

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

**AMENDED TIME SCHEDULE ORDER NO. R4-2023-0012-A03  
REQUIRING CERTIFIED ALLOY PRODUCTS, INC.**

**TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN THE GENERAL PERMIT  
FOR STORM WATER DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES  
AMENDED NOVEMBER 6, 2018 AND EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020  
(ORDER WQ 2018-0028-DWQ, NPDES PERMIT No. CAS000001)  
WDID NO. 4 19I005554**

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

1. Certified Alloy Products, Inc., (CAPI) owns and operates a facility located at 3245 Cherry Avenue in Long Beach, California (Facility). This Facility encompasses a total area of 6.01 acres, and an industrial area of 3.05 acres.
2. The Facility is an industrial operation that is required to have coverage under the State's General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities, amended on November 6, 2018, and effective on July 1, 2020 (Amended General Permit). The Amended General Permit also serves as a permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program, NPDES Permit No. CAS000001. CAPI manufactures high-precision alloy components; industrial operations include metal casting (vacuum and air melt processes), cutting, and grinding. CAPI has a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code of 3341-Secondary Smelting and Refining of Nonferrous Metals. This SIC code is listed as requiring permit coverage in Attachment A to the Amended General Permit.
3. The Amended General Permit establishes numeric effluent limitations (NELs) for facilities that discharge stormwater associated with industrial activities into water bodies that have certain approved Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and that have waste load allocations for industrial stormwater discharges as set forth in Attachment E to the Amended General Permit. The NELs are numerical limits, an exceedance of which is a violation of the Amended General Permit and require dischargers to limit the concentration of pollutants in their stormwater discharges to protect water quality.
4. Stormwater runoff from the Facility discharges to Los Cerritos Channel.
5. The NELs that apply to industrial discharges from the Facility include total copper, total zinc, and total lead. These NELs are new and more stringent than the prior

regulatory requirement in the previous General Permit. These NELs became effective on July 1, 2020, and exceedances of the NELs may result in mandatory minimum penalties pursuant to California Water Code (Water Code) section 13385, subdivisions (h) and (i).

6. CAPI has completed a pollutant source assessment that addresses each of these pollutants and identified total copper and total zinc as associated with industrial activities at the Facility.
7. CAPI is expected to exceed the NELs for total copper and total zinc based on the historical monitoring data reported to the State's online Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS) database. The NELs and the corresponding concentrations of these pollutants in the discharge from the Facility have been reported to be:

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Reported Concentration Range in mg/L</b>	<b>Numeric Effluent Limitation in mg/L</b>
Total copper	0.0022-0.2 mg/L	0.0098
Total zinc	0.025-5.3 mg/L	0.0956

8. CAPI will require additional pollutant control measures to comply with the applicable NELs listed in the Amended General Permit.
9. Currently CAPI implements general and advanced BMPs at its Facility including metal and sediment filtration socks installed upstream of outfalls and at areas where run-on occurs; roof downspout filters at Building 16 used for melting metals in special circumstances; installation of catch basin filters; use of collection drums on all bag houses fitted with level alarms; development of protocol to change bag house drums prior to overflow of collected materials, and installation of enclosure with a spill pan at Building 1, used for processing alloy ingots, cropping, and grinding operations, as well as alloy inspection, and packaging.
10. CAPI implemented a stormwater treatment system at the Facility that is to reduce zinc and copper concentrations in stormwater runoff. In order to comply with the Amended General Permit, CAPI installed a stormwater treatment system designed to treat the volume of the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event and will allow bypass of the 25-year peak flow rain event without flooding. CAPI also installed Zinc Be-Gone downspout filters. The goal is to have stormwater discharges that meet the Amended General Permit Numeric Action Levels (NALs) and NELs. In addition, CAPI constructed flow diversion structures to address off-site run-on and constructed a canopy/awning to reduce exposure of outdoor material and equipment storage. These modifications could not be designed, installed, or put into operation prior to July 1, 2020, due to the amount of time needed to implement

and evaluate increased and advanced BMPs intended to meet NEL requirements; BMPs will be evaluated through stormwater sampling and analysis.

