

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

ORDER NO. 01-030  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
VENTURA FARMS  
(File No. 00-151)

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

1. The Ventura Farms (hereinafter Discharger) has submitted a Report of Waste Discharge to this Regional Board and proposes to discharge treated groundwater produced during soil and groundwater clean-up to land.
2. The Discharger is located in Hidden Valley at 555 West Potrero Road, Thousand Oaks, California (see Figure 1). The subject site consists of a barn with large animal corrals and storage sheds, surrounded by rural pastureland. At the barn area, soil and groundwater contamination originating from leaking underground storage tanks and/or associated piping is present. The Discharger is planning to implement a soil and groundwater cleanup program at the site. Contaminated groundwater will be pumped out and treated through a granular activated carbon system. On September 22, 2000, the Ventura County Environmental Health Division approved the Corrective Action Plan proposed for the subject site.
3. The Discharger proposes to use up to 6,000 gallons per day of treated groundwater produced from the cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbon contamination for dust control and irrigation. After treatment of the contaminated groundwater, the treated water will be stored in an onsite aboveground storage tank and discharged to dirt/gravel roads in the farm as dust control water. When discharge capacity exceeds dust control requirements, the treated water will be used to irrigate land that is cultivated for non-food crops. During periods of rain or low water requirements, additional water storage will be used at the site to preclude discharges, while continuing the groundwater cleanup.
4. The land to be irrigated, approximately 240-feet by 180-feet, is located near the barn (Figure 2). Sprinklers will be used to complete surface spreading of treated groundwater from a water tank. The sprinkler system will be separated from any water supply or irrigation system currently operating at the Ventura Farms.
5. The facility (Parcel Number 664-0-020-030) has an approximate latitude of 34° 08' 38" and a longitude of 118° 53' 36". Some of the water supply and hydrologic features near the facility include:
  - The closest Ventura Farms water production well No. 01N19W29H05, which is located downgradient of the subject site (approximately 2,200 feet southeast of the barn area, and approximately 1,900 feet southeast of the spreading ground);
  - Hidden Valley Creek, which is approximately 1,200 feet south of the barn area; and

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- Lake Sherwood, which is approximately one mile to the southeast.
6. The proposed areas for dust control and irrigation are located in the Hidden Valley Creek Hydrologic Subarea and overlie the Hidden Valley Groundwater Basin. Dust control with treated water will not be conducted closer than 500 feet to Lake Sherwood.
  7. The Regional Board adopted a revised *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan)* on June 13, 1994. The Basin Plan contains beneficial uses of waters and water quality objectives for the Hidden Valley Groundwater Basin:
    - Existing: municipal and domestic supply and agricultural supply.
    - Potential: industrial service supply.
  8. Groundwater beneath the irrigation area is present at a depth of 45 feet below ground surface. Currently, there are 11 groundwater monitoring wells to assess the extent of the groundwater contamination at the site. Based on the groundwater quality data collected in July 2000, the following pollutants are present in the groundwater and are subject to effluent limitations: total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE).

Since spray irrigation will be conducted at the site, a groundwater monitoring program is necessary to evaluate potential impacts from the irrigation site on groundwater quality, and to determine the migration potential of waste discharged to groundwater. The Discharger proposes to monitor groundwater at monitoring well MW-9 located within the proposed irrigation area (see Figure 2). Based on the results of the groundwater monitoring, additional monitoring wells will be constructed as needed, in order to fully evaluate any target contaminants detected in groundwater beneath the irrigation area.
  9. These requirements contained in this Order are in conformance with the goals and objectives of the Water Quality Control Plan.
  10. The issuance of waste discharge requirements for this discharge is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, (Public Resources Code commencing with Section 21100) in accordance with Section 15308, Chapter 3, Title 14, of the California Water Code.

The Regional Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements for this discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their views and recommendations for the tentative requirements.

The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge and to the tentative requirements.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Ventura Farms (Discharger) shall comply with the following:

I. DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Wastes discharged shall be limited to treated groundwater only, as proposed.
2. The discharge of an effluent with constituents in excess of the following limits is prohibited:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>	
		<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	--	1,000
Sulfate	mg/L	--	250
Chloride	mg/L	--	250
Boron	mg/L	--	1
Nitrogen <sup>[1]</sup>	mg/L	--	10
Benzene	µg/L	--	1
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	--	700
Toluene	µg/L	--	150
Xylene	µg/L	--	1,750
Total petroleum hydrocarbons	µg/L	--	100
Methyl tertiary butyl ether	µg/L	--	13

[1] Nitrate-nitrogen plus nitrite-nitrogen

3. The pH of wastes discharged shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 to 8.5.
4. The temperature of wastes discharged shall not exceed 100°F.

