlorine at EFF-001 shall serve as an internal trigger for the increased grab sampling at EFF-001 or EFF-002 if either of the following occurs, except as noted in item c:

- a. Total residual chlorine concentration excursions of up to 0.3 mg/L lasting greater than 15 minutes; or
- b. Total residual chlorine concentration peaks in excess of 0.3 mg/L lasting greater than 1 minute.

<sup>17</sup> Priority pollutants are those constituents referred to in 40 C.F.R. 401.15; a list of these pollutants is provided as Appendix A to 40 C.F.R. 423.

<sup>18</sup> Emerging chemicals include 1,4-dioxane (USEPA 8270c test method); perchlorate (USEPA 314 test method, or USEPA method 331 if a detection limit of less than 6 µg/L is achieved); 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) (USEPA 504.1, 8260B test method, or USEPA 524.2 in SIM mode); and, methyl tert-butyl ether (USEPA 8260B test method or USEPA method 624 if a detection level of less than 5 µg/L is achieved, and if the Discharger received ELAP certification to run USEPA method 624).

<sup>19</sup> Endocrine disrupting chemicals include ethinyl estradiol, 17-B estradiol, estrone, bisphenol A, nonylphenol and nonylphenol polyethoxylate, octylphenol and octylphenol polyethoxylate, and polybrominated diphenyl ethers. These chemicals need to be monitored, only when the USEPA-approved analytical methods for these chemicals are available.

<sup>20</sup> Pharmaceuticals include acetaminophen, amoxicillin, azithromycin, caffeine, carbamazepine, ciprofloxacin, ethylenediamine tetra-acetic acid (EDTA), gemfibrozil, ibuprofen, iodinated contrast media, lipitor, methadone, morphine, salicylic acid, and triclosan. These chemicals need to be monitored, only when the USEPA-approved analytical methods for these chemicals are available.

- c. Additional grab samples need not be taken if it can be demonstrated that a stoichiometrically appropriate amount of dechlorination chemical has been added to effectively dechlorinate the effluent to 0.1 mg/L or less for peaks in excess of 0.3 mg/L lasting more than 1 minute, but not for more than five minutes.

## V. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS

### A. Acute Toxicity

#### 1. Definition of Acute Toxicity

Acute toxicity is a measure of primarily lethal effects that occur over a 96-hour period. Acute toxicity shall be measured in percent survival measured in undiluted (100%) effluent.

- a. 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
- b. No single test shall produce less than 70% survival.

#### 2. Acute Toxicity Effluent Monitoring Program

- a. **Method.** The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity tests on 100% effluent and receiving water grab samples by methods specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 136, which cites USEPA's *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms*, October, 2002 (EPA-821-R-02-012) or a more recent edition to ensure compliance.
- b. **Test Species.** The fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas*, shall be used as the test species for fresh water discharges and the topsmelt, *Atherinops affinis*, shall be used as the test species for brackish discharges. However, if the salinity of the receiving water is between 1 to 32 parts per thousand (ppt), the Discharger may have the option of using the inland silverside, *Menidia beryllina*, instead of the topsmelt. The method for topsmelt is found in USEPA's *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms*, October, 2002 (EPA-821-R-02-012).
- c. **Alternate Reporting.** In lieu of conducting the standard acute toxicity testing with the fathead minnow, the Discharger may elect to report the results or endpoint from the first 96 hours of the chronic toxicity test as the results of the acute toxicity test, but only if the Discharger uses USEPA's October 2002 protocol (EPA-821-R-02-013) and fathead minnow is used to conduct the chronic toxicity test.

- d. **Acute Toxicity Accelerated Monitoring.** If either of the effluent or receiving water toxicity requirements in Section IV.A.1.h.(i) and (ii), and Section V.A.17.c., respectively, of this Order is not met, the Discharger shall conduct six additional tests approximately every two weeks, over a twelve-week period. The Discharger shall ensure that results of a failing acute toxicity test are received by the Discharger within 24 hours of completion of the test and the additional tests shall begin within 5 business days of receipt of the result. If the additional tests indicate compliance with acute toxicity limitation, the Discharger may resume regular testing.

However, if the extent of the acute toxicity of the receiving water upstream of the discharge is greater than the downstream and the results of the effluent acute toxicity test comply with acute toxicity limitation, the accelerated monitoring need not be implemented for the receiving water.

e. **Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE).**

1. 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 sources of toxicity. Once the sources are identified, the Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to reduce toxicity to meet the objective.
2. If the initial test and any of the additional six acute toxicity bioassay tests results are less than 70% survival, the Discharger shall immediately implement the Initial Investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Workplan. Once the sources are identified the Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to reduce toxicity to meet the requirements.

**B. Chronic Toxicity Testing**

1. Definition of Chronic Toxicity

Chronic toxicity is a measure of adverse sub-lethal effects in plants, animals, or invertebrates in a long-term test. The effects measured may include lethality or decreases in fertilization, growth, and reproduction.

2. Chronic Toxicity Effluent Monitoring Program

- a. **Test Methods.** The Discharger shall conduct critical life stage chronic toxicity tests on 24-hour composite 100 % effluent samples or receiving water samples in accordance with USEPA's *Short Term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms*, October 2002 (EPA-821-R-02-013) or USEPA's *Short Term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Marine and Estuarine Organisms*, October 2002 (EPA-821-R-02-014), or current version.

**b. Frequency**

1. **Screening and Monitoring.** The Discharger shall conduct the first chronic toxicity test screening for three consecutive months beginning from the permit effective date. The Discharger shall conduct short-term tests with the cladoceran, water flea (*Ceriodaphnia dubia* - survival and reproduction test), the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas* - larval survival and growth test), and the green alga (*Selenastrum capricornutum* - growth test) as an initial screening process for a minimum of three, but not to exceed, five suites of tests to account for potential variability of the effluent / receiving water. After this screening period, monitoring shall be conducted using the most sensitive species.
2. **Re-screening.** Re-screening is required every 24 months. The Discharger shall re-screen with the three species listed above and continue to monitor with the most sensitive species. If the first suite of re-screening tests demonstrates that the same species is the most sensitive then the re-screening does not need to include more than one suite of tests. If a different species is the most sensitive or if there is uncertainty as to whether the same species is still the most sensitive based on the test results, then the Discharger shall proceed with suites of screening tests for a minimum of three, but not to exceed five suites.
3. **Regular toxicity tests** - After the screening period, monitoring shall be conducted monthly using the most sensitive species.

- c. **Toxicity Units.** The chronic toxicity of the effluent shall be expressed and reported in Chronic Toxic Units, TU<sub>c</sub>, 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.

3. Accelerated Monitoring

If the chronic toxicity of the effluent or the receiving water downstream the discharge exceeds the monthly median trigger of 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub>, the Discharger shall conduct six additional tests of the water source that exceeded the 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub> trigger (effluent or downstream receiving water), approximately every two weeks, over a 12-week period. The Discharger shall ensure that they receive results of a failing chronic toxicity test within 24 hours of the completion of the test and the additional tests shall begin within 5 business days of the receipt of the result. However, if the chronic

toxicity of the receiving water upstream of the discharge is greater than the downstream and the  $TU_c$  of the effluent chronic toxicity test is less than or equal to a monthly median of 1  $TU_c$  trigger, then accelerated monitoring need not be implemented for the receiving water.

- a. If any three out of the initial test and the six additional tests results exceed 1.0  $TU_c$  the Discharger shall immediately implement the Initial Investigation TRE workplan. Otherwise, the Discharger may return to normal sampling.
- b. If implementation of the initial investigation TRE workplan indicates the source of toxicity (e.g., a temporary plant upset, etc.), then the Discharger shall return to the normal sampling frequency required in Table 3 and Table 4 of this MRP.
- c. If all of the six additional tests required above do not exceed 1  $TU_c$ , then the Discharger may return to the normal sampling frequency.
- d. If a TRE/TIE is initiated prior to completion of the accelerated testing schedule required, then the accelerated testing schedule may be terminated, or used as necessary in performing the TRE/TIE, as determined by the Executive Officer.

### **C. Quality Assurance**

1. Concurrent testing with a reference toxicant shall be conducted. Reference toxicant tests shall be conducted using the same test conditions as the effluent toxicity tests (e.g., same test duration, etc.).
2. If either the reference toxicant test or effluent test does not meet all test acceptability criteria (TAC) as specified in the test methods manual (EPA-821-R-02-012 and/or EPA-821-R-02-013), then the Discharger must re-sample and retest within 14 days.
3. Control and dilution water should be receiving water or laboratory water, as appropriate, as described in the manual. If the dilution water used is different from the culture water, a second control using culture water shall be used.

### **D. Preparation of an Initial Investigation TRE Workplan**

The Discharger shall prepare and submit a copy of the Discharger's initial investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) workplan to the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board for approval within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. If the Executive Officer does not disapprove the workplan within 60 days, the workplan shall become effective. The Discharger shall use USEPA manual EPA/833B-99/002 (municipal) as guidance, or most current version. At a minimum, the TRE Workplan must contain the provisions in Attachment G. This workplan shall describe the steps the Discharger intends to follow if toxicity is detected, and should include, at a minimum:

1. A description of the investigation and evaluation techniques that will be used to identify potential causes and sources of toxicity, effluent variability, and treatment system efficiency.
2. 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 the operation of the facility; and,
3. If a toxicity identification evaluation (TIE) is necessary, an indication of the person who would conduct the TIEs (i.e., an in-house expert or an outside contractor). See MRP section V.E.3. for guidance manuals.

**E. Steps in Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) and Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE)**

1. If results of the implementation of the facility's initial investigation TRE workplan indicate the need to continue the TRE/TIE, the Discharger shall expeditiously develop a more detailed TRE workplan for submittal to the Executive Officer within 15 days of completion of the initial investigation TRE. The detailed workplan shall include, but not be limited to:
  - a. Future actions to investigate and identify the cause of toxicity;
  - b. Actions the Discharger will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and,
  - c. A schedule for these actions.
2. The following section summarizes the stepwise approach used in conducting the TRE:
  - a. Step 1 includes basic data collection.
  - b. Step 2 evaluates optimization of the treatment system operation, facility housekeeping, and selection and use of in-plant process chemicals.
  - c. If Steps 1 and 2 are unsuccessful, Step 3 implements a Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) and employment of all reasonable efforts using current available TIE methodologies. The objective of the TIE shall be to identify the substance or combination of substances causing the observed toxicity.
  - d. Assuming successful identification or characterization of the toxicant(s), Step 4 evaluates final effluent treatment options.
  - e. Step 5 evaluates in-plant treatment options.

- f. Step 6 consists of confirmation once a toxicity control method has been implemented. Many recommended TRE elements parallel source control, pollution prevention, and storm water control program best management practices (BMPs). To prevent duplication of efforts, evidence of compliance with those requirements may be sufficient to comply with TRE requirements. By requiring the first steps of a TRE to be accelerated testing and review of the facility's TRE workplan, a TRE may be ended in its early stages. All reasonable steps shall be taken to reduce toxicity to the required level. The TRE may be ended at any stage if monitoring indicates there are no longer toxicity violations.
3. The Discharger shall initiate a TIE as part of the TRE process to identify the cause(s) of toxicity. The Discharger shall use the USEPA acute manual, chronic manual, EPA/600/6-91/005F (Phase I), EPA/600/R-92/080 (Phase II), and EPA-600/R-92/081 (Phase III), as guidance.
  4. If a TRE/TIE is initiated prior to completion of the accelerated testing required in Section V.B.3. of this program, then the accelerated testing schedule may be terminated, or used as necessary in performing the TRE/TIE, as determined by the Executive Officer.
  5. Toxicity tests conducted as part of a TRE/TIE may also be used for compliance, if appropriate.
  6. The Regional Water Board recognizes that toxicity may be episodic and identification of causes of and reduction of sources of toxicity may not be successful in all cases. Consideration of enforcement action by the Regional Water Board will be based, in part, on the Discharger's actions and efforts to identify and control or reduce sources of consistent toxicity.
    - a. If all the results of the six additional tests are in compliance with the chronic toxicity limitation, the Discharger may resume regular monthly testing.
    - b. If the results of any of the six accelerated tests exceed the acute toxicity limitation, or the chronic toxicity trigger, then the Discharger shall continue to monitor bi-weekly until six consecutive bi-weekly tests are in compliance. At that time, the Discharger may resume regular monthly testing.
    - c. If the results of two of the six tests exceed the 1 TUc trigger, the Discharger shall initiate a TRE.
    - d. If implementation of the initial investigation TRE workplan (see item B.3.b. above) indicates the source of toxicity (e.g., a temporary plant upset, etc.), then the Discharger shall return to the regular testing frequency.

## **F. Ammonia Removal**

1. Except with prior approval from the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board, ammonia shall not be removed from bioassay samples. The Discharger must demonstrate the effluent toxicity is caused by ammonia because of increasing test pH when conducting the toxicity test. It is important to distinguish the potential toxic effects of ammonia from other pH sensitive chemicals, such as certain heavy metals, sulfide, and cyanide. The following may be steps to demonstrate that the toxicity is caused by ammonia and not other toxicants before the Executive Officer would allow for control of pH in the test.
  - a. There is consistent toxicity in the effluent and the maximum pH in the toxicity test is in the range to cause toxicity due to increased pH.
  - b. Chronic ammonia concentrations in the effluent are greater than 4 mg/L total ammonia.
  - c. Conduct graduated pH tests as specified in the toxicity identification evaluation methods. For example, mortality should be higher at pH 8 and lower at pH 6.
  - d. Treat the effluent with a zeolite column to remove ammonia. Mortality in the zeolite treated effluent should be lower than the non-zeolite treated effluent. Then add ammonia back to the zeolite-treated samples to confirm toxicity due to ammonia.
2. When it has been demonstrated that toxicity is due to ammonia because of increasing test pH, pH may be controlled using appropriate procedures which do not significantly alter the nature of the effluent, after submitting a written request to the Regional Water Board, and receiving written permission expressing approval from the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board.

## **G. Reporting**

The Discharger shall submit a full report of the toxicity test results, including any accelerated testing conducted during the month, as required by this permit. Test results shall be reported in percent survival (% Survival) for acute toxicity or Chronic Toxicity Units (TUc), as required, with the self-monitoring report (SMR) for the month in which the test is conducted. If an initial investigation indicates the source of toxicity and accelerated testing is unnecessary, pursuant to Section V.A.2.d. and V.B.3., then those results shall be submitted with the SMR for the period in which the Investigation occurred.

1. The full report shall be received by the Regional Water Board by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the third month following sampling.
2. The full report shall consist of (1) the results; (2) the dates of sample collection and initiation of each toxicity test; (3) the toxicity limit; and, (4) printout of the toxicity program (ToxCalc or CETIS).

3. Test results for toxicity tests also shall be reported according to the appropriate manual chapter on Report Preparation and shall be attached to the SMR. Routine reporting shall include, at a minimum, as applicable, for each test, as appropriate:
  - a. sample date(s)
  - b. test initiation date
  - c. test species
  - d. end point value(s) for each dilution (e.g. number of young, growth rate, percent survival)
  - e. NOEC values in percent effluent
  - f. TU<sub>c</sub> value(s), where  $TU_c = \frac{100}{NOEC}$
  - g. Mean percent mortality (+standard deviation) after 96 hours in 100% effluent (if applicable)
  - h. NOEC and LOEC (Lowest Observable Effect Concentration) values for reference toxicant test(s)
  - i. Available water quality measurements for each test (e.g., pH, D.O., temperature, conductivity, hardness, salinity, ammonia).
4. The Discharger shall provide a compliance summary that includes a summary table of toxicity data from at least eleven of the most recent samples.
5. The Discharger shall notify this Regional Water Board immediately of any toxicity trigger exceedance and in writing 14 days after the receipt of the results of the exceedance. The notification will describe actions the Discharger has taken or will take to investigate and correct the cause(s) of toxicity. It may also include a status report on any actions required by the permit, with a schedule for actions not yet completed. If no actions have been taken, the reasons shall be given.

## VI. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Not Applicable.

## VII. RECLAMATION MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Not Applicable.

## VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER

### A. Monitoring Location RSW-001U and RSW-002D

1. The Discharger shall monitor Santa Clara River at RSW-001U (300 feet upstream of Discharge Serial 001 and 002); RSW-002D (300 feet downstream of Discharge Serial 001 and 002); and, RSW-003D (1.6 miles upstream of Chiquita Canyon Road), as follows (only if there is a discharge from Discharge Serial No. 001 or 002):

**Table E-7a. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
pH <sup>22</sup>	pH units	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
Temperature <sup>22</sup>	°F	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
Total residual chlorine	mg/L	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
Total coliform	CFU or MPN/100 mL	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
Fecal coliform	CFU or MPN/100 mL	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
E coli <sup>23</sup>	CFU or MPN/100 mL	grab	weekly	<sup>21</sup>
Turbidity	NTU	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
Conductivity	µmho/cm	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
Chloride	mg/L	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
Sulfates	mg/L	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
Boron	mg/L	grab	monthly	<sup>21</sup>
Fluoride	mg/L	grab	quarterly	<sup>21</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136; where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, by methods approved by this Regional Water Board or State Water Resources Control Board. For any pollutant whose effluent limitation is lower than all the minimum levels (MLs) specified in Attachment 4 of the SIP, the analytical method with the lowest ML must be selected.

<sup>22</sup> Nitrate nitrogen, nitrite nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen, organic nitrogen, total kjeldahl nitrogen, pH, and temperature sampling shall be conducted on the same day or as close to concurrently as possible.

<sup>23</sup> E. coli testing shall be conducted only if fecal coliform testing is positive. If the fecal coliform analysis results in no detection, a result of less than (<) the reporting limit for fecal coliform will be reported for E. coli.

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Ammonia nitrogen <sup>22</sup>	mg/L	grab	weekly	21
Nitrate nitrogen <sup>22</sup>	mg/L	grab	weekly	21
Nitrite nitrogen <sup>22</sup>	mg/L	grab	weekly	21
Organic nitrogen <sup>22</sup>	mg/L	grab	weekly	21
Total kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN) <sup>22</sup>	mg/L	grab	weekly	21
Total nitrogen <sup>22</sup>	mg/L	grab	weekly	21
Total phosphorus	mg/L	grab	monthly	21
Orthophosphate-P	mg/L	grab	monthly	21
Algal biomass <sup>24</sup>	mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	grab	annually	21
Surfactants (MBAS) <sup>25</sup>	mg/L	grab	monthly	21
Surfactants (CTAS) <sup>25</sup>	mg/L	grab	quarterly	21
Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	mg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Oil and grease	mg/L	grab	quarterly	21
Settleable solids	ml/L	grab	monthly	21
Suspended solids	mg/L	grab	monthly	21
Total hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/L	grab	monthly	21
Chronic toxicity	TUc	grab	quarterly	21
Acute toxicity	% Survival	grab	semiannually	21
Antimony	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Arsenic	µg/L	grab	monthly	21
Beryllium	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Cadmium	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Chromium III	µg/L	calculated	semiannually	21
Chromium VI	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Total Chromium	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Copper	µg/L	grab	monthly	21
Iron	µg/L	grab	monthly	21
Lead	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Mercury	µg/L	grab	monthly	21
Nickel	µg/L	grab	quarterly	21
Selenium	µg/L	grab	monthly	21
Silver	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21

<sup>24</sup> Algal biomass or Chlorophyll A samples shall be collected by obtaining scrapings from the substrate. This will be a measure of benthic algae, rather than algae in the water column. Percent cover shall also be reported. This parameter shall be sampled concurrently with the bioassessment monitoring.

<sup>25</sup> MBAS is Methylene blue active substances and CTAS is cobalt thiocyanate active substances. Reaches of the Santa Clara River are unlined in several reaches downstream of the points of wastewater discharge and are designated with the beneficial use of groundwater recharge (GWR) in the Basin Plan. Monitoring is required to assess compliance with the Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives, based on the incorporation by reference of the MCLs contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, for the protection of the underlying groundwater quality with the MUN beneficial use.

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Thallium	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Zinc	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Cyanide	µg/L	grab	quarterly	21
2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin) <sup>26</sup>	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	µg/L	grab	quarterly	21
Bromoform	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Chloroform	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Bromodichloromethane	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Total trihalomethanes <sup>27</sup>	µg/L	calculated	semiannual	21
Aldrin	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Alpha-BHC	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Chlordane	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
4,4'-DDD	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Dieldrin	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Alpha-Endosulfan	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Heptachlor Epoxide	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) <sup>28</sup>	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Remaining USEPA Priority Pollutants <sup>29</sup> (except asbestos)			semiannually	21
Chlorpyrifos <sup>30</sup>	µg/L	grab	quarterly	21

<sup>26</sup> In accordance with the SIP, the Discharger shall conduct monitoring for the seventeen 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD or dioxin) congeners in the effluent and in the receiving water Station RSW-002D, located downstream of the discharge point. The Discharger shall use the appropriate Toxicity Equivalence Factor (TEF) to determine Toxic Equivalence (TEQ). Where TEQ equals the product between each of the 17 individual congeners' (i) concentration analytical result (C<sub>i</sub>) and their corresponding Toxicity Equivalence Factor (TEF<sub>i</sub>), (i.e., TEQ<sub>i</sub> = C<sub>i</sub> x TEF<sub>i</sub>). Compliance with the Dioxin limitation shall be determined by the summation of the seventeen individual TEQs, or the following equation:

$$\text{Dioxin concentration in effluent} = \sum_1^{17} (\text{TEQ}_i) = \sum_1^{17} (C_i)(\text{TEF}_i)$$

<sup>27</sup> Total trihalomethanes is the sum of concentrations of the trihalomethane compounds: bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane.

<sup>28</sup> PCBs is the sum of Aroclor 1016, Aroclor 1221, Aroclor 1232, Aroclor 1242, Aroclor 1248, Aroclor 1254, and Aroclor 1260.

<sup>29</sup> Priority pollutants are those constituents referred to in 40 C.F.R. 401.15; a list of these pollutants is provided as Appendix A to 40 C.F.R. 423.

<sup>30</sup> Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon sampling shall be conducted concurrently with the receiving water chronic toxicity sampling.

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Diazinon <sup>30</sup>	µg/L	grab	quarterly	21
Perchlorate	µg/L	grab	annually	31
1,4-Dioxane	µg/L	grab	annually	31
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	µg/L	grab	annually	31
MTBE	µg/L	grab	annually	31

**B. Monitoring Location RGW-001**

1. The Discharger shall maintain groundwater sampling by monitoring the groundwater aquifer at station RGW-001 (Well No. 4N/17W-14Q3) as follows:

**Table E-7b. Receiving Ground Water Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Nitrite-N + Nitrate-N	mg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Chloride	mg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Sulfate	mg/L	grab	semiannually	21
Priority pollutants	µg/L	grab	semiannually	21
MTBE	µg/L	grab	semiannually	USEPA 8260B <sup>31</sup> (2 µg/L detection limit)
Perchlorate	µg/L	grab	semiannually	USEPA 314 <sup>31</sup> (2 µg/L detection limit)
1,4-Dioxane	µg/L	grab	semiannually	USEPA 8270c <sup>31</sup> (2 µg/L detection limit)
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	µg/L	grab	semiannually	USEPA 504.1 <sup>31</sup> (0.005 µg/L detection limit)

2. The results of groundwater monitoring shall be submitted with the effluent monitoring reports.

**IX. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Watershed Monitoring**

The goals of the Watershed-wide Monitoring Program for the Santa Clara River Watershed are to:

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<sup>31</sup> Emerging chemicals include 1,4-dioxane (USEPA 8270c test method); perchlorate (USEPA 314 test method, or USEPA method 331 if a detection limit of less than 6 µg/L is achieved ); 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) (USEPA 504.1, 8260B test method, or USEPA 524.2 in SIM mode); and methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) (USEPA 8260B test method or USEPA method 624 if a detection level of less than 5 µg/L is achieved, and if the Discharger received ELAP certification to run USEPA method 624).

- Determine compliance with receiving water limits;
  - Monitor trends in surface water quality;
  - Ensure protection of beneficial uses;
  - Provide data for modeling contaminants of concern;
  - Characterize water quality including seasonal variation of surface waters within the watershed;
  - Assess the health of the biological community; and
  - Determine mixing dynamics of effluent and receiving waters in the estuary.
1. The Discharger and other stakeholders in the Santa Clara River Watershed participated in the development of the “Comprehensive Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Santa Clara River Watershed”, prepared for the Ventura County Watershed Protection District in March 2006. This plan provides recommendations for improving watershed-wide monitoring, but no implementation plan has been developed to institute the suggested changes nor has the plan been approved by Regional Board staff.
  2. Stakeholders in the San Gabriel River Watershed submitted a “Comprehensive Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the San Gabriel River Watershed” to the Regional Board and received approval to implement the monitoring program in 2006. Stakeholders in the Los Angeles River Watershed submitted a “Comprehensive Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Los Angeles River Watershed” to the Regional Board and received approval to implement the monitoring program in 2008. Both of these monitoring programs are consistent with the goals and objectives of statewide and regional monitoring conducted by the State of California’s Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP).
  3. The 2006 monitoring plan developed for the Santa Clara River Watershed provides a useful starting point, but should be updated to reflect the goals and objectives of SWAMP monitoring. In addition, the initial plan does not adequately monitor the major tributaries of the Santa Clara River Watershed and should be adjusted or augmented to satisfy this goal.

The District shall participate in the development of an updated comprehensive Watershed-wide Monitoring Program and shall develop a plan for implementation of this monitoring program, in conjunction with other interested stakeholders by March 31, 2010. The Regional Board will provide some assistance through SWAMP to achieve these goals, but the District and other stakeholders may need to provide financial assistance to hire a facilitator or conduct other activities as necessary. To achieve the goals of the Watershed-wide Monitoring program, revisions to the Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements will be made under the direction of USEPA and the Regional Water Board. The District shall submit quarterly progress reports detailing ongoing efforts towards the implementation of the Watershed-wide Monitoring Program. The first report should be received in the Regional Water Board office by September 30, 2009.

4. In coordination with interested stakeholders in the Santa Clara River Watershed, the Discharger shall conduct instream bioassessment monitoring once a year, during the spring/summer period (unless an alternate sampling period is approved by the Executive Officer). Over time, bioassessment monitoring will provide a measure of the physical condition of the waterbody and the integrity of its biological communities.
  - a. The bioassessment program shall include an analysis of the community structure of the instream macroinvertebrate assemblages and physical habitat assessment at the monitoring stations RSW-001U and RSW-002D.

This program shall be implemented by appropriately trained staff. Alternatively, a professional subcontractor qualified to conduct bioassessments may be selected to perform the bioassessment work for the Discharger. Analyses of the results of the bioassessment monitoring program, along with photographs of the monitoring site locations taken during sample collection, shall be submitted in the corresponding annual report. If another stakeholder, or interested party in the watershed subcontracts a qualified professional to conduct bioassessment monitoring during the same season and at the same location as specified in the MRP, then the Discharger may, in lieu of duplicative sampling, submit the data, a report interpreting the data, photographs of the site, and related QA/QC documentation in the corresponding annual report.

- b. The Discharger must provide a copy of their Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) for the Bioassessment Monitoring Program to the Regional Water Board upon request. The document must contain step-by-step field, laboratory and data entry procedures, as well as, related QA/QC procedures. The SOP must also include specific information about each bioassessment program including: assessment program description, its organization and the responsibilities of all its personnel; assessment project description and objectives; qualifications of all personnel; and the type of training each member has received.
- c. Field sampling must conform to the SOP established for the California Stream Bioassessment Procedure (CSBP) or more recently established sampling protocols, such as used by the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP). Field crews shall be trained on aspects of the protocol and appropriate safety issues. All field data and sample Chain of Custody (COC) forms must be examined for completion and gross errors. Field inspections shall be planned with random visits and shall be performed by the Discharger or an independent auditor. These visits shall report on all aspects of the field procedure with corrective action occurring immediately.
- d. A taxonomic identification laboratory shall process the biological samples that usually consist of subsampling organisms, enumerating and identifying taxonomic groups and entering the information into an electronic format. The Regional Water Board may require QA/QC documents from the taxonomic

laboratories and examine their records regularly. Intra-laboratory QA/QC for subsampling, taxonomic validation and corrective actions shall be conducted and documented. Biological laboratories shall also maintain reference collections, vouchered specimens (the Discharger may request the return of their sample voucher collections) and remnant collections. The laboratory should participate in an (external) laboratory taxonomic validation program at a recommended level of 10% or 20%. External QA/QC may be arranged through the California Department of Fish and Game's Aquatic Bioassessment Laboratory located in Rancho Cordova, California.

5. The Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board may modify the Monitoring and Reporting Program to accommodate the watershed-wide monitoring.

## **X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements**

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.
2. If there is no discharge during any reporting period, the report shall so state.
3. 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 waste discharge requirements. This section shall clearly list all non-compliance with discharge requirements, as well as all excursions of effluent limitations.
4. The Discharger shall inform the Regional Water Board well in advance of any proposed construction activity that could potentially affect compliance with applicable requirements.

