



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region

Over 50 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013

Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4>



Gray Davis  
Governor

AC

60



Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

November 4, 2003

Mr. Y. Koby Cohen  
Quality Assurance, Vice President  
Suburban Water Systems  
1211 E. Center Court Drive  
Covina, CA 91724

Certified Mail  
Return Receipt Requested  
Claim No. 7003 0500 0000 5777 3200

Dear Mr. Cohen:

**CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE UNDER GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS – SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS, PLANT 409 – WELL #2, 15224 CANARY AVENUE, LA MIRADA, CALIFORNIA (NPDES NO. CAG994005, CI-7446)**

We have completed our review of your Notice of Intent (NOI) and analytical results of representative groundwater samples that you submitted in order to continue enrollment under the General NPDES Permit. Discharge of groundwater generated from potable water supply Well #2 from the above-referenced facility is currently regulated under NPDES General Permit No. CAG994001 (Order No. 97-045), adopted by this Board on May 12, 1997.

Based on the information provided, we have determined that discharge of groundwater meets the conditions to be regulated under Order No. R4-2003-0108, *General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater from Potable Water Supply Wells to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties*, adopted by this Board on August 7, 2003. Your existing enrollment under NPDES Permit No. CAG994001, Order No. 97-045, which was issued to you on October 28, 1994, is superseded by this new permit which terminates your coverage under Order No. 97-045.

Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements, which also serve as your NPDES permit, consisting of Order No. R4-2003-0108 and Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-7446. Since the groundwater analytical data provided meets the screening criteria, full enrollment under this general permit is authorized and Section E.2. will not be applicable to your discharge. However, the discharge limitations in Part E.1. of Order No. R4-2003-0108 are applicable to your discharge. The groundwater discharge flows into La Mirada Creek, which drains into Coyote Creek, thence to the San Gabriel River Estuary. Therefore, the discharge limits in Attachment B of Order No. R4-2003-0108 are not applicable to your discharge.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program requires you to implement the monitoring program on the effective date of coverage under this permit. All monitoring reports should be sent to the Regional Board, ATTN: Information Technology Unit. When submitting monitoring or technical reports to the Regional Board per these requirements, please include a reference to "Compliance File No. CI-7446 and NPDES No. CAG994005", which will assure that the reports are directed to the

### California Environmental Protection Agency

\*\*\*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption\*\*\*  
\*\*\*For a list of simple ways to reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see the tips at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/news/echallenge.html>\*\*\*



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

Mr. Y. Koby Cohen  
Suburban Water Systems

November 4, 2003

appropriate file and staff. Also, please do not combine other reports with your monitoring reports. Submit each type of report as a separate document.

In order to avoid future annual fees, please submit written notification when the project has been completed and the permit is no longer needed.

We are sending a copy of Order No. R4-2003-0108 only to the applicant. For those on the mailing list, please refer to the Board Order sent to you previously or download a copy of the Order from our website at [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/permits/general\\_permits.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/permits/general_permits.html).

If you have any questions, please contact Raul Medina at (213) 620-2160.

Sincerely,



AED  
for

Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer

Enclosures:

General NPDES No. CAG994005, Order No. R4-2003-0108  
Fact Sheet  
Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-7446

cc: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Permit Section (WTR-5)  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, Division of Ecological Services  
NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service  
Michael Lauffer, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board  
James Maughan, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board  
California Department of Fish and Game, Marine Resources, Region 5  
California Department of Health Services, Environmental Branch  
Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works, Waste Management Division  
Los Angeles County, Department of Health Services  
City of La Mirada

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

\*\*\*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption\*\*\*  
\*\*\*For a list of simple ways to reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see the tips at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/news/echallenge.html>\*\*\*



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

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013

**FACT SHEET**  
**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**  
**FOR**  
**SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS**  
**(PLANT 409, WELL #2)**

**NPDES NO. CAG994005**  
**CI-7446**

**FACILITY ADDRESS**

15224 Canary Avenue  
La Mirada, California

**FACILITY MAILING ADDRESS**

1211 E. Center Court Drive  
Covina, CA 91724

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Suburban Water Systems (SWS) operates an existing potable water supply well located at Plant 409 – Well #2, 15224 Canary Avenue, La Mirada. SWS discharges groundwater generated from well rehabilitation-related activities.