11. The treatment system and downspout filters were installed in May of 2022. Additionally, CAPI has instituted facility-wide cleaning to reduce the introduction of surface pollutants. This cleaning includes an industrial wet/dry riding sweeper two times a week and an annual surface cleaning to remove surface oils and dirt in September. Due to delays in construction and changes in personnel, the system was not functional until May of 2023, instead of the originally scheduled date of December 2022. As such, the Facility did not have enough storm events to perform a complete evaluation analysis of the treatment system's performance. On November 9, 2023, CAPI requested an extension of the milestones and final compliance deadlines in Time Schedule Order (TSO) R4-2023-0012 due to the time required to evaluate the treatment system, implement treatment system enhancements, and install additional source control BMPs, if required. The Regional Water Board agrees that an extension is warranted. This amendment to TSO R4-2023-0012 provides additional time to come into final compliance with the Amended General Permit.
12. Under TSO R4-2023-0012-A01, CAPI completed pollutant source trace sampling to evaluate BMP efficacy and implementation. As a result CAPI enhanced the treatment system and implemented additional BMPs. The retention capacity of the treatment system was increased from 10,000 gallons to 35,000 gallons with additional holding tanks to allow for additional settling time and prevent the discharge of untreated stormwater. After the holding tanks, CAPI installed a pre-treatment chamber with oyster shells to provide additional solid settling and conditioning of the water prior to flowing into the main filter chamber. The filtration media was replaced with three layers; filter-grade quartz gravel media, Biochar Mix 2 media, and filter grade quartz sand. Next, CAPI added a polisher tank to further reduce copper and zinc prior to discharge. These improvements were implemented by September 1, 2024, so the treatment system could be tested throughout the rainy season.
13. The treatment system was tested during six storm events in 2025. CAPI monitored the stormwater prior to treatment, at each step of the treatment system, and the effluent of the treatment system. The results show that the treatment system is capable of reducing the concentrations of total zinc and total copper below the NALs and NELs consistently.
14. On March 31, 2025, CAPI requested a second extension of its TSO to evaluate the treatment system, monitor the efficacy of the implemented BMPs, and install additional source control BMPs.

On April 20, 2026, CAPI requested a third extension of the milestones and final compliance deadlines after discovering that a city water line had broken and leaked into the stormwater conveyance and the data collected was not representative of runoff from normal facility operations, laboratory analyses from the city water line showed elevated concentration of copper, CAPI repaired the city water line. The laboratory analyses below show the copper results before the leak was repaired and the results from the city faucet.

<b>Sample Location</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Results in mg/L</b>	<b>NEL in mg/L</b>
Aquip In	2/16/2026	0.024	0.0098
LGB City Water Faucet	3/19/2026	0.166	0.0098

CAPI will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the media in the treatment system and implement BMPs to optimize how effectively pollutants are removed from stormwater discharges from the Facility. The Regional Water Board agrees that an extension is warranted. This amendment to TSO R4-2023-0012-A02 provides additional time to come into final compliance with the Amended General Permit.

15. Per Water Code section 13385 subdivision (j)(3)(C)(iii)(I), if a time schedule exceeds one year from the effective date of the TSO, the schedule must include interim requirements that include effluent limitations for the pollutants of concern. Because this Order ends on January 3, 2028, consistent with Water Code section 13385, interim effluent limits are included for total copper and total zinc.
16. CAPI has developed and updated a facility specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that is currently being implemented and complies with the monitoring and reporting requirements of the Amended General Permit. The facility specific SWPPP dated September 11, 2024, has been submitted electronically to the SMARTS database.
17. Water Code section 13300 states: "Whenever a regional board finds that a discharge of waste is taking place or threatening to take place that violates or will violate requirements prescribed by the regional board, or the state board, or that the waste collection, treatment, or disposal facilities of a discharger are approaching capacity, the board may require the discharger to submit for approval of the board, with such modifications as it may deem necessary, a detailed time schedule of specific actions the discharger shall take in order to correct or prevent a violation of requirements."

18. Water Code section 13385, subdivisions (h) and (i), require the Regional Water Board to impose mandatory minimum penalties when dischargers violate effluent limitations in NPDES permits. Water Code section 13385 subdivision (j)(3) allows the Regional Water Board to exempt certain facilities from mandatory minimum penalties “when there are exceedances of NELs if the facility is in compliance with a time schedule order issued pursuant to Section 13300 if all of the [specified] requirements are met.”
19. Water Code section 13385, subdivision (j)(3)(B)(i), allows the Regional Water Board to issue a Time Schedule Order (TSO) if the “regional board finds that... the discharger is not able to consistently comply with one or more of the effluent limitations established in the waste discharge requirements” if the “effluent limitation is a new, more stringent, or modified regulatory requirement that has become applicable to the waste discharge after the effective date of the waste discharge requirements and after July 1, 2000, new or modified control measures are necessary in order to comply with the effluent limitation, and the new or modified control measures cannot be designed, installed, and put into operation within 30 calendar days.”
20. Prerequisites to issuing a TSO include those set forth in Water Code section 13385 subdivisions (j)(3)(C)(i), (j)(3)(C)(iii), and (j)(3)(D):

The TSO must establish “a time schedule for bringing the waste discharge into compliance with the effluent limitation that is as short as possible, taking into account the technological, operational, and economic factors that affect design, development and implementation of the control measures that are necessary to comply with the effluent limitation.” (Wat. Code § 13385, subd. (j)(3)(C)(i).) The TSO shall not exceed five years in length unless an extension is granted in accordance with Water Code section 13385, subdivision (j)(3)(C). If the time schedule exceeds one year from the effective date of the order, the schedule shall include interim requirements and the dates for their achievement. The interim requirements shall include both .... (I) Effluent limitations for the pollutant or pollutants of concern. (II) Actions and milestones leading to compliance with the effluent limitation. (Wat. Code § 13385, subd. (j)(3)(C)(iii).) The discharger must “[have] prepared and [be] implementing in a timely and proper manner, or [be] required by the regional board to prepare and implement, a pollution prevention plan pursuant to section 13263.3.” (Wat. Code § 13385, subd. (j)(3)(D).)