### **B. Self Monitoring Reports (SMRs)**

1. At any time during the term of this permit, the State or Regional Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program Web site (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>). Until such notification is given, the Discharger shall submit hard copy SMRs. The CIWQS Web site will provide additional directions for SMR submittal in the event there will be service interruption for electronic submittal.
2. The Discharger shall report in the SMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections III through IX. The Discharger shall submit monthly and annual SMRs including the results of all required monitoring using USEPA-approved test methods or other test methods specified in this Order. If the Discharger monitors

any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order (other than for process/operational control, start up, research, or equipment testing), the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR.

3. Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

**Table E-8. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule**

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Continuous	Permit effective date	All	Submit with monthly SMR
Daily	Permit effective date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.	Submit with monthly SMR
Weekly	Sunday following permit effective date or on permit effective date if on a Sunday	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR
Monthly	First day of calendar month following permit effective date or on permit effective date if that date is first day of the month	1 <sup>st</sup> day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	By the 15 <sup>th</sup> day of the third month after the month of sampling
Quarterly	Closest of January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 following permit effective date.	January 1 through March 31 April 1 through June 30 July 1 through September 30 October 1 through December 31	April 15 July 15 October 15 January 15
Semiannually	Closest of January 1 or July 1 following permit effective date.	January 1 through June 30 July 1 through December 31	April 15 October 15
Annually	January 1 following permit effective date	January 1 through December 31	April 15
Biennially	August 1, 2009	August 1, every other year	November 15

4. Reporting Protocols. The Discharger shall report with each sample result the applicable reported Minimum Level (ML) and the current Method Detection Limit (MDL), as determined by the procedure in 40 C.F.R. part 136.

The Discharger shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

- a. Sample results greater than or equal to the reported ML shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).

- b. Sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported.

For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ as well as the words "Estimated Concentration" (may be shortened to "Est. Conc."). The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy (+ a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.

- c. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or ND.
- d. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.

5. The Discharger shall submit SMRs in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. The Discharger shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with interim and/or final effluent limitations. The Discharger is not required to duplicate the submittal of data that is entered in a tabular format within CIWQS. When electronic submittal of data is required and CIWQS does not provide for entry into a tabular format within the system, the Discharger shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.
- b. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the SMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the WDRs; discuss corrective actions taken or planned; and the proposed time schedule for corrective actions. Identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation.
- c. SMRs must be submitted to the Regional Water Board, signed and certified as required by the Standard Provisions (Attachment D), to the address listed below: (Reference the reports to Compliance File No. **4993** to facilitate routing to the appropriate staff and file.)

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Attention: Information Technology Unit

**C. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs)**

1. As described in Section X.B.1 above, at any time during the term of this permit, the State or Regional Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit SMRs that will satisfy federal requirements for submittal of Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs). Until such notification is given, the Discharger shall submit DMRs in accordance with the requirements described below.
2. DMRs must be signed and certified as required by the standard provisions (Attachment D). The Discharger shall submit the original DMR and one copy of the DMR to the address listed below:

<b>STANDARD MAIL</b>	<b>FEDEX/UPS/ OTHER PRIVATE CARRIERS</b>
State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality c/o DMR Processing Center PO Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-1000	State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality c/o DMR Processing Center 1001 I Street, 15 <sup>th</sup> Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

3. All discharge monitoring results must be reported on the official USEPA pre-printed DMR forms (EPA Form 3320-1). Forms that are self-generated will not be accepted unless they follow the exact same format of EPA Form 3320-1.

**D. Other Reports**

**1. Annual Summary Report**

By April 15 of each year, the Discharger shall submit an annual report containing a discussion of the previous year’s influent/effluent analytical results and receiving water bacterial monitoring data. The annual report shall contain graphical and tabular summaries of the monitoring analytical data. The annual report shall also contain an overview of any plans for upgrades to the treatment plant’s collection system, the treatment processes, or the outfall system. The Discharger shall submit a hard copy annual report to the Regional Water Board in accordance with the requirements described in subsection B.5 above.

Each annual monitoring report shall contain a separate section titled “Reasonable Potential Analysis” which discusses whether or not reasonable potential was triggered for pollutants which do not have a final effluent limitation in the NPDES permit. This section shall contain the following statement:” The analytical results for this sampling period did/ did not trigger reasonable potential.” If reasonable potential was triggered, then the following information should also be provided:

- a. A list of the pollutant(s) that triggered reasonable potential;
  - b. The Basin Plan or CTR criteria that was exceeded for each given pollutant;
  - c. The concentration of the pollutant(s);
  - d. The test method used to analyze the sample; and,
  - e. The date and time of sample collection.
2. The Discharger shall submit to the Regional Water Board, together with the first monitoring report required by this permit, a list of all chemicals and proprietary additives which could affect this waste discharge, including quantities of each. Any subsequent changes in types and/or quantities shall be reported promptly.
3. The Regional Water Board requires the Discharger to file with the Regional Water Board, within 90 days after the effective date of this Order, a technical report on his preventive (failsafe) and contingency (cleanup) plans for controlling accidental discharges, and for minimizing the effect of such events. The technical report should:
- a. Identify the possible sources of accidental loss, untreated waste bypass, and contaminated drainage. Loading and storage areas, power outage, waste treatment unit outage, and failure of process equipment, tanks, and pipes should be considered.
  - b. Evaluate the effectiveness of present facilities and procedures and state when they become operational.
  - c. Describe facilities and procedures needed for effective preventive and contingency plans.
  - d. Predict the effectiveness of the proposed facilities and procedures and provide an implementation schedule contingent interim and final dates when they will be constructed, implemented, or operational.

## ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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**ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET**

As described in section II of this Order, this Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this Order.

This Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for Dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this Discharger. Sections or subsections of this Order not specifically identified as “not applicable” are fully applicable to this Discharger.

**I. PERMIT INFORMATION**

The following table summarizes administrative information related to the facility.

**Table F-1. Facility Information**

<b>WDID</b>	
<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County</b>
<b>Name of Facility</b>	<b>Valencia Water Reclamation Plant</b>
<b>Facility Address</b>	<b>28185 The Old Road</b>
	<b>Santa Clarita, CA 91355</b>
	<b>Los Angeles County</b>
<b>Facility Contact, Title and Phone</b>	<b>Thomas Weiland, Supervising Engineer, (562) 908-4288 X2855</b>
<b>Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports</b>	<b>Thomas Weiland, Supervising Engineer</b>
<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601</b>
<b>Billing Address</b>	<b>Same as above</b>
<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Publicly Owned Treatment Works</b>
<b>Major or Minor Facility</b>	<b>Major</b>
<b>Threat to Water Quality</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Complexity</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Pretreatment Program</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Reclamation Requirements</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Facility Permitted Flow</b>	<b>21.6 Million Gallons per Day (MGD)</b>
<b>Facility Design Flow</b>	<b>21.6 MGD</b>
<b>Watershed</b>	<b>Santa Clara River Watershed</b>
<b>Receiving Water</b>	<b>Santa Clara River</b>
<b>Receiving Water Type</b>	<b>Inland surface water</b>

- A.** Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County (hereinafter Discharger or SCVSD, formerly referred to as Los Angeles County Sanitation District of Los Angeles County) is the owner and operator of the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant (hereinafter Facility or Valencia WRP), a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

For the purposes of this Order, references to the “discharger” or “permittee” in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

- B.** The Facility discharges wastewater to Santa Clara River, a water of the United States, and is currently regulated by Order No. R4-2003-0145 (as revised by Order No. R4-2005-0032) and National Pollutant Elimination System (NPDES) permit No. CA0054216, which was adopted on November 6, 2003 and expires on October 10, 2008.
- C.** The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge and submitted an application for renewal of its Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit on April 11, 2008. Supplemental information was requested on May 8, 2008, and was received on June 11, 2008. A site visit was conducted on July 8, 2008, to observe operations and collect additional data to develop permit limitations and conditions.

## **II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

The Discharger owns and operates the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant (Valencia WRP), a tertiary wastewater treatment plant located at 28185 The Old Road, Santa Clarita, California. Attachment B shows the location of the plant. The Valencia WRP currently receives wastewater from the City of Santa Clarita and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The wastewater is a mixture of domestic and industrial wastewater that is pre-treated pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 403. The Valencia WRP has a design capacity of 21.6 million gallons per day (MGD) and serves an estimated population of 162,661.

### **A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment or Controls**

1. The Valencia WRP was recently upgraded and now nitrifies and denitrifies for ammonia removal. Treatment consists of comminution, primary sedimentation, flow equalization, activated sludge treatment, secondary clarification, filtration, chlorination and dechlorination.
2. Primary sludge is anaerobically digested and waste activated sludge is concentrated by dissolved air flotation, blended with primary sludge, and aerobically digested. The digested solids are thickened using a filter press. Dried solids are trucked away off site either to a landfill or to a site for land application.

### **B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters**

Tertiary-treated wastewater is discharged to the Santa Clara River from Discharge Points 001 and 002 (see table on cover page), a water of the United States, and within the Santa Clara River Watershed. The Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County also discharges stormwater into the Santa Clara River under a separate General NPDES Order.

### C. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data

There was no discharge from Discharge Point 002. Effluent limitations contained in the existing Order for discharges from Discharge Point 001 (Monitoring Location EFF-001) and representative monitoring data from the term of the previous Order are as follows, according to the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD):

**Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (From Oct. 2003 – To Dec. 2007)		
		Average Monthly	Ave. Weekly	Max. Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20 °C	mg/L	20	30	45	<3.2	--	15
Total Suspended solids (TSS)	mg/L	15	40	45	<1.5	--	7
Settleable solids	mL/L	0.1	--	0.3	<0.1	--	<0.1
Temperature	°F	--	--	86	75	--	86
pH	Ph units	--	--	6.5 – 8.5	7.0	--	7.8
Turbidity	NTU	2	--	5	0.8	--	3
Oil and grease	mg/L	10	--	15	<5	--	<5
Residual chlorine	mg/L	--	--	0.1	<0.05	--	<0.1
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	1000	--	--	733	--	1,100
Chloride	mg/L	--	--	100 <sup>1</sup>	155	--	196
Sulfate	mg/L	400	--	--	163	--	210
Boron	mg/L	1.5	--	--	0.7	--	0.85
Fluoride	mg/L	1.6	--	--	0.33	--	0.65
Nitrate + Nitrite as N	mg/L	5	--	--	4.39	--	8.54
Ammonia as N	mg/L	1.75	--	5.2	0.705	--	2.79
MBAS	mg/L	0.5	--	--	<0.1	--	0.2
Antimony	µg/L	6	--	--	0.8	--	1.1
Arsenic	µg/L	50	--	--	0.7 DNQ	--	2.3
Beryllium	µg/L	--	--	--	<0.5	--	0.25
Cadmium	µg/L	--	--	--	0.03 DNQ	--	0.16 DNQ
Chromium III	µg/L	--	--	--	<3.4	--	0.46
Chromium VI	µg/L	--	--	--	<5.7	--	6 DNQ
Copper	µg/L	--	--	--	5.08	--	21.8
Lead	µg/L	--	--	--	0.13 DNQ	--	0.27

<sup>1</sup> The final effluent limit of 100 mg/L was not in effect in the previous permit cycle, nor will it be in effect for the future permit cycle, because the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL provides for an interim limit. The interim chloride limit is equal to the sum of the State Water Project treated water supply chloride concentration plus 134 mg/L, not to exceed a daily maximum of 230 mg/L.

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (From Oct. 2003 – To Dec. 2007)		
		Average Monthly	Ave. Weekly	Max. Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Mercury	µg/L	0.051	--	0.10	<0.04	--	0.04
Nickel	µg/L	100	--	--	2.23	--	3.72
Selenium	µg/L	50	--	--	0.4 DNQ	--	1.1
Silver	µg/L	--	--	--	<0.25	--	0.25
Thallium	µg/L	--	--	--	<0.25	--	0.08 DNQ
Zinc	µg/L	5000	--	--	45.9	--	114
Cyanide <sup>2</sup>	µg/L	4.1	--	8.9	1.4 DNQ	--	2.8 DNQ
Acrolein	µg/L	--	--	--	<2	--	0.54 DNQ
Acrylonitrile	µg/L	--	--	--	<2	--	2
Bromoform	µg/L	--	--	--	<0.5	--	1
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	--	--	--	1	--	4
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	--	--	--	5.3	--	11
Chloroform	µg/L	--	--	--	7.3	--	14
Iron	µg/L	300	--	--	<101	--	115
Methyl chloride	µg/L	--	--	--	<0.5	--	0.4 DNQ
Methylene chloride	µg/L	--	--	--	0.06 DNQ	--	0.4 DNQ
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/L	5	--	--	<0.5	--	0.6
Toluene	µg/L	--	--	--	0.1 DNQ	--	2
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	µg/L	--	--	--	<10	--	0.5 DNQ
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	µg/L	4	--	--	<2	--	1.2 DNQ
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	µg/L	5	--	--	<1	--	0.7
Diethyl phthalate	µg/L	--	--	--	<2	--	0.3 DNQ
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	µg/L	--	--	--	2.2 DNQ	--	3.9 DNQ
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	µg/L	--	--	--	<0.005	--	0.0042 DNQ
Lindane (Gamma-BHC)	µg/L	0.2	--	--	<0.009	--	0.006 DNQ

All other priority pollutants were not detected in the effluent. Sample results less than the reporting level (RL), but greater than or equal to the laboratory's method detection level (MDL) are reported as "Detected, but not Quantified (DNQ)."

<sup>2</sup> The cyanide summary includes monitoring data from January 2006 to December 2007 only, due to the reasons discussed under Cyanide Exceedance Discussion on page F-7 of this Fact Sheet.

## D. Compliance Summary

Monitoring data from January 2004 to December 2007, indicate that the Discharger has consistently complied with the final effluent limitations and interim effluent limitations of Order No. R4-2003-0145, and with the interim effluent limitations in its Time Schedule Orders, except for exceedances of: cyanide, residual chlorine, and turbidity. The Discharger also had two sewer spills associated with the collection system tributary to the Valencia WRP.

TSO No. R4-2003-0146 was adopted concurrently with the NPDES permit, Order No. R4-2003-0145. This TSO required the Discharger to:

1. Achieve compliance with the nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen limitations within the time specified in the TMDL;
2. Achieve compliance with the Tetrachloroethylene, Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and p-Dichlorobenzene(1,4-Dichlorobenzene) limits by October 10, 2008;
3. Submit quarterly progress reports of the Discharger's efforts to achieve compliance with the final effluent limitations.

### Cyanide Exceedance Discussion

The Discharger conducted a study by running side-by-side cyanide sample analysis, using two different test methods, to demonstrate that cyanide was being generated as a result of the sample preservation methodology associated with running the Standard Method 4500CN E (Manual Spectrophotometric method for total cyanide).

The 21<sup>st</sup> Edition of Standard Method discusses the effect that one preservative, ascorbic acid, has on the sample. "Ascorbic acid functions as a carbon donor in the presence of nitrite or nitrate, and generates cyanide during the distillation."