B. General Requirements

1. Standby or emergency power facilities, and/or sufficient capacity shall be provided for treated groundwater storage during rainfall or in the event of the treatment system upsets or outages, and at times when irrigation/dust control cannot be practiced.
2. Adequate facilities shall be provided to protect the treatment and water storage facilities from damage by storm flows and runoff.

3. Treated groundwater shall be applied at such a rate and volume as not to exceed vegetative demand and soil moisture conditions. Special precautions must be taken to prevent over-watering and exclude the production of runoff. Pipelines shall be maintained so as to prevent leakage. The Discharger shall conduct daily observations of the spray disposal area to ensure that there is enough vegetation to prevent any erosion of the spray disposal area.
4. There shall be no cross-connection between potable water supply and any water tank containing treated groundwater.
5. Treated groundwater shall be discharged only on property owned or controlled by the Discharger.
6. Treated groundwater shall be retained on the areas of use and shall not be allowed to escape as surface flow, except as provided for in a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.
7. All areas where treated groundwater is used, and that are accessible to the public, shall be posted with conspicuous signs that include the following wording in a size no less than 4 inches high by 8 inches wide: "ATTENTION: NON-POTABLE WATER - DO NOT DRINK." Each sign shall display the appropriate international symbol.

#### C. Prohibitions

1. The discharge of raw or inadequately treated groundwater from the treatment system including the wastewater collection system is prohibited except discharge to a legal point of disposal.
2. Dust control and spray irrigation with treated groundwater shall not be conducted during periods of extreme rainfall and/or runoff.
3. Dust control and spray irrigation with treated groundwater shall not be conducted at geologically unstable areas, shall not result in earth movement, and shall not result in soil erosion.
4. Treated groundwater shall not be used for irrigation or impoundment within 100 feet of any domestic water supply well.
5. Neither treatment of waste nor any treated groundwater use or disposal shall cause pollution or nuisance.
6. Treated groundwater use shall not result in problems due to breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, midges, or other pests.

7. Treated groundwater use shall not impart tastes, odors, color, foaming, or other objectionable characteristics to receiving groundwater.
8. Treated groundwater use, which could affect receiving groundwater, shall not contain any substance in concentrations toxic to human, animal, or plant life.
9. The discharge of wastewater or treated groundwater at any point(s) other than specifically described in this Order is prohibited, and constitutes a violation of the Order.

D. Provisions

1. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the treatment and water storage facilities so as to be available at all times to operating personnel.
2. The Discharger shall file with the Regional Board technical reports on self-monitoring work performed according to the detailed specifications contained in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, as directed by the Executive Officer. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations and/or times specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be reported to the Regional Board.
3. The Discharger shall notify the Regional Board, by telephone within 24 hours, of any violations of treated groundwater use conditions or any adverse conditions as a result of the use of treated groundwater from this facility that may endanger health or the environment; written confirmation shall follow within one week.
4. This Order does not alleviate the responsibility of the Discharger to obtain other necessary local, state, and federal permits to construct facilities necessary for compliance with this Order; nor does this Order prevent imposition of additional standards, requirements, or conditions by any other regulatory agency.
5. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Order may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;
  - (b) Obtaining this Order by misrepresentation, or failure to disclose all relevant facts;
  - (c) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.
6. The Discharger shall furnish, within a reasonable time, any information that the Regional Board may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order. The Discharger shall also furnish to the Regional Board, upon request, copies of any records required to be kept by this Order.

7. The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.
8. The Discharger must notify the Regional Board, in writing, at least 30 days in advance of any proposed transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage to a new Discharger. The notice must include a written agreement between the existing and new Discharger containing a specific date for the transfer of responsibility under this Order and compliance between the current and new Discharger.
9. This Order includes "Standard Provisions Applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements." If there is any conflict between provisions stated herein and the "Standard Provisions Applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements," these provisions stated herein will prevail.
10. Should monitoring data indicate impacts to groundwater or surface water, the Discharger shall submit, within 90 days after determination of the problem, plans for measures that will be taken, or have been taken, to mitigate any long-term effects that result from the subsurface disposal of wastes. Any water quality impact to surface and/or groundwater shall be reported.
11. These waste discharge requirements contained in this Order will remain in effect for a period of (5) years. Should the Discharger wish to continue discharging to groundwater for a period of time in excess of five years, the Discharger must file an updated Report of Waste Discharge with the Regional Board, no later than 180 days in advance of the expiration date of the Order, for consideration of issuance of new or revised waste discharge requirements. Any discharge of waste five years after the date of issuance, without obtaining new Waste Discharge Requirements from the Regional Board is a violation of the California Water Code, Section 13264. The Regional Board is authorized to take appropriate enforcement action for any noncompliance with this provision including assessment of penalties.
12. In accordance with Water Code Section 13263(g), these requirements shall not create a vested right to continue to discharge. All discharges of waste into the waters of the State are privileges, not rights, and are subject to rescission or modification.

I, Dennis A. Dickerson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on February 22, 2001.

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Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer