

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. R5-2004-0098

RESCINDING
CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. 5-00-081 AND SPECIAL ORDER 5-00-176
FOR
CITY OF TAFT, TAFT HEIGHTS SANITATION DISTRICT
FORD CITY SANITATION DISTRICT AND
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
TAFT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
KERN COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Regional Board) finds that:

1. The City of Taft, Taft Heights Sanitation District, Ford City Sanitation District, and United States Department of Energy (hereafter jointly referred to as Discharger) own and operate the City of Taft Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). The WWTF consists of headworks, four aerated facultative ponds, chlorine contact basin, effluent holding pond, solar sludge drying beds, and a 135-acre effluent disposal area (hereafter designated disposal area). The WWTF treats municipal wastewater from the City of Taft, Taft Heights Sanitation District and Ford City Sanitation District, and is in Section 17, T23S, R24E, MDB&M.
2. Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 5-00-080 (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0080161), adopted by the Board on 28 April 2000, prescribes requirements for discharge of wastewater from the WWTF. Order No. 5-00-080 prescribes a monthly average dry weather (May through October) flow limit of 1.5 million gallons per day (mgd). Discharge is primarily to the designated disposal area, but sometimes to Sandy Creek, a water of the United States.
3. Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. 5-00-081 required the City to cease and desist discharging wastes in violation and threatened violation of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 5-00-080, provided a time schedule for constructing additional capacity, and required a technical report certifying that the expanded WWTF was capable of treating and disposing of 1.5 mgd.
4. On 4 August 2000, the Regional Board adopted Special Order No. 5-00-176 amending the time schedule set forth in CDO No. 5-00-081.
5. The following Orders regulate the discharge from the Wastewater Treatment Facility:

<u>Order No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5-00-080	Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)	28 April 2000
5-00-081	Cease and Desist Order (CDO) (described in Finding 6)	28 April 2000
5-00-176	Special Order Amending CDO	4 August 2000

6. On 4 February 2004 the City's engineer certified that the City completed expansion of the WWTF to a design flow of 1.5 mgd, providing treatment capacity projected to last to the year 2020.
7. The Discharger and interested agencies and persons were notified of the intent to consider rescission of the CDO and provided an opportunity for public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
8. The issuance of this Order is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15321.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Cease and Desist Order No. 5-00-081 and Special Order No. 5-00-176 are rescinded.

I, THOMAS R. PINKOS, Acting Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region on 9 July 2004.

THOMAS R. PINKOS, Executive Officer