In January 2006, the Discharger obtained ELAP certification for a new test method which did not require the addition of preservatives to the collected sample. After switching to the new test method (EPA 335.4), which avoids having to add a preservative, the effluent has not exceeded the cyanide interim effluent limit.

Furthermore, the alleged cyanide exceedances did not appear to have an impact on water quality in the Santa Clara River. If cyanide was indeed being discharged at those high reported concentrations, one would have expected to see toxicity in both the effluent and in the receiving water. But the toxicity tests passed, with 100% of the species surviving, in both the effluent and receiving water. It is feasible to believe that the sample preservative introduced as part of the analytical test methodology yielded cyanide concentration results that were not necessarily representative of what was being discharged in the effluent. In a Regional Water Board enforcement panel hearing, the cyanide exceedances were dismissed.

## **E. Planned Changes**

The Valencia WRP's treatment system has recently been upgraded with respect to nitrogen removal, in order to comply with the Nutrient TMDL for Santa Clara River Watershed. In addition, the plant's phased design capacity expansion, from 17 MGD to 21.6 MGD, was completed in May 2005. As part of its effort to comply with the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the SCVSD is considering conversion to ultraviolet (UV) disinfecting technology, in order to help achieve compliance with the TMDL by avoiding the addition of chloride; a design schedule has not yet been established.

## **III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS**

The requirements contained in the proposed Order are based on the requirements and authorities described in this section.

### **A. Legal Authorities**

This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this facility to surface waters. This Order also serves as Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260).

### **B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

Under California Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of CEQA, Public Resources Code sections 21100 through 21177.

### **C. State and Federal Regulations, Policies, and Plans**

- 1. Water Quality Control Plans.** The Regional Water Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (hereinafter Basin Plan) on June 13, 1994 that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. Beneficial uses applicable to the Santa Clara River are as follows:

**Table F-3a. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001 and 002	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.51)	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      industrial service supply (IND), industrial process supply (PROC), and agricultural supply (AGR); groundwater recharge (GWR); freshwater replenishment (FRSH); water contact (REC-1) and non-contact water recreation (REC-2); rare, threatened, or endangered species (RARE); warm freshwater habitat (WARM), wildlife habitat (WILD), and wetland<sup>[1]</sup> habitat (WET).</p> <p><u>Potential:</u>                      Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN).</p>
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.41)	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE; migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR); WARM, WILD, WET</p> <p><u>Potential:</u>                      MUN.</p>
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.31)	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE, MIGR, WARM, WILD, and WET;</p> <p><u>Potential:</u>                      MUN.</p>
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.21)	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE, MIGR, WARM, WILD, and WET</p> <p><u>Potential:</u>                      MUN.</p>
	Santa Clara River (Hydro unit 403.11)	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      IND, PROC, AGR, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, RARE, MIGR, WARM, COLD, WILD, and WET</p> <p><u>Potential:</u>                      navigation (NAV), REC-1;</p>
	Santa Clara River Estuary (Hydro unit 403.11)	<p><u>Existing:</u>                      navigation (NAV), REC-1, REC-2, commercial and sport fishing (COMM), estuarine habitat (EST), marine habitat (MAR), WILD, WET, RARE, MIGR, spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN).</p>

\* The potential municipal and domestic supply (p\* MUN) beneficial use for the waterbody is consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 88-63 and Regional Water Board Resolution No. 89-003; however, the Regional Water Board has only conditionally designated the MUN beneficial use of the surface water and at this time cannot establish effluent limitations designed to protect the conditional designation.

The beneficial uses of the receiving ground waters are as follows:

**Table F-3b. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001 and 002	Eastern Santa Clara (DWR Basin No. 4-4.07)	South Fork – Existing Beneficial Uses: Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN), industrial service supply (IND), industrial process supply (PROC), and agricultural supply (AGR);  Placerita Canyon – Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, AGR  Santa Clara/Bouquet & San Francisquito Canyons - Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, AGR  Castaic Valley- Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, AGR  Saugus Aquifer- Existing Beneficial Use: MUN
	Ventura Central Basin (DWR Basin No. 4-4)	Santa Clara, Lower Area East of Piru Creek Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, and AGR;  Santa Clara, Lower Area West of Piru Creek Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara, Upper Sespe area Existing Beneficial Uses: IND and AGR Potential Beneficial Uses: MUN and PROC  Santa Clara – Fillmore area: Pole Creek Fan area Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara – Fillmore area: South side of Santa Clara River Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara - Remaining Fillmore area Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara – Santa Paula area; East of Peck Road Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;  Santa Clara – Santa Paula area: West of Peck Road Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC; and, AGR;
	Oxnard Plain	Oxnard Forebay

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
	(DWR Basin No. 4-4)	Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, and AGR;  <u>Confined Aquifers</u> Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN, IND, PROC, and AGR;  <u>Unconfined and perched aquifers</u> Existing Beneficial Uses: MUN and AGR; Potential Beneficial Use: IND

Requirements of this Order implement the Basin Plan and subsequent amendments.

The 1994 Basin Plan provided water quality objectives for ammonia to protect aquatic life, in Tables 3-1 through Tables 3-4. However, those ammonia objectives were revised on April 25, 2002, by the Regional Water Board with the adoption of Resolution No. 2002-011, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Update the Ammonia Objectives for Inland Surface Waters (Including Enclosed Bays, Estuaries and Wetlands) with Beneficial Use Designations for Protection of Aquatic Life*. The ammonia Basin Plan amendment was approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and USEPA on April 30, 2003, June 5, 2003, and June 19, 2003, respectively. On December 1, 2005, Resolution No. 2005-014, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Revise the Early Life Stage Implementation Provision of the Freshwater Ammonia Objectives for Inland Surface Waters (including enclosed bays, estuaries and wetlands) for Protection of Aquatic Life*, was adopted by the Regional Water Board. Resolution No. 2005-014 was approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and USEPA on July 19, 2006, August 31, 2006, and April 5, 2007, respectively. Although the revised ammonia water quality objectives may be less stringent than those contained in the 1994 Basin Plan, they are still protective of aquatic life and are consistent with USEPA’s 1999 ammonia criteria update.

2. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** USEPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, USEPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain water quality criteria for priority pollutants.
3. **State Implementation Policy.** On March 2, 2000, the State Water 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 became effective on April 28, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the USEPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Regional Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000 with respect to the priority pollutant criteria

promulgated by the USEPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005 that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.

4. **Alaska Rule.** On March 30, 2000, USEPA revised its regulation that specifies when new and revised state and tribal water quality standards (WQS) become effective for CWA purposes (40 C.F.R. § 131.21, 65 Fed. Reg. 24641 (April 27, 2000)). Under the revised regulation (also known as the Alaska rule), new and revised standards submitted to USEPA after May 30, 2000, must be approved by USEPA before being used for CWA purposes. The final rule also provides that standards already in effect and submitted to USEPA by May 30, 2000, may be used for CWA purposes, whether or not approved by USEPA.
5. **Antidegradation Policy.** Section 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies. The permitted discharge must be consistent with the antidegradation provision of part 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.
6. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at title 40, Code of Federal Regulations<sup>3</sup> part 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed.

#### **D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List**

On October 25, 2006, the State Water Board adopted a revised CWA 303(d) list. The 2006 303(d) list was partially approved by the USEPA on November 30, 2006. However, on March 8, 2007, USEPA partially disapproved the State's 303(d) list, by disapproving the State's omission of impaired waters that met federal listing regulations or guidance. USEPA is adding 64 waters and 37 associated pollutants to the State's 303(d) list. On June 28, 2007, USEPA transmitted the final approved 2004-2006 Section 303(d) List, which serves as the State's most recent list of impaired waterbodies. The list (hereinafter referred to as the 303(d) List) was prepared in accordance with Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act to identify specific

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<sup>3</sup> All further statutory references are to title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations unless otherwise indicated.

impaired waterbodies where water quality standards are not expected to be met after implementation of technology-based effluent limitations on point sources.

Santa Clara River is on the 2006 303(d) List. The following pollutants/stressors, from point and non-point sources, were identified as impacting the receiving waters:

1. Santa Clara River Reach 7 (Bouquet Canyon Rd to above Lang Gauging Station, was named Santa Clara River Reach 9 on 2002 303(d) list) Hydro Unit 403.51 - Coliform Bacteria;
2. Santa Clara River Reach 6 (West Pier Hwy 99 to Bouquet Cnyn Rd., was named Santa Clara River Reach 8 on 2002 303(d) list) Hydro Unit 403.51 – Chlorpyrifos, Coliform Bacteria, Diazinon, Toxicity, ammonia, and chloride;
3. Santa Clara River Reach 5 (Blue cut to West Pier Hwy 99 Bridge, was named Santa Clara River Reach 7 on 2002 303(d) list) - Coliform Bacteria, ammonia, chloride, nitrate and nitrite;
4. Santa Clara River Reach 3 (Freeman Diversion to A Street) – Total Dissolved Solids, ammonia, and chloride;
5. Santa Clara River Reach 1 (Estuary to Hwy 101 Bridge) – Toxicity;
6. Santa Clara River Estuary – Chem A, Coliform Bacteria, Toxaphene.

## **E. Other Plans, Policies and Regulations**

1. **Sources of Drinking Water Policy.** On May 19, 1988, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 88-63, *Sources of Drinking Water (SODW) Policy*, which established a policy that all surface and ground waters, with limited exemptions, are suitable or potentially suitable for municipal and domestic supply. To be consistent with State Water Board's SODW policy, on March 27, 1989, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 89-03, *Incorporation of Sources of Drinking Water Policy into the Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) – Santa Clara River Basin (4A)/ Los Angeles River Basin (4B)*.

Consistent with Regional Water Board Resolution No. 89-03 and State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, in 1994 the Regional Water Board conditionally designated all inland surface waters in Table 2-1 of the 1994 Basin Plan as existing, intermittent, or potential for Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN). However, the conditional designation in the 1994 Basin Plan included the following implementation provision: "no new effluent limitations will be placed in Waste Discharge Requirements as a result of these [potential MUN designations made pursuant to the SODW policy and the Regional Water Board's enabling resolution] until the Regional Water Board adopts [a special Basin Plan Amendment that incorporates a detailed review of the waters in the Region that should be exempted from the potential MUN designations

arising from SODW policy and the Regional Water Board's enabling resolution].” On February 15, 2002, the USEPA clarified its partial approval (May 26, 2000) of the 1994 Basin Plan amendments and acknowledged that the conditional designations do not currently have a legal effect, do not reflect new water quality standards subject to USEPA review, and do not support new effluent limitations based on the conditional designations stemming from the SODW Policy until a subsequent review by the Regional Water Board finalizes the designations for these waters. This permit is designed to be consistent with the existing Basin Plan.

2. **Secondary Treatment Regulations.** Part 133 of 40 C.F.R. establishes the minimum levels of effluent quality to be achieved by secondary treatment. These limitations, established by USEPA, are incorporated into this Order, except where more stringent limitations are required by other applicable plans, policies, or regulations.
3. **Storm Water.** CWA section 402(p), as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, requires NPDES permits for storm water discharges. Pursuant to this requirement, in 1990, USEPA promulgated 40 C.F.R. Part 122.26 that established requirements for storm water discharges under an NPDES program. To facilitate compliance with federal regulations, on November 1991, the State Water Board issued a statewide general permit, *General NPDES Permit No. CAS000001 and Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities*. This permit was amended in September 1992 and reissued on April 17, 1997 in State Water Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ to regulate storm water discharges associated with industrial activity.

General NPDES permit No. CAS000001 is applicable to storm water discharges from the Valencia WRP's premises. On June 4, 1992, the City filed a Notice of Intent to comply with the requirements of the general permit. The City developed and currently implements a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), to comply with the State Water Board's (Order No. 97-03-DWQ).

4. **Sanitary Sewer Overflows.** The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants from point sources to surface waters of the United States unless authorized under an NPDES permit. (33 U.S.C. §§1311, 1342). The State Water Board adopted Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003 on May 2, 2006, to provide a consistent, statewide regulatory framework to address Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). The WDR requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems to develop and implement sewer system management plans and report all SSOs to the State Water Board's online SSO database.

The requirements contained in this Order in Sections VI.C.3.b, VI.C.4, and VI.C.5.c.6. are intended to be consistent with the requirements in the SSO WDR. The Regional Water Board recognizes that there are areas of overlapping interest between the NPDES permit conditions and the SSO WDR requirements. The requirements of the SSO WDR are considered the minimum thresholds (see Finding

11 of WQ Order No. 2006-0003). The Regional Water Board will accept the documentation prepared by the Permittee under the SSO WDR for compliance purposes, as satisfying the requirements in Sections VI.C.3.b, VI.C.4, and VI.C.5.c.6, provided for any more specific or stringent provisions enumerated in this Order, have also been addressed.

5. **Watershed Management.** This Regional Water Board has been implementing a Watershed Management Approach (WMA), to address water quality protection in the Los Angeles Region, as detailed in the Watershed Management Initiative (WMI). The WMI is designed to integrate various surface and ground water regulatory programs while promoting cooperative, collaborative efforts within a watershed. It is also designed to focus limited resources on key issues and use sound science. Information about the Santa Clara River Watershed and other watersheds in the region can be obtained from the Regional Water Board's web site at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/regional\\_program/index.shtml#Watershed](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regional_program/index.shtml#Watershed).
6. **Relevant Total Maximum Daily Loads.** A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is a determination of the amount of a pollutant, from point, non-point, and natural background sources, including a margin of safety that may be discharged to a water quality-limited water body. Section 303(d) of the CWA established the TMDL process. The statutory requirements are codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 130.7. TMDLs must be developed for the pollutants of concern, which impact the water quality of water bodies on the 303(d) List.
  - a. **Upper Santa Clara River Watershed Chloride TMDL** – On October 24, 2002, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2002-018, Amendment to the Basin Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load to Reduce Chloride Loading in the Upper Santa Clara River. Soon after, the Regional Water Board submitted the TMDL to the State Water Board for approval. On February 19, 2003, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2003-0014, the "Remand Resolution," finding that the Regional Water Board staff prepared the documents and followed procedures satisfying environmental documentation requirements in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, scientific peer review, and other State laws and regulations to develop a TMDL. However, the Remand Resolution directed the Regional Water Board to consider revising the implementation provisions of the chloride TMDL. On July 10, 2003, the Regional Water Board reconsidered Resolution No. 2002-018, in light of the Remand Resolution, and adopted Resolution No. 2003-008 which modified the chloride TMDL implementation provisions by:
    - Expanding the phased-TMDL approach to allow CSDLAC to complete the implementation tasks sequentially and within 13 years;
    - Extending the interim limits beyond the proposed two and a half years but not to exceed 13 years, so that the interim limits may remain in effect during the planning, construction, and execution portions of the TMDL's implementation tasks; and,

- Modifying the TMDL analysis task list to include an assessment/evaluation of alternative water supplies for agricultural beneficial uses.