The well rehabilitation process requires shutting down the well, removing the well pump, adding acid into the well, and swabbing the well casing. After the reaction period, the sediments are airlifted into a holding tank. The pH is then adjusted and the sediments are allowed to settle in the tank. The final step of the rehabilitation process is to surge and chlorinate the well. Subsequently, the pump is reinstalled and the well is developed. The pumped groundwater will be collected into sedimentation tanks and dechlorinated before being discharged into the storm drain.

**VOLUME AND DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE:**

Approximately 7.0 million gallons per day of groundwater will be discharged during well development and subsequent pumping and aquifer tests. This high rate of discharge is necessary to determine the aquifer's productive capacity and to properly size the well pump. This high flow, short-term discharge will last up to one week. The discharge flows into the storm water catch basin located along Canary Avenue which flows into La Mirada Creek and then to Coyote Creek, (Latitude: 33° 53' 32", Longitude: 118° 01' 22"), thence to the San Gabriel River Estuary, a water of the United States. The site location map is shown in Figure 1.

**APPLICABLE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

Based on the information provided, the analytical data did not show reasonable potential for toxics to exist in groundwater above the Screening Levels for Potential Pollutants of Concern in Potable Groundwater in Attachment A. Therefore, the effluent limits for toxic compounds in Section E.2. are not applicable to your discharge. The discharge flows into Coyote Creek, which has a

designated beneficial use of MUN (Potential). The effluent limitations in Attachment B are not applicable to your discharge.

This table lists the specific constituents and effluent limitations applicable to the discharge.

Constituents	Units	Discharge Limitations	
		Daily Maximum	Monthly Average
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	150	50
Turbidity	NTU	150	50
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	30	20
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.3	0.1
Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.1	

**FREQUENCY OF DISCHARGE:**

The discharge of groundwater will be intermittent.

**REUSE OF WATER:**

Offsite disposal of waste is not feasible due to high cost of disposal. Discharge to the sewer is not feasible because of inaccessibility and the high cost of sewer connection. The property and the immediate vicinity have no landscaped areas that require irrigation. Since there are no feasible reuse options, the groundwater will be discharged to the storm drain.



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

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. CI-7446  
FOR  
SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS  
(PLANT 409 – WELL #2)  
  
(NPDES NO. CAG994005)**

I. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. The discharger shall implement this monitoring program on the effective date of this permit. The discharger shall submit monitoring reports to the Regional Board by the dates in the following schedule:

<u>Reporting Period</u>	<u>Report Due</u>
January - March	May 15
April - June	August 15
July - September	November 15
October - December	February 15
Annual Summary Report	March 15

- B. The first monitoring report under this Program is due by February 15, 2004. The annual summary report, shall contain a discussion of the previous year's effluent monitoring data, as well as graphical and tabular summaries of the data. If there is no discharge during any reporting period, the report shall so state.
- C. All monitoring reports shall include the discharge limitations in the Order, tabulated analytical data, the chain of custody form, and the laboratory report (including but not limited to date and time of sampling, date of analyses, method of analysis and detection limits).
- D. Each monitoring report shall contain a separate section titled "Summary of Non-compliance" which discusses the compliance record and corrective action 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 waste discharge requirements, as well as all excursions of effluent limitations.
- E. Before commencing a new discharge, a representative sample of the effluent shall be collected and analyzed for toxicity and for all the constituents listed in the Fact Sheet and the test results must meet all applicable limitations of Order No. R4-2003-0108. (Note: This requirement does not apply to existing discharges.)

II. SAMPLE COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS (AS APPROPRIATE)

- A. Daily samples shall be collected each day.
- B. Weekly samples shall be collected on a representative day of each week.
- C. Monthly samples shall be collected on a representative day of each month.
- D. Quarterly samples shall be collected in February, May, August, and November.
- E. Semi-annual samples shall be collected in May and November.
- F. Annual samples shall be collected in November.

III. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- A. Sampling station(s) shall be established at the discharge point and shall be located where representative samples of the effluent can be obtained. Provisions shall be made to enable visual inspections before discharge. In the event of presence of oil sheen, debris, and/or other objectionable materials or odors, discharge shall not commence until compliance with the requirements is demonstrated. All visual observations shall be included in the monitoring report.
- B. If monitoring result indicate an exceedance of a limit contained in Order R4-2003-0108, the discharge shall be terminated and shall only be resumed after remedial measures have been implemented and full compliance with the requirements has been ascertained.
- C. In addition, as applicable, following an effluent limit exceedance, the discharger shall implement the following accelerated monitoring program:
  - 1. Monthly monitoring shall be increased to weekly monitoring,
  - 2. Quarterly monitoring shall be increased to monthly monitoring,
  - 3. Semi-annually monitoring shall be increased to quarterly, and
  - 4. Annual monitoring shall be increased to semi-annually.