21. The Regional Water Board issues this TSO to CAPI based on all the findings set forth herein.

22. The time schedule set forth herein ends on January 3, 2028. This date does not exceed five years from the effective date of Order no. R4-2023-0012, February 6, 2023.
23. Pursuant to Water Code section 13385, subdivision (j)(3), full compliance with the requirements of this TSO exempts CAPI from mandatory minimum penalties (MMPs) only for violations of the NELs for total copper and total zinc that occur after the effective date of this TSO until the expiration date of this TSO. If an interim effluent limitation contained in this TSO is exceeded, CAPI may be subject to enforcement action. An exceedance of the interim effluent limitations for the purpose of this TSO is defined as when two (2) or more analytical results from samples taken for any single parameter within a reporting year exceed the interim effluent limitations. In addition, if CAPI does not implement its SWPPP or comply with the time schedule in this Order, CAPI may be subject to enforcement action.
24. The issuance of this TSO is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15301 because the TSO pertains to an existing facility and involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use. In addition, the issuance of this TSO is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15307, 15308, and 15321, subdivision (a)(2). The issuance of this TSO is an action to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement and protection of the environment and a natural resource and is also an enforcement order issued by the Regional Water Board.
25. All technical and monitoring reports required under this TSO are required pursuant to Water Code section 13383. The Regional Water Board needs the required information to determine compliance with this TSO and the Amended General Permit.
26. Pursuant to Water Code section 13167.5, subdivision (a)(3), the Regional Water Board has notified CAPI, interested agencies, and interested persons of its intent to issue this TSO concerning compliance with waste discharge requirements and provided a 30-day comment period. The Regional Water Board considered all comments received.
27. Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with the Water Code section 13320 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the Regional Water Board action, except that if the thirtieth day following the action falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law

and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found online at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that, pursuant to the Water Code sections 13300 and 13385, subdivision (j)(3), Certified Alloy Products, Inc.(CAPI) shall comply with the requirements listed below to ensure compliance with the NELs for total copper, and total zinc contained in the Amended General Permit by January 3, 2028:

1. Comply immediately with the following interim actions, schedule, and interim effluent limitations at all discharge points:

<b>Interim Action:</b>	<b>Schedule:</b>
Implement facility specific SWPPP	In compliance with terms in the Amended General Permit
Monitor the media in the treatment system and implemented BMPs	June 1, 2027
Achieve full compliance with effluent limitations contained in Amended General Permit.	January 3, 2028

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Interim Effluent Limitation in mg/L</b>
Total copper	0.1
Total zinc	1.6

The foregoing interim effluent limitations and interim actions are in effect from EFFECTIVE\_DATE, through January 3, 2028. During this time, CAPI shall comply with the interim actions and associated schedule as described in this TSO.

2. Submit, electronically through the SMARTS database, biannual progress reports of efforts taken to comply with the interim actions per the above schedule and with the interim effluent limitations in addition to other reporting requirements pursuant to the Amended General Permit. The reports shall summarize the progress to date, the activities conducted during the reporting period, and the activities planned for the upcoming reporting period. Biannual progress reports shall be due April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> each year throughout the duration of this TSO, with the first report due on October 1, 2026.
3. Submit, electronically through the SMARTS database, a final report due on July 1, 2026 that describes a summary of all the interim actions completed and their successful completion.
4. Any person signing a document submitted under this TSO 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.”

5. If CAPI fails to comply with any provisions of this TSO, the Regional Water Board may take any further action authorized by law. The Executive Officer, or a delegee, is authorized to take appropriate administrative enforcement action pursuant, but not limited to, Water Code sections 13350 and 13385. The Regional Water Board may also refer any violations to the Attorney General for judicial enforcement, including injunction and civil monetary remedies.
6. All other provisions of the Amended General Permit that are not in conflict with this TSO, including NELs not addressed by this TSO, remain in full force and effect.
7. The Regional Water Board may reopen this TSO at its discretion or at the request of CAPI, if warranted. Lack of progress towards compliance with this TSO may be cause for the Regional Water Board to modify the conditions of this TSO.
8. This TSO was effective on September 8, 2025. The amendment to this Order goes into effect upon adoption by the Executive Officer and shall expire on January 3, 2028.

**SO ORDERED.**

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**Susana Arredondo**  
**Executive Officer**

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**Date**