On May 6, 2004, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 04-004, further modifying the Chloride TMDL by revising the chloride interim limits. The Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL was approved by the State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA on July 22, 2004, November 15, 2004, and April 28, 2005, respectively. It became effective on May 4, 2005.

On August 3, 2006, The Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R4-2006-016, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region through revision of the Implementation Plan for the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL*, which proposed to shorten the compliance period by two years, requiring compliance with the chloride final waste load allocation within eleven years from effective date of the TMDL, rather than thirteen years. Resolution No. R4-2006-016 was approved by the State Water Board and OAL on May 22, 2007 and August 15, 2007, respectively. However, the TMDL compliance schedule provisions contained in Resolution No. R4-2006-016 need not be acted upon by USEPA separately under 303(c), because USEPA considers those TMDL compliance schedule provisions to have been authorized by the State Water Board's Compliance Schedule Policy. The State Water Board's Compliance Schedule Policy became effective on December 17, 2008.

On December 11, 2008, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R4-2008-012, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Adopt Site Specific Chloride Objectives and to Revise the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL*, which proposed to incorporate site specific objectives (SSOs) for chloride in Reaches 4B, 5, and 6 of the Santa Clara River and the groundwater basins underlying those reaches. Resolution No. R4-2008-012 is awaiting approval from the State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA.

- b. **Santa Clara River Watershed Nitrogen Compounds TMDL.** On August 7, 2003, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2003-011, *Amendment to the Basin Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Include a TMDL for Nitrogen Compounds in the Santa Clara River (Nitrogen Compounds TMDL)*. The TMDL was approved from State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA on November 19, 2003, February 27, 2004, and March 18, 2004, respectively. The *Santa Clara River Nitrogen Compounds TMDL* became effective on March 23, 2004.

#### IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other

requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations in the Code of Federal Regulations: Part 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards; and Part 122.44(d) requires that permits include water quality-based effluent limitations to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

## **A. Discharge Prohibitions**

Effluent and receiving water limitations in this Board Order are based on the Federal Clean Water Act, Basin Plan, State Water Board's plans and policies, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidance and regulations, and best practicable waste treatment technology. This order authorizes the discharge of tertiary-treated wastewater from Discharge Points 001 and 002, only. It does not authorize any other types of discharges.

## **B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations**

### **1. Scope and Authority**

Technology-based effluent limits require a minimum level of treatment for industrial/municipal point sources based on currently available treatment technologies while allowing the discharger to use any available control techniques to meet the effluent limits. The 1972 CWA required POTWs to meet performance requirements based on available wastewater treatment technology. Section 301 of the CWA established a required performance level--referred to as "secondary treatment"--that all POTWs were required to meet by July 1, 1977. More specifically, Section 301(b)(1)(B) of the CWA required that USEPA develop secondary treatment standards for POTWs as defined in Section 304(d)(1). Based on this statutory requirement, EPA developed national secondary treatment regulations which are specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 133. These technology-based regulations apply to all POTWs and identify the minimum level of effluent quality to be attained by secondary treatment in terms of five-day biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, and pH.

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at part 122.44, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Secondary Treatment Standards at Part 133 and Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with Part 125.3.

## 2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

This facility is subject to the technology-based regulations for the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment in terms of BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and pH.

The following Table summarizes the technology-based effluent limitations applicable to the Facility:

### Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations Discharge Points 001 and 002

**Table F-4. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20 °C	mg/L	20	30	45	--	--
	lbs/day *	3600	5400	8100	--	--
Total Suspended solids (TSS)	mg/L	15	40	45	--	--
	lbs/day *	2700	7200	8100	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5
Removal Efficiency for BOD and TSS	%	85	--	--	--	--

\* The mass emission rates are based on the plant design flow rate of 21.6 MGD, and are calculated as follows: Flow(MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34 (conversion factor) = lbs/day. During wet-weather storm events in which the flow exceeds the design capacity, the mass discharge rate limitations shall not apply, and concentration limitations will provide the only applicable effluent limitations.

However, this facility is also subject to technology-based effluent limitations contained in similar NPDES permits, for similar facilities, based on the treatment level achievable by tertiary-treated wastewater treatment systems. These effluent limitations are consistent with the State Water Board precedential decision, State Water Board Order No. WQ 2004-0010 for the City of Woodland.

## **C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)**

### **1. Scope and Authority**

Section 301(b) of the CWA and part 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards. This Order contains requirements, expressed as a technology equivalence requirement, more stringent than secondary treatment requirements that are necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The rationale for these requirements, which consist of tertiary treatment or equivalent requirements or other provisions, is discussed starting from Section IV.C.2.b.

Part 122.44(d)(1)(i) mandates that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) must be established using: (1) USEPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in part 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBELs when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

### **2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives**

- a. The Basin Plan establishes the beneficial uses for surface water bodies in the Los Angeles region. The beneficial uses of the Santa Clara River affected by the discharge have been described previously in this Fact Sheet and in the WDR findings.
- b. The Basin Plan also specifies narrative and numeric water quality objectives applicable to surface water as shown in the following discussions.
  - i. Table R1 summarizes the applicable water quality criteria/objective for priority pollutants reported in detectable concentrations in the effluent or receiving water. These criteria were used in conducting the Reasonable Potential Analysis for this Order.

## ii. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Suspended solids

Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) is a measure of the quantity of the organic matter in the water and, therefore, the water's potential for becoming depleted in dissolved oxygen. As organic degradation takes place, bacteria and other decomposers use the oxygen in the water for respiration.

Unless there is a steady re-supply of oxygen to the system, the water will quickly become depleted of oxygen. Adequate dissolved oxygen levels are required to support aquatic life. Depressions of dissolved oxygen can lead to anaerobic conditions resulting in odors, or, in extreme cases, in fish kills.

40 C.F.R., Part 133 describes the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment, for BOD and suspended solids, as:

- a. the monthly average shall not exceed 30 mg/L; and,
- b. the 7-day average shall not exceed 45 mg/L.

The upgraded Valencia WRP will provide tertiary treatment, as such, the limits in the permit are more stringent than secondary treatment requirements. The Plant will achieve solids removal rates that are better than secondary-treated wastewater by adding a coagulant to enhance the precipitation of solids, and by filtering the effluent.

In addition to having mass-based and concentration-based effluent limitations for BOD and suspended solids, the Valencia WRP also has a percent removal requirement for these two constituents. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. Parts 133.102(a)(3) and 133.102(b)(3), the 30-day average percent removal shall not be less than 85 percent. Percent removal is defined as a percentage expression of the removal efficiency across a treatment plant for a given pollutant parameter, as determined from the 30-day average values of the raw wastewater influent pollutant concentrations to the facility and the 30-day average values of the effluent pollutant concentrations for a given time period.

## iii. pH

The hydrogen ion activity of water (pH) is measured on a logarithmic scale, ranging from 0 to 14. While the pH of "pure" water at 25°C is 7.0, the pH of natural waters is usually slightly basic due to the solubility of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Minor changes from natural conditions can harm aquatic life. The effluent limitation for pH which reads, "the wastes discharged shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 to 8.5," is taken from the Basin Plan (page 3-15) which reads "the pH of inland surface waters shall not be depressed below 6.5 or raised above 8.5 as a result of waste discharge."

#### **iv. Settleable solids**

Excessive deposition of sediments can destroy spawning habitat, blanket benthic (bottom dwelling) organisms, and abrade the gills of larval fish. The limits for settleable solids are based on the Basin Plan (page 3-16) narrative, "Waters shall not contain suspended or settleable material in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses." The numeric limits are empirically based on results obtained from the settleable solids 1-hour test, using an Imhoff cone.

It is impracticable to use a 7-day average limitation, because short-term spikes of settleable solid levels that would be permissible under a 7-day average scheme would not be adequately protective of all beneficial uses.

#### **v. Oil and Grease**

Oil and grease are not readily soluble in water and form a film on the water surface. Oily films can coat birds and aquatic organisms, impacting respiration and thermal regulation, and causing death. Oil and grease can also cause nuisance conditions (odors and taste), are aesthetically unpleasant, and can restrict a wide variety of beneficial uses. The limits for oil and grease are based on the Basin Plan (page 3-11) narrative, "Waters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, that cause nuisance, or that otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses."

The numeric limits are empirically based on concentrations at which an oily sheen becomes visible in water. It is impracticable to use a 7-day average limitation, because spikes that occur under a 7-day average scheme could cause visible oil sheen. A 7-day average scheme would not be sufficiently protective of beneficial uses.

#### **vi. Residual chlorine**

Disinfection of wastewaters with chlorine produces chlorine residual. Chlorine and its reaction products are toxic to aquatic life. The limit for residual chlorine is based on the Basin Plan (page 3-9) narrative, "Chlorine residual shall not be present in surface water discharges at concentrations that exceed 0.1 mg/L and shall not persist in receiving waters at any concentration that causes impairment of beneficial uses."

It is impracticable to use a 7-day average or a 30-day average limitation, because it is not as protective as of beneficial uses as a daily maximum

limitation is. Chlorine is very toxic to aquatic life and short-term exposures of chlorine may cause fish kills.

### **vii. Total Dissolved Solids, Sulfate, and Boron**

The limits for total dissolved solids, sulfate, and boron are based on Basin Plan Table 3-8 (page 3-12), for the Santa Clara River Watershed (Between West Pier Highway 99 and Blue Cut Gauging Station). TDS = 1000 mg/L; Sulfate = 400 mg/L; and Boron = 1.5 mg/L. It is practicable to express these limits as monthly averages, since they are not expected to cause acute effects on beneficial uses. These limits will protect waters of the US and prevent degradation.

Limits based upon the Basin Plan Objectives have been included in this Order because, based upon Best Professional Judgment, these constituents are always present in potable water which is the supply source of the wastewater entering the Treatment Plant. They may be present in concentrations which meet California drinking water standards but exceed the Basin Plan Objectives. Therefore, limitations are warranted to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

### **viii. Chloride**

The water quality objective for chloride in the Basin Plan Table 3-8 (page 3-12), for Santa Clara River Watershed (Between West Pier Highway 99 and Blue cut Gauging Station) is 100 mg/L. However, the **100 mg/L** effluent limit for chloride changed to different numbers resulting from several resolutions or Board Orders.

In 1990, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution 90-04, Effects of Drought-Induced Water Supply Changes and Water Conservation Measures on Compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements within the Los Angeles Region (the Drought Policy). Resolution 90-04 was intended to provide short-term and temporary relief to dischargers who were unable to comply with limits for chloride due to effects of drought on chloride levels in supply waters imported into the Region. For dischargers who applied for relief under the Drought Policy, the chloride limit was temporarily reset at the lesser of: (i) **250 mg/L**, or (ii) the chloride concentrations in supply waters plus 85 mg/L.

The drought Policy was renewed twice, once in June 1993 and in February 1995. It was set to expire on February 27, 1997, or earlier if it was determined that imported water supply chloride levels had returned to pre-drought conditions.

On January 27, 1997, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 97-02, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan to incorporate a Policy for Addressing Levels of Chloride in Discharges of Wastewaters*. It was approved by the State Water Board (SWRCB Resolution 97-94); approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on January 8, 1998; and served to grant a variance (interim relief) to dischargers listed in Resolution 97-02's Attachment A. For the Santa Clara River (Between West Pier Highway 99 and Blue cut Gauging Station) the interim limit was set as **190 mg/L**, and was intended to last for 3 years following final approval of the amendment. The adoption of Resolution No. 97-02 also served to rescind Resolution No. 90-04 (the Drought Policy).

On April 13, 1998, the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. 98-027, which temporarily amended Valencia WRP's chloride daily maximum effluent limit to 190 mg/L. This interim limit expired on January 9, 2001.

On December 7, 2000, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2000-21, which granted modified interim limits for Discharges to Santa Clara River until December 7, 2001. The chloride interim limit became 143 mg/L as a 12-month rolling average with an instantaneous maximum of 180 mg/L. However, this Resolution never went into effect because it was not submitted to OAL for approval.

On October 24, 2002, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R4-2002-018, the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride Total Maximum Daily Load. The TMDL used the 100 mg/L objective in the Basin Plan to establish a concentration-based waste load allocation of 100 mg/L for the Valencia WRP.

On February 19, 2003, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2003-0014, Remanding the TMDL back to the Regional Water Board for revision of the chloride TMDL implementation schedule.

On July 10, 2003, the Regional Water Board reconsidered Resolution No. 2002-018, in light of the Remand Resolution, and adopted Resolution No. 2003-008 which modified the chloride TMDL implementation provisions.

On May 6, 2004, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 04-004, further modifying the Chloride TMDL by revising the chloride interim limits. The Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL was approved by the State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA on July 22, 2004, November 15, 2004, and April 28, 2005, respectively. It became effective on May 4, 2005.

On August 3, 2006, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R4-2006-016, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region through revision of the Implementation Plan for the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL*, which proposed to shorten the compliance period by two years, requiring compliance with the chloride final waste load allocation

within eleven years from effective data of the TMDL, rather than thirteen years. Resolution No. R4-2006-016 was approved by the State Water Board on May 22, 2007, but is awaiting approval from OAL and USEPA.

On December 11, 2008, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R4-2008-012, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Adopt Site Specific Chloride Objectives and to Revise the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL*, which proposed to incorporate site specific objectives (SSOs) for chloride in Reaches 4B, 5, and 6 of the Santa Clara River and the groundwater basins underlying those reaches. The TMDL provides a ten-year schedule to attain compliance with the SSOs for chloride. The SSOs are conditioned on full and on-going implementation of the alternative water resources management (AWRM) program. If the AWRM system is not built and operated, the water quality objectives for chloride revert back to the current levels in the Basin Plan, which are 100 mg/L. Implementation actions to achieve SSOs in Reaches 4B, 5, and 6 and the TMDL must also result in compliance with downstream water quality objectives for chloride. Interim WLAs for chloride shall remain in effect for no more than ten years after the effective date of the TMDL. However, the final conditional Waste Load Allocations for chloride in Reaches 4B, 5, and 6 shall apply by May 5, 2015. Resolution No. R4-2008-012 is awaiting approval from the State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA.

**ix. Methylene Blue Activated Substances (MBAS)**

The MBAS procedure tests for the presence of anionic surfactants (detergents) in surface and ground waters. Surfactants disturb the water surface tension, which affects insects and can affect gills in aquatic life. The MBAS can also impart an unpleasant soapy taste to water, as well as cause scum and foaming in waters, which impact the aesthetic quality of both surface and ground waters.