If three consecutive accelerated monitoring events demonstrate full compliance with effluent limits, the discharger may return to the regular monitoring frequency, with the approval of the Executive Officer of the Regional Board.

D. The following shall constitute the discharge monitoring program:

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency of Analysis
Flow	gal/day	totalizer	continuously
pH	pH units	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Temperature	°F	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Turbidity	NTU	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Oil and Grease	mg/L	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Settleable Solids	ml/L	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Residual Chlorine	mg/L	grab	once per discharge event <sup>1</sup>
Perchlorate	µg/L	grab	annually
1-4 Dioxane	µg/L	grab	annually
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	µg/L	grab	annually
Acute Toxicity	% survival	grab	annually

#### IV. EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING

- A. The discharger shall conduct acute toxicity testing tests on 100% effluent grab samples by methods specified in 40 CFR Part 136 which cites USEPA's Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Water to Freshwater and Marine Organisms, October 2002, (EPA/821-R-02-012) or a more recent edition. Submission of bioassay results should include the information noted on pages 109-113 of the EPA/821-R-02-012 document.
- B. 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. The method for topsmelt is found in USEPA's Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Marine and Estuarine Organisms, Third Edition, October 2002, (EPA/821-R-02-014).
- C. If the results of the toxicity test yields a survival of less than 90%, then the frequency of analyses shall increase to monthly until at least three test results have been obtained and full compliance with effluent limitations has been demonstrated, after which the frequency of analyses shall revert to annually. Results of toxicity tests shall be included in the first monitoring report following sampling.

<sup>1</sup> If the discharge is on-going for more than one month, the minimum frequency of analysis becomes monthly.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR REPORTING

- A. The discharger shall inform this Regional Board 24 hours before the start of the discharge.
- B. All chemical, bacteriological, and toxicity analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California Department of Health Services Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) or approved by the Executive Officer. A copy of the laboratory certification shall be provided with the first monitoring report and each time a new and/or renewal is obtained from ELAP.
- C. Samples must be analyzed within allowable holding time limits as specified in 40 CFR Part 136.3. Proper chain of custody procedures must be followed and a copy shall be submitted with the report.
- D. As required in part H of Order No. R4-2003-0108, the monitoring report shall specify the USEPA analytical method used, the Method Detection Limit and the Minimum Level for each pollutant.

VI. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION (AS APPLICABLE)

- A. Compliance with single constituent effluent limitation – If the concentration of the pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Section H.4. of Order R4-2003-0108), then the Discharger is out of compliance.
- B. Compliance with monthly average limitations - In determining compliance with monthly average limitations, the following provisions shall apply to all constituents:
  - a. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually, does not exceed the monthly average limit for that constituent, the Discharger has demonstrated compliance with the monthly average limit for that month.
  - b. If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually, exceeds the monthly average limit for any constituent, the Discharger shall collect four additional samples at approximately equal intervals during the month. All five analytical results shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month, or 45 days after results for the additional samples were received, whichever is later.

When all sample results are greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (see Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Section H.4. of Order R4-2003-0108), the numerical average of the analytical

results of these five samples will be used for compliance determination.

When one or more sample results are reported as "Not-Detected (ND)" or "Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)" (see Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Section H.4. of Order R4-2003-0108), the median value of these four samples shall be used for compliance determination. If one or both of the middle values is ND or DNQ, the median shall be the lower of the two middle values.

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

VII. NOTIFICATION

A. The discharger shall notify the Executive Officer in writing prior to discharge of any chemical which may be toxic to aquatic life. Such notification shall include:

1. Name and general composition of the chemical,
2. Frequency of use,
3. Quantities to be used,
4. Proposed discharge concentrations and,
5. EPA registration number, if applicable.

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

B. The discharger shall notify the Regional Board via telephone and/or fax within 24 hours of noticing an exceedance above the effluent limits in Order No. R4-2003-0108. The discharger shall provide to the Regional Board within 14 days of observing the exceedance a detailed statement of the actions undertaken or proposed that will bring the discharge into full compliance with the requirements and submit a timetable for correction.

VIII. MONITORING FREQUENCIES

Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted by the Executive Officer to a less frequent basis if the discharger makes a request and the request is justified by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted. However, monitoring frequency may also increase based on site-specific conditions.

Ordered by:

  
Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer

Date: November 4, 2003

/RM