Given the nature of the facility (a POTW) which accepts domestic washwater into the sewer system and treatment plant, and the characteristics of the wastes discharged, the discharge has reasonable potential to exceed both the numeric MBAS water quality objective (WQO) and the narrative WQO for prohibition of floating material such as foams and scums. Therefore, an effluent limitation is required.

The discharge from the Valencia WRP may have reasonable potential to contribute to an exceedance of the 0.5 mg/L WQO. The 0.5 mg/L concentration (which has been determined to be protective of beneficial uses and the aesthetic quality of waters) is based on the Department of Public Health's (formerly known as the Department of Health Services) secondary

drinking water standard, and on the Basin Plan WQO (p.3-11) which reads, "Waters shall not have MBAS concentrations greater than 0.5 mg/L in waters designated MUN." While the wastewater from this POTW is not directly discharged into a MUN designated surface water body, it will percolate into unlined reaches of the Santa Clara River [via ground water recharge designated beneficial use (GWR)] to ground water designated for MUN beneficial use. In addition, the Basin Plan states that "Ground water shall not contain taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses." Therefore, the secondary MCL should be the MBAS limit for this discharge to protect ground water recharge and the MUN use of the underlying ground water, while also protecting surface waters from exhibiting scum or foaming.

Since the Basin Plan objective is based on a secondary drinking water standard, it is practicable to have a monthly average limitation in the permit, rather than a daily maximum.

**x. Total Inorganic Nitrogen**

Total inorganic nitrogen is the sum of Nitrate-nitrogen and Nitrite-nitrogen. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause health problems in humans. Infants are particularly sensitive and can develop methemoglobinemia (blue-baby syndrome). Nitrogen is also considered a nutrient. Excessive amounts of nutrients can lead to other water quality impairments, ex. algae.

- (1) **Concentration-based Limit** - The effluent limit for total inorganic nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_2\text{-N} + \text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ ) of 6.8 mg/L is based on the Santa Clara River Watershed Nitrogen Compounds TMDL Waste Load Allocation which was assigned to the Valencia WRP.
- (2) **Mass-based Limit** – Since the TMDL does not specify any mass-based WLA for nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen, mass bases limits are not included for  $\text{NO}_2\text{-N} + \text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ .

**xi. Nitrite as Nitrogen and Nitrate as Nitrogen**

The effluent limit for nitrite as nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$ ) of 0.9 mg/L is based on the Santa Clara River Watershed Nitrogen Compound TMDL Waste Load Allocation which was assigned to the Valencia WRP. The effluent limit for nitrate as nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ ) of 6.8 mg/L is based on the Santa Clara River Watershed Nitrogen Compound TMDL Waste Load Allocation which was assigned to the Valencia WRP. Since the TMDL does not specify any mass-based WLA for nitrate as nitrogen or nitrite as nitrogen, mass bases limits are not included for either of the two constituents.

**xii. Ammonia Nitrogen**

Ammonia is a pollutant routinely found in the wastewater effluent of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs), in landfill-leachate, as well as in run-off from agricultural fields where commercial fertilizers and animal manure are applied. Ammonia exists in two forms – un-ionized ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) and the ammonium ion ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ). They are both toxic, but the neutral, un-ionized ammonia species ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) is much more toxic, because it is able to diffuse across the epithelial membranes of aquatic organisms much more readily than the charged ammonium ion. The form of ammonia is primarily a function of pH, but it is also affected by temperature and other factors. Additional impacts can also occur as the oxidation of ammonia lowers the dissolved oxygen content of the water, further stressing aquatic organisms. Oxidation of ammonia to nitrate may lead to groundwater impacts in areas of recharge. [There is groundwater recharge in these reaches]. Ammonia also combines with chlorine (often both are present in POTW treated effluent discharges) to form chloramines – persistent toxic compounds that extend the effects of ammonia and chlorine downstream.

The 1994 Basin Plan contained water quality objectives for ammonia to protect aquatic life, in Tables 3-1 through Tables 3-4. However, those ammonia objectives were revised on April 25, 2002, by the Regional Water Board, with the adoption of Resolution No. 2002-011, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Update the Ammonia Objectives for Inland Surface Waters (including enclosed bays, estuaries and wetlands) with Beneficial Use designations for protection of Aquatic Life*. Resolution No. 2002-011 was approved by the State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA on April 30, 2003, June 5, 2003, and June 19, 2003, respectively, and is now in effect.

On December 1, 2005, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2005-014, *An Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Revise Early Life Stage Implementation Provision of the Freshwater Ammonia Objectives for Inland Surface Waters (including enclosed bays, estuaries and wetlands) for Protection of Aquatic Life*. This amendment contains ammonia objectives to protect Early Life Stages (ELS) of fish in inland surface water supporting aquatic life. This resolution was approved by the USEPA on April 5, 2007. This amendment revised the implementation provision included as part of the freshwater ammonia objectives relative to the protection of ELS of fish in inland surface waters.

On June 7, 2007, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2007-005, *Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan-Los Angeles Region-To Incorporate Site-Specific Objectives for Select Inland Surface Waters in the San Gabriel River, Los Angeles River and Santa Clara River Watersheds*. This amendment to the Basin Plan incorporates site-specific 30-day average objectives for ammonia along with corresponding site-specific early life stage implementation provisions for select waterbody reaches and tributaries in the

Santa Clara, Los Angeles, and San Gabriel River watersheds. The State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA approved this Basin Plan amendment on January 15, 2008, May 12, 2008, and March 30, 2009, respectively. However, the ammonia nitrogen limitations contained in the accompanying Order do not reflect the ammonia SSO criteria.

Separate ammonia effluent limitations, incorporating the 30-day average SSO in the ammonia translation procedures, have not been included in the effluent limitations table at this time, because the Santa Clara River Watershed Nitrogen Compound TMDL (Resolution No. 03-011) has not been revised to incorporate the 30-day average SSO ammonia criteria into the WLAs. The Implementation Plan of Resolution No. 03-011 allows for the reconsideration of WLAs based on monitoring data and special studies. However, the Order does contain a permit re-opener that would allow the permit to be reopened, at a later date, to incorporate revised ammonia nitrogen limits, following the effective date of the TMDL revision.

Therefore, the monthly average effluent limit of 1.75 mg/L and the daily maximum effluent limit of 5.2 mg/L for ammonia as nitrogen (NH<sub>3</sub>-N) are based on the Santa Clara River Watershed Nitrogen Compound TMDL Waste Load Allocations which were assigned to the Valencia WRP.

### **xiii. Coliform Bacteria**

Total and fecal coliform bacteria are used to indicate the likelihood of pathogenic bacteria in surface waters. Given the nature of the facility, a wastewater treatment plant, pathogens are likely to be present in the effluent in cases where the disinfection process is not operating adequately. As such, the permit contains the following:

#### **i. Effluent Limitations:**

- The 7 day median number of coliform organisms at some point in the treatment process must not exceed a Most Probable Number (MPN) or Colony Forming Unit (CFU) of 2.2 per 100 milliliters, and
- The number of coliform organisms must not exceed an MPN or CFU of 23 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample within any 30-day period.

These disinfection-based effluent limitations for coliform are for human health protection and are consistent with requirements established by the Department of Public Health (formerly known as the Department of Health Services). These limits for coliform must be met at the point of the treatment

train immediately following disinfection, as a measure of the effectiveness of the disinfection process.

ii. Receiving Water Limitation

- Geometric Mean Limits
  - \* E.coli density shall not exceed 126/100 mL.
  - \* Fecal coliform density shall not exceed 200/100 mL.
  
- Single Sample Limits
  - \* E.coli density shall not exceed 235/100 mL.
  - \* Fecal coliform density shall not exceed 400/100 mL.

These receiving water limitations are based on Resolution No. 01-018, Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Update the Bacteria Objectives for Water Bodies Designated for Water Contact Recreation, adopted by the Regional Water Board on October 25, 2001. The Resolution was approved by State Water Board, OAL, and USEPA, on July 18, 2002, September 19, 2002, and September 25, 2002, respectively.

**xiv. Temperature**

USEPA document, *Quality Criteria for Water 1986* [EPA 440/5-86-001, May 1, 1986], also referred to as the *Gold Book*, discusses temperature and its effects on beneficial uses, such as recreation and aquatic life.

- The Federal Water Pollution Control Administration in 1967 called temperature “a catalyst, a depressant, an activator, a restrictor, a stimulator, a controller, a killer, and one of the most important water quality characteristics to life in water.” The suitability of water for total body immersion is greatly affected by temperature. Depending on the amount of activity by the swimmer, comfortable temperatures range from 20 °C to 30 °C (68 °F to 86 °F).
  
- Temperature also affects the self-purification phenomenon in water bodies and therefore the aesthetic and sanitary qualities that exist. Increased temperatures accelerate the biodegradation of organic material both in the overlying water and in bottom deposits which makes increased demands on the dissolved oxygen resources of a given system. The typical situation is exacerbated by the fact that oxygen becomes less soluble as water temperature increases. Thus, greater demands are exerted on an increasingly scarce resource which may lead to total oxygen depletion and obnoxious septic conditions. Increased temperature may increase the

odor of water because of the increased volatility of odor-causing compounds. Odor problems associated with plankton may also be aggravated.

- Temperature changes in water bodies can alter the existing aquatic community. Coutant (1972) has reviewed the effects of temperature on aquatic life reproduction and development. Reproductive elements are noted as perhaps the most thermally restricted of all life phases, assuming other factors are at or near optimum levels. Natural short-term temperature fluctuations appear to cause reduced reproduction of fish and invertebrates.

The Basin Plan lists temperature requirements for the receiving waters. Based on the requirements of the Basin Plan and a white paper developed by Regional Water Board staff entitled *Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen Impacts on Biota in Tidal Estuaries and Enclosed Bays in the Los Angeles Region*, a maximum effluent temperature limitation of 86 °F is included in the Order. The white paper evaluated the optimum temperatures for steelhead, topsmelt, ghost shrimp, brown rock crab, jackknife clam, and blue mussel. The new temperature effluent limitation is reflective of new information available that indicates that the 100 °F temperature which was formerly used in permits was not protective of aquatic organisms. A survey was completed for several kinds of fish and the 86 °F temperature was found to be protective. It is impracticable to use a 7-day average or a 30-day average limitation for temperature, because it is not as protective as of beneficial uses as a daily maximum limitation is. A daily maximum limit is necessary to protect aquatic life and is consistent with the fishable/swimmable goals of the CWA.

#### xv. **Turbidity**

Turbidity is an expression of the optical property that causes light to be scattered in water due to particulate matter such as clay, silt, organic matter, and microscopic organisms. Turbidity can result in a variety of water quality impairments. The effluent limitation for turbidity which reads, "For the protection of the water contact recreation beneficial use, the wastes discharged to water courses shall have received adequate treatment, so that the turbidity of the wastewater does not exceed: (a) a daily average of 5 Nephelometric turbidity units (NTUs) more than 5 percent of the time (72 minutes) during any 24 hour period; and (b) 2 NTUs at any time," is based on the Basin Plan's incorporation by reference of Title 22 and the definition of filtered wastewater. In comparison to other POTWs in this region, the turbidity limit for the Valencia WRP is consistent with those of POTWs which have filtration as part of their treatment process. The limitation, therefore reflects what the technology (of choice by the Discharger) is designed to achieve.

## **xvi. Radioactivity**

Radioactive substances are generally present in natural waters in extremely low concentrations. Mining or industrial activities increase the amount of radioactive substances in waters to levels that are harmful to aquatic life, wildlife, or humans. Section 301(f) of the CWA contains the following statement with respect to effluent limitations for radioactive substances: “Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act it shall be unlawful to discharge any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent, any high-level radioactive waste, or any medical waste, into the navigable waters.” Chapter 5.5 of the California Water Code contains a similar prohibition under Section 13375, which reads as follows: “The discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent into the waters of the state is hereby prohibited.” However, rather than give a hard and fast absolute prohibition on radioactive substances, Regional Water Board staff have set the following effluent limit for radioactivity: “Radioactivity of the wastes discharged shall not exceed the limits specified in Title 22, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 64443, of the California Code of Regulations, or subsequent revisions.” The limit is based on the Basin Plan incorporation of Title 22, *Drinking Water Standards*, by reference, to protect beneficial uses. Therefore, the accompanying Order will retain the limit for radioactivity.

## **xvii. Iron**

The previous Order had an effluent limitation of 300 µg/L for iron, which was based on the USEPA document, *Quality Criteria for Water 1986* [EPA 440/5-86-001, May 1, 1986], also referred to as the *Gold Book*, for the protection of GWR beneficial use. 300 µg/L was also the secondary MCL for iron. The limit was retained because the discharge had RP to contribute to an exceedance of the narrative WQO.

## **xviii. Total trihalomethanes**

Total trihalomethanes is the sum of concentrations of the trihalomethane compounds: bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane. Many of the Basin Plan’s WQOs for the protection of the MUN beneficial use are based on the incorporation of Title 22 MCLs by reference. However, the MCLs for disinfection byproducts (Table 64533-A of Title 22) were not referenced on pages 3-8 and 3-18 of the Basin Plan. Despite that omission, Regional Board staff believe that it is relevant to use the MCL for total trihalomethanes to protect human health. Total trihalomethanes are produced at the Valencia WRP as by-products of the disinfection process. Although the individual trihalomethanes did not trigger RP to exceed the criteria, the sum of the trihalomethane concentrations did have RP to contribute to an exceedance of the 80 µg/L MCL. Regional Board staff used best

professional judgment, the Title 22 MCL, and the Federal USEPA MCL for total trihalomethanes, to translate the following Basin Plan narrative WQOs into a numeric limitation:

“Surface waters shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect any designated beneficial use,” and

“Ground waters shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect any designated beneficial use.”

The California Toxic Rule (CTR) and State Implementation Policy (SIP) specify numeric objectives for toxic substances and the procedures whereby these objectives are to be implemented. The procedures include those used to conduct reasonable potential analysis to determine the need for effluent limitations for priority pollutants. The Technical Support Document (TSD) specifies the procedures to conduct reasonable potential analyses for non-priority pollutants.

### **3. Determining the Need for WQBELs**

The Regional Water Board developed WQBELs for ammonia-nitrogen, nitrite-nitrogen, nitrate-nitrogen, nitrite plus nitrite as nitrogen, and chloride based upon Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). The effluent limitations for these pollutants were established regardless of whether or not there is reasonable potential for the pollutants to be present in the discharge at levels that would cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. The Regional Water Board developed water quality-based effluent limitations for these pollutants pursuant to part 122.44(d)(1)(vii), which does not require or contemplate a reasonable potential analysis. The Regional Water Board has determined that the WQBEL is consistent with the assumptions of the TMDL. Similarly, compliance with the effluent limitation will satisfy the requirements of the TMDL. Similarly, the SIP at Section 1.3 recognizes that reasonable potential analysis is not appropriate if a TMDL has been developed.

In accordance with Section 1.3 of the SIP, the Regional Water Board conducted a reasonable potential analysis for each priority pollutant with an applicable criterion or objective to determine if a WQBEL is required in the permit. The Regional Water Board analyzed effluent data to determine if a pollutant in a discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above a state water quality standard. Regional Water Board staff mainly focused on the effluent data set generated since the effective date of the existing NPDES Order, and on the receiving water data from January 2004 to December 2007. An average receiving water hardness value of 400 mg/L was used to calculate the CTR criteria for hardness-dependent metals. However, individual hardness receiving water data points were capped at 400 mg/L prior to averaging, consistent with the CTR preamble. For all parameters that demonstrate reasonable potential, numeric WQBELs are required. The RPA considers water quality criteria from the CTR and

NTR, and when applicable, water quality objectives specified in the Basin Plan. To conduct the RPA, the Regional Water Board staff would normally identify the maximum effluent concentration (MEC) and maximum background concentration in the receiving water for each constituent, based on data provided by the Discharger.

Section 1.3 of the SIP provides the procedures for determining reasonable potential to exceed applicable water quality criteria and objectives. The SIP specifies three triggers to complete a RPA:

Trigger 1 – If the MEC is greater than or equal to the CTR water quality criteria or applicable objective (C), a limitation is needed.

Trigger 2 – If background water quality (B) > C and the pollutant is detected in the effluent, a limitation is needed.

Trigger 3 – If other related information such as CWA 303(d) listing for a pollutant, discharge type, compliance history, then best professional judgment is used to determine that a limit is needed.

Sufficient effluent and ambient data are needed to conduct a complete RPA. If data are not sufficient, the Discharger will be required to gather the appropriate data for the Regional Water Board to conduct the RPA. Upon review of the data, and if the Regional Water Board determines that WQBELs are needed to protect the beneficial uses, the permit will be reopened for appropriate modification.

The RPA was performed for the priority pollutants regulated in the CTR for which data are available. Based on the SIP RPA, there was reasonable potential for the Discharge to contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criteria for mercury and selenium. Based on the TSD RPA, there was reasonable potential for the Discharge to contribute to an exceedance of the federal MCL for the following pollutants: arsenic and iron.

#### 4. WQBEL Calculations

a. **Calculation Options.** Once RPA has been conducted using either the TSD or the SIP methodologies, WQBELs are calculated. Alternative procedures for calculating WQBELs include:

- Use WLA from applicable TMDL
- Use a steady-state model to derive Maximum Daily Effluent Limits and Average Monthly Effluent Limits.
- Where sufficient data exist, use a dynamic model which has been approved by the State Water Board.

b. **SIP Calculation Procedure.** Section 1.4 of the SIP requires the step-by-step procedure to “adjust” or convert CTR numeric criteria into Average Monthly

Effluent Limitations (AMELs) and Maximum Daily Effluent Limitations (MDELs), for toxics. A table providing the calculation for all applicable WQBELs for this Order is provided in Table R1 of this Order.

Step 3 of Section 1.4 of the SIP (page 8) lists the statistical equations that adjust CTR criteria for effluent variability.

Step 5 of Section 1.4 of the SIP (page 10) lists the statistical equations that adjust CTR criteria for averaging periods and exceedance frequencies of the criteria/objectives. This section also reads, "For this method only, maximum daily effluent limitations shall be used for publicly-owned treatment works (POTWs) in place of average weekly limitations.

Hypothetical example calculation for mercury:

**Step 1: Identify applicable water quality criteria.**

From California Toxics Rule (CTR), we can obtain the Criterion Maximum Concentration (CMC) and the Criterion Continuous Concentration (CCC).

Freshwater Aquatic Life Criteria:

CMC = reserved, none available and

CCC = reserved, none available; and

Human Health Criteria for Organisms only = 0.051 µg/L (CTR page 31712, column D2).

**Step 2: Calculate effluent concentration allowance (ECA)**

ECA = Criteria in CTR, since no dilution is allowed.

**Step 3: Determine long-term average (LTA) discharge condition**

i. Calculate CV:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CV} &= \text{Standard Deviation}/\text{Mean} \\ &= 0.3 \end{aligned}$$

Since there is no applicable CTR aquatic life criteria, you can't calculate an aquatic life CTR-based limit.

**Step 4: Select the lowest LTA**

N/A, no aquatic life criteria.

**Step 5: Calculate the Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL) & Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL) for AQUATIC LIFE**

N/A, no aquatic life criteria.

**Step 6:** Find the Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL) & Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL) for HUMAN HEALTH

- i. Find factors. Given  $CV = 0.3$  and  $n = 4$ .

For AMEL human health limit, there is no factor.  
The MDEL/AMEL human health factor = 1.50

- ii. AMEL human health = ECA =  $0.051 \mu\text{g/L}$

- iii. MDEL human health = ECA x MDEL/AMEL factor  
=  $0.051 \mu\text{g/L} \times 1.50 = 0.0765 \mu\text{g/L}$

**Step 7:** Compare the AMELs for Aquatic life and Human health and select the lowest. Compare the MDELs for Aquatic life and Human health and select the lowest

- i. Lowest AMEL =  $0.051 \mu\text{g/L}$  (Based on Human health protection)  
ii. Lowest MDEL =  $0.077 \mu\text{g/L}$  (Based on Human health protection)

**c. Impracticability Analysis.**

Federal NPDES regulations contained in Subsection 122.45 40 CFR for continuous dischargers, states that all permit limitations, standards, and prohibitions, including those to achieve water quality standards, shall unless impracticable be stated as maximum daily and average monthly discharge limitations for all dischargers other than POTWs.

As stated by USEPA in its long standing guidance for developing water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) average alone limitations are not practical for limiting acute, chronic, and human health toxic effects.

For example, a POTW sampling for a toxicant to evaluate compliance with a 7-day average limitation could fully comply with this average limit, but still be discharging toxic effluent on one, two, three, or up to four of these seven days and not be meeting 1-hour average acute criteria or 4-day average chronic criteria. For these reason, USEPA recommends daily maximum and 30-day average limits for regulating toxics in all NPDES discharges. For the purposes of protecting the acute effects of discharges containing toxicants (CTR human health for the ingestion of fish), daily maximum limitations can be established in NPDES permits for substances such as mercury, because they are considered to be carcinogens, endocrine disruptors, and biocumulative.

A 7-day average alone would not protect one, two, three, or four days of discharging pollutants in excess of the acute and chronic criteria. Fish exposed to these endocrine disrupting chemicals will be passed on to the human consumer. Endocrine disrupters alter hormonal functions by several means. These substances can:

- mimic or partly mimic the sex steroid hormones estrogens and androgens (the male sex hormone) by binding to hormone receptors or influencing cell signaling pathways.
  - block, prevent and alter hormonal binding to hormone receptors or influencing cell signaling pathways.
  - alter production and breakdown of natural hormones.
  - modify the making and function of hormone receptors.
- d. **Mass based limits.** 40 C.F.R. Part 122.45(f)(1) requires that except under certain conditions, all permit limits, standards, or prohibitions be expressed in terms of mass units. 40 C.F.R. Part 122.45(f)(2) allows the permit writer, at the writer's 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 for some constituents.

**Summary of Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations  
 Discharge Points 001 and 002**

**Table F-5. Summary of Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Mercury <sup>4</sup>	µg/L	0.051	--	0.094	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	0.0092	--	0.017	--	--
Selenium <sup>2</sup>	µg/L	4.4	--	7.3	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	0.79	--	1.3	--	--
Arsenic <sup>2</sup>	µg/L	10	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	1.8	--	--	--	--
Iron <sup>5</sup>	µg/L	300	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	54	--	--	--	--
Total trihalomethanes <sup>6</sup>	µg/L	80	--	--	--	--
	lbs/day <sup>1</sup>	14	--	--	--	--

<sup>4</sup> These pollutants had Tier 2 reasonable potential, because the concentration of these pollutants exceeded the applicable water quality objective in the receiving water (upstream of the discharge), and the pollutants were present in the effluent.

<sup>5</sup> Iron had RP to contribute to an exceedance of the MCL-based Basin Plan WQO, using the TSD RP method in table R2.

<sup>6</sup> Total trihalomethanes is the sum of concentrations of the trihalomethane compounds: bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane. This limit is based on the Basin Plan WQO incorporation of MCLs by reference. Total trihalomethanes had RP to contribute to an exceedance of the MCL-based Basin Plan WQO.

## 5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

The permit contains effluent limitations for toxicity based upon the Basin Plan.

In general, toxicity numeric effluent limitations can be based on:

- a. 40 C.F.R. Part 122.44(d)(v) – limits on whole effluent toxicity are necessary when chemical-specific limits are not sufficient to attain and maintain applicable numeric or narrative water quality standards;
- b. 40 C.F.R. Part 122.44(d)(vi)(A) – where a State has not developed a water quality criterion for a specific pollutant that is present in the effluent and has reasonable potential, the permitting authority can establish effluent limits using numeric water quality criterion;
- c. Basin Plan objectives and implementation provisions for toxicity;
- d. USEPA Regions IX & X Guidance for Implementing Whole Effluent Toxicity Programs Final May 31, 1996;
- e. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Control Policy July 1994; and,
- f. Technical Support Document (several chapters and Appendix B).

However, the circumstances warranting a numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitation when there is reasonable potential were under review by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) in SWRCB/OCC Files A-1496 & A-1496(a) [Los Coyotes/Long Beach Petitions]. On September 16, 2003, at a public hearing, the State Water Board adopted Order No. 2003-0012 deferring the issue of numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations until Phase II of the SIP is adopted. In the mean time, the State Water Board replaced the numeric chronic toxicity limit with a narrative effluent limitation and a 1 TUc trigger, in the Long Beach and Los Coyotes WRP NPDES permits.

- a. Acute Toxicity Limitation:

The Dischargers may test for acute toxicity by using USEPA's *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms*, October 2002 (EPA-821-R-02-012). Acute toxicity provisions in the accompanying Order are derived from the Basin Plan's toxicity standards (Basin Plan 3-16 and 3-17). The provisions require the Discharger to accelerate acute toxicity monitoring and take further actions to identify the source of toxicity and to reduce acute toxicity.

b. Chronic Toxicity Limitation and Requirements:

Chronic toxicity provisions in the accompanying Order are derived from the Basin Plan's toxicity standards (Basin Plan 3-16 and 3-17). The provisions require the Discharger to accelerate chronic toxicity monitoring and take further actions to identify the source of toxicity and to reduce chronic toxicity. The monthly median trigger of 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub> for chronic toxicity is based on *USEPA Regions 9 & 10 Guidance for Implementing Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Programs* Final May 31, 1996 (Chapter 2 – Developing WET Permitting Conditions, page 2-8). In cases where effluent receives no dilution or where mixing zones are not allowed, the 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub> chronic criterion should be expressed as a monthly median. The “median” is defined as the middle value in a distribution, above which and below which lie an equal number of values. For example, if the results of the WET testing for a month were 1.5, 1.0, and 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub>, the median would be 1.0 TU<sub>c</sub>.

The previous Order contained a narrative chronic toxicity effluent limitation with a trigger for accelerated monitoring. This Order contains similar chronic toxicity requirements.

## D. Final Effluent Limitations

### 1. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements

The effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order, with the exception of effluent limitations for fluoride, antimony, nickel, zinc, cyanide, acrylonitrile, tetrachloroethylene, bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, 1,4-Dichlorobenzene, and lindane (gamma-BHC). The effluent limitations for these pollutants are deleted because they did not show reasonable potential to be in the effluent water. This relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and federal regulations.

### 2. Satisfaction of Antidegradation Policy

On October 28, 1968, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 68-16, *Maintaining High Quality Water*, which established an antidegradation policy for State and Regional Water Boards. The State Water Board has, in State Water Board Order No. 86-17 and an October 7, 1987 guidance memorandum, interpreted Resolution No. 68-16 to be fully consistent with the federal antidegradation policy. Similarly, the CWA (section 304(d)(4)(B)) and USEPA regulations (40 C.F.R., Part 131.12) require that all permitting actions be consistent with the federal antidegradation policy. Together, the State and Federal policies are designed to ensure that a water body will not be degraded resulting from the permitted discharge. The provisions of this Order are consistent with the antidegradation policies.

### **3. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants**

This Order contains both technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for individual pollutants. The technology-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on BOD, TSS, pH, and percent removal of BOD and TSS. Restrictions on BOD, TSS and pH are discussed in Section IV.B. of the Fact Sheet. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements.

Water quality-based effluent limitations have been scientifically derived to implement water quality objectives that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. To the extent that toxic pollutant water quality-based effluent limitations were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to part 131.38. The scientific procedures for calculating the individual water quality-based effluent limitations for priority pollutants are based on the CTR-SIP, which was approved by USEPA on May 18, 2000. Most beneficial uses and water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by USEPA prior to May 30, 2000. Any water quality objectives and beneficial uses submitted to USEPA prior to May 30, 2000, but not approved by USEPA before that date, are nonetheless "applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA" pursuant to part 131.21(c)(1). For the most part, this Order's restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA.

The Discharger has not submitted any economic information to indicate what the cost of complying with this Order would be. As discussed in other sections of the Fact Sheet, the individual pollutant restrictions are reasonably necessary to protect beneficial uses identified in the Basin Plan, and the economic information related to costs of compliance are not sufficient, in the Regional Water Board's determination, to justify failing to protect beneficial uses.

**Summary of Final Effluent Limitations  
 Discharge Point 001 and 002**

**Table F-6. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Max. Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Max.	
Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5-day @ 20°C	mg/L	20	30	45	--	--	Existing
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	3600	5400	8100	--	--	calculated
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	15	40	45	--	--	Existing
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	2700	7200	8100	--	--	Calculated
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5	Existing
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.1	--	0.3	--	--	Existing
Oil and grease	mg/L	10	--	15	--	--	Existing
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	1800		2700	--	--	Calculated
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	--	--	0.1	--	--	Existing
Chloride	mg/L	--	--	100 <sup>8</sup>	--	--	TMDL
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	1000	--	--	--	--	Existing
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	180,000					Calculated
Sulfate	mg/L	400	--	--	--	--	Existing

<sup>7</sup> The mass emission rates are based on the plant design flow rate of 21.6 MGD, and are calculated as follows: Flow(MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34 (conversion factor) = lbs/day. During wet-weather storm events in which the flow exceeds the design capacity, the mass discharge rate limitations shall not apply, and concentration limitations will provide the only applicable effluent limitations.

<sup>8</sup> This limitation is derived from the waste load allocation for chloride, as set forth in the *Chloride TMDL for the Upper Santa Clara River*, Resolution No. 004-004, Revision of interim waste load allocations and implementation plan for chloride in the Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to include a TMDL for Chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River (Resolution No. 03-008), adopted by the Regional Water Board on May 6, 2004. This effluent limitation is superseded by the interim effluent limit for chloride, based upon the interim waste load allocation, shown in Table 7 of this NPDES Order. The WLA-based final effluent limit for chloride shall become operative 13 years after the effective date of the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL.

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Max. Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Max.	
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	72,000	--	--	--	--	Calculated
Boron	mg/L	1.5	--	--	--	--	Existing
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	270	--	--	--	--	Calculated
MBAS	mg/L	0.5	--	--	--	--	Existing
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	90	--	--	--	--	Calculated
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH <sub>3</sub> -N)	mg/L	1.75 <sup>9</sup>	--	5.2 <sup>9</sup>	--	--	TMDL
Nitrate + Nitrite as Nitrogen (NO <sub>3</sub> -N + NO <sub>2</sub> -N)	mg/L	6.8 <sup>9</sup>	--	--	--	--	TMDL
Nitrite as Nitrogen (NO <sub>2</sub> -N)	mg/L	0.9 <sup>9</sup>	--	--	--	--	TMDL
Nitrate as N ( NO <sub>3</sub> -N)	mg/L	6.8 <sup>9</sup>	--	--	--	--	TMDL
Arsenic	µg/L	10	--	--	--	--	Basin Plan MCL
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	1.8	--	--	--	--	Calculated
Mercury	µg/L	0.051	--	0.094	--	--	CTR/SIP
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	0.0092	--	0.017	--	--	Calculated
Selenium	µg/L	4.4	--	7.3	--	--	CTR/SIP
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	0.79	--	1.3	--	--	Calculated
Iron	µg/L	300	--	--	--	--	Basin Plan MCL
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	54	--	--	--	--	Calculated
Total trihalomethanes <sup>10</sup>	µg/L	80	--	--	--	--	Basin Plan MCL
	lbs/day <sup>7</sup>	14	--	--	--	--	Calculated

<sup>9</sup> This limitation is derived from the final waste load allocation, as set forth in Resolution No. 03-011, *Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to include a TMDL for Nitrogen Compounds in the Santa Clara River*, adopted by the Regional Water Board on August 7, 2003. The TMDL Implementation section specifies that the Waste Load Allocation shall become operative after the completion of additional treatment or modifications to achieve WLAs by POTWs, in as short a period of time as possible, but no later than eight years after the effective date of the TMDL (before March 23, 2012). At the Regional Water Board's discretion, interim limits based upon the interim waste load allocations, were allowed for a period not to exceed five years from the effective date of the TMDL. Since the Valencia WRP has completed its nitrification/denitrification upgrades, this effluent limitation is in effect.

<sup>10</sup> Total trihalomethanes is the sum of concentrations of the trihalomethane compounds: bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane. This limit is based on the Basin Plan WQO incorporation of MCLs by reference.

### **E. Interim Effluent Limitations**

Interim effluent limitations are based upon the applicable TMDLs for the Santa Clara River Watershed.

### **F. Land Discharge Specifications**

Not Applicable.

### **G. Reclamation Specifications**

The discharger currently recycles treated effluent and plans on increasing the amount of water it recycles. The production, distribution, and reuse of recycled water for direct, non-potable applications are presently regulated under Water Reclamation Requirements (WRR) Order No. 87-48, adopted by this Regional Water Board on April 27, 1987.

## **V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

### **A. Surface Water**

Receiving water limitations are based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this Order. The discharge shall not cause the following in the Santa Clara River.

### **B. Groundwater**

Limitations in this Order must protect not only surface receiving water beneficial uses, but also, the beneficial uses of underlying groundwater where there is a recharge beneficial use of the surface water. In addition to a discharge to surface water, there is discharge that can impact groundwater. Sections of the Santa Clara River, near the Valencia WRP discharge points, are designated as GWR beneficial use. Surface water from the Santa Clara River percolates into the Groundwater Basins listed in Table F-3b of this fact sheet. Since groundwater from these Basins is used to provide drinking water to the community, the groundwater aquifers should be protected. The existing groundwater monitoring program is being retained.

## **VI. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Part 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. California Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E of this Order, establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this facility.

### **A. Influent Monitoring**

Influent monitoring is required:

- To determine compliance with the permit conditions for BOD<sub>5</sub> 20°C and suspended solids removal rates;
- To assess treatment plant performance;
- To assess the effectiveness of the Pretreatment Program (once a pretreatment program is in place); and,
- As a requirement of the Pollution Minimization Program

### **B. Effluent Monitoring**

The Discharger is required to conduct monitoring of the permitted discharges in order to evaluate compliance with permit conditions. Monitoring requirements are given in the proposed Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E). This provision requires compliance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program, and is based on 40 C.F.R. Parts 122.44(i), 122.62, 122.63, and 124.5. The Monitoring and Reporting Program is a standard requirement in almost all NPDES permits (including the proposed Order) issued by the Regional Water Board. In addition to containing definition of terms, it specifies general sampling/analytical protocols and the requirements of reporting spills, violation, and routine monitoring data in accordance with NPDES regulations, the California Water Code, and Regional Water Board policies. The Monitoring and Reporting Program also contains sampling program specific for the Discharger's wastewater treatment plant. It defines the sampling stations and frequency, pollutants to be monitored, and additional reporting requirements. Pollutants to be monitored include all pollutants for which effluent limitations are specified. Further, in accordance with Section 1.3 of the SIP, a periodic monitoring is required for all priority pollutants defined by the CTR, for which criteria apply and for which no effluent limitations have been established, to evaluate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above a water quality standard.

Monitoring for those pollutants expected to be present in the discharge from the facility, will be required as shown on the proposed Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) and as required in the SIP. Monitoring requirements are largely

unchanged from the previous Order. However, the frequency of monitoring has been reduced for those pollutants which no longer have effluent limits, due to the fact that there is no longer any reasonable potential for those pollutants to cause or contribute to an exceedance. Semi-annual monitoring for priority pollutants in the effluent is required in accordance with the Pretreatment requirements.

### **C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements**

Whole effluent toxicity (WET) protects the receiving water quality from the aggregate toxic effect of a mixture of pollutants in the effluent. An acute toxicity test is conducted over a short time period and measures mortality. A chronic toxicity test is conducted over a longer period of time and may measure mortality, reproduction, and growth.

This requirement establishes conditions and protocol by which compliance with the TMDL WLA for toxicity, consistent with Section 4.0 of the SIP. Conditions include required monitoring and evaluation of the effluent for acute and chronic toxicity and a 1.0 TUC numerical value for chronic toxicity, to be used as 'triggers' for initiating accelerated monitoring and toxicity reduction evaluation(s).

### **D. Receiving Water Monitoring**

#### **1. Surface Water**

Receiving water monitoring is required to determine compliance with receiving water limitations and to characterize the water quality of the receiving water.

#### **2. Groundwater**

Groundwater monitoring is required to determine compliance with groundwater limitations and to track impacts to the groundwater basins.

### **E. Other Monitoring Requirements**

#### **1. Watershed Monitoring and Bioassessment Monitoring**

The goals of the Watershed-wide Monitoring Program including the bioassessment monitoring for the Santa Clara River Watershed are to:

- Determine compliance with receiving water limits;
- Monitor trends in surface water quality;
- Ensure protection of beneficial uses;
- Provide data for modeling contaminants of concern;
- Characterize water quality including seasonal variation of surface waters within the watershed;
- Assess the health of the biological community; and
- Determine mixing dynamics of effluent and receiving waters in the estuary.

## VII. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

### A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with part 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with part 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under part 122.42.

Part 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) establish conditions that apply to all State-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the Order. Part 123.25(a)(12) allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with part 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in Part 122.41, subsections (j)(5) and (k)(2), because the enforcement authority under the California Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference California Water Code section 13387(e).

### B. Special Provisions

#### 1. Reopener Provisions

This provision is based on 40 C.F.R. Part 123. The Regional Water Board may reopen the permit to modify permit conditions and requirements. Causes for modifications include the promulgation of new regulations, modification in sludge use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.

#### 2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements

- a. **Antidegradation Analysis and Engineering Report for Proposed Plant Expansion.** This provision is based on the State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16, which requires the Regional Water Board, in regulating the discharge of waste, to maintain high quality waters of the State. The Discharger must demonstrate that it has implemented adequate controls (e.g., adequate treatment capacity) to ensure that high quality waters will be maintained. This provision requires the Discharger to clarify that it has increased plant capacity through the addition of new treatment system(s) to obtain alternative effluent limitations for the discharge from the treatment system(s). This provision requires the Discharger to report specific time schedules for the plant's projects. This provision requires the Discharger to submit a report to the Regional Water Board for approval.

- b. **Operations Plan for Proposed Expansion.** This provision is based on Section 13385(j)(1)(D) of the California Water Code and allows a time period not to exceed 90 days in which the Discharger may adjust and test the treatment system(s). This provision requires the Discharger to submit an Operations Plan describing the actions the Discharger will take during the period of adjusting and testing to prevent violations.
- c. **Treatment Plant Capacity.** The treatment plant capacity study required by this Order shall serve as an indicator to the Regional Water Board regarding the Facility's increasing hydraulic capacity and growth in the service area.

### 3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

**Pollutant Minimization Program.** This provision is based on the requirements of Section 2.4.5 of the SIP.

### 4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications

This provision is based on the requirements of 40 C.F.R. 122.41(e) and the previous Order.

### 5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)

- a. **Biosolids Requirements.** To implement CWA Section 405(d), on February 19, 1993, USEPA promulgated 40 C.F.R. Part 503 to regulate the use and disposal of municipal sewage sludge. This regulation was amended on September 3, 1999. The regulation requires that producers of sewage sludge meet certain reporting, handling, and disposal requirements. It is the responsibility of the Discharger to comply with said regulations that are enforceable by USEPA, because California has not been delegated the authority to implement this program. The Discharger is also responsible for compliance with WDRs and NPDES permits for the generation, transport and application of biosolids issued by the State Water Board, other Regional Water Boards, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality or USEPA, to whose jurisdiction the Facility's biosolids will be transported and applied.
- b. This permit contains pretreatment requirements consistent with applicable effluent limitations, national standards of performance, and toxic and performance effluent standards established pursuant to Sections 208(b), 301, 302, 303(d), 304, 306, 307, 403, 404, 405, and 501 of the CWA, and amendments thereto. This permit contains requirements for the implementation of an effective pretreatment program pursuant to Section 307 of the CWA; 40 C.F.R. Parts 35 and 403; and/or Section 2233, Title 23, California Code of Regulations.

- c. **Spill Reporting Requirements.** This Order established a reporting protocol for how different types of spills, overflow or bypasses of raw or partially treated sewage from its collection system or treatment plant covered by this Order shall be reported to regulatory agencies.

The State Water Board issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ (General Order) on May 2, 2006. The General Order requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems with greater than one mile of pipes or sewer lines to enroll for coverage under the General Order. The General Order requires agencies to develop sanitary sewer management plans (SSMPs) and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), among other requirements and prohibitions.

Furthermore, the General Order contains requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows. The Discharger must comply with both the General Order and this Order.

## 6. Other Special Provisions

Not applicable.

## 7. Compliance Schedules

The compliance schedules and the interim limits in Section IV.A.2.a of the accompanying NPDES Order are authorized under TMDLs (Basin Plan Amendments) which have been adopted by the Regional Water Board and approved by USEPA. However, interim limits and compliance schedules may be provided in an administratively issued Time Schedule Order if the permit effective date precedes the TMDL effective date. The *Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL* includes tasks and milestone dates for various studies.

## VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Regional Water Board is considering the issuance of waste discharge requirements (WDRs) that will serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Regional Water Board staff has developed tentative WDRs. The Regional Water Board encourages public participation in the WDR adoption process.

### A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided by posting a notice in a newspaper of local circulation and by posting a notice at the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant.

## B. Written Comments

The staff determinations are tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning these tentative WDRs. Comments must be submitted either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Regional Water Board at the address above on the cover page of this Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Regional Water Board, written comments on the tentative dated February 25, 2009, must be received at the Regional Water Board offices by 12 p.m. (Noon) on **March 27, 2009**. Written comments on the revised tentative dated April 7, 2009, must be received at the Regional Water Board offices by 12 p.m. (Noon) on **April 20, 2009**.

## C. Public Hearing

The Regional Water Board will hold a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: June 4, 2009  
Time: 9:00 AM  
Location: Pasadena City Hall  
Council Chambers  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, California

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will hear testimony, if any, pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and permit. Oral testimony will be heard; however, for accuracy of the record, important testimony should be in writing.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

## D. Nature of Hearing

This will be a formal adjudicative hearing pursuant to section 648 et seq. of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) will not apply to this proceeding.

*Ex Parte Communications Prohibited:* As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Regional Water Board must be directed to staff.

## **E. Parties to the Hearing**

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

1. The applicant/permittee
2. Regional Water Board Staff

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff not later than [20] business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

## **F. Public Comments and Submittal of Evidence**

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the tentative waste discharge requirements, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to the above address. To be evaluated and responded to by staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Board, written comments on the tentative dated February 25, 2009, must be received no later than 12 p.m. (Noon) on **March 27, 2009**. Written comments on the revised tentative dated April 7, 2009, must be received at the Regional Water Board offices by 12 p.m. (Noon) on **April 20, 2009**.

Comments or evidence received after that date will be submitted, ex agenda, to the Board for consideration, but only included in administrative record with express approval of the Chair during the hearing. Additionally, if the Board receives only supportive comments, the permit may be placed on the Board's consent calendar, and approved without an oral testimony.

## **G. Hearing Procedure**

The meeting, in which the hearing will be a part of, will start at **9:00 a.m.** Interested persons are invited to attend. Staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to 30 minutes maximum or less for each speaker, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Parties or persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will deliberate in open or close session, and render a decision.

Parties or persons with special procedural requests should contact staff. Any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing not later than close of [15] business days prior to the date of the hearing. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, all cases will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting on **July 16, 2009**. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

#### **H. Waste Discharge Requirements Petitions**

Any aggrieved person may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the decision of the Regional Water Board regarding the final WDRs. The petition must be submitted within 30 days of the Regional Water Board's action to the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Office of Chief Counsel  
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

#### **I. Information and Copying**

The Report of Waste Discharge (RoWD), related documents, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Regional Water Board by calling (213) 576-6600.

#### **J. Register of Interested Persons**

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDRs and NPDES permit should contact the Regional Water Board, reference this facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

#### **K. Additional Information**

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Veronica Cuevas at (213) 576-6662.