CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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Regional Board Website (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver)

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R7-2025-0019

ORDER INFORMATION

Order Type(s):	Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)
Status:	TENTATIVE
Program:	Non-Chapter 15
Discharger(s):	Imperial Community College District
Facility:	Imperial Valley College Wastewater Treatment Plant
Address:	380 East Aten Road Imperial, CA 92251
County:	Imperial County
APN(s):	044-510-007-000
GeoTracker ID:	WDR100031475
WDID:	7A130135001
Prior Order(s):	R7-2014-0026, R7-2013-0018, R7-2009-0021, R7-2004-0084, 99-009,94-015, 88-113, 83-109

CERTIFICATION

I, Michael Placencia, Executive Officer, hereby certify that the following is a full, true, and correct copy of the order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on July 1, 2025.

Original signed by

MICHAEL PLACENCIA
Executive Officer

GeoTracker ID: WDR100031475
WDID: 7A130135001

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GLOSSARY

Basin Plan.....Water Quality Control Plan for Colorado River Basin Region (inclusive of all amendments)

BAT.....Best Available Technology Economically Achievable

BCT.....Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology

BOD.....Biological Oxygen Demand

BPTC.....Best Practicable Treatment and Control

CCR.....California Code of Regulations

CEQA.....California Environmental Quality Act

cm/hr.....Centimeter per hour

CWA.....Clean Water Act

E.Coli.....Escherichia coli

Discharger.....Imperial Community College District

DO.....Dissolved Oxygen

ICCD.....Imperial Community College District

IND.....Industrial Supply

IVC.....Imperial Valley College

MCL[s].....Maximum Contaminant Level[s] for Drinking Water under Title 22

mg/L.....Milligrams per Liter

MGD.....Millions of Gallons per Day

ml/L.....Milliliters per Liter

MND.....Mitigated Negative Declaration

MPN.....Most Probable Number

MRP .....Monitoring and Reporting Program

MUN.....Municipal Supply

NOD .....Notice of Determination

NPDES.....National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

pH .....power of hydrogen

Regional Water Board.....Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

ROWD.....Report of Waste Discharge

SMRs .....Self-Monitoring Reports

State Water Board .....State Water Resources Control Board

TDS.....Total Dissolved Solids

Title 22.....California Code of Regulations, Title 22

Title 23.....California Code of Regulations, Title 23

Title 27.....California Code of Regulations, Title 27

TDS.....Total Dissolved Solids

TSS .....Total Suspended Solids

USEPA.....United States Environmental Protection Agency

UV .....Ultraviolet

WDRs.....Waste Discharge Requirements

WMU .....Waste Management Units

WOTUS.....Waters of the United States

WWTP.....Wastewater Treatment Plant

ug/l.....microgram per litter

(findings begin on next page)

FINDINGS

The Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Colorado River Basin Water Board) hereby finds as follows:

Introduction

1. Imperial Community College District (Discharger) is currently discharging treated wastewater to onsite evaporation/percolation ponds from its wastewater treatment plant (Facility), which provides sewage services to the Imperial Valley College Campus (Campus) located at 380 East Aten Road, Imperial, Imperial County. The onsite ponds are located on the northeast corner of the property adjacent to Highway 111. Facility maps are included in **Attachment B**.

2. The Facility is located near “Parking Lot D” in the southwest corner of the Campus. It is located in the SE ¼ of Section 22, T15S, R14E, SBB&M of Imperial County, as shown on the Location and Vicinity Map.

3. In December 2024, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) applying for Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs).

4. The Facility was previously regulated under Order R7-2013-0018, which was adopted on March 21, 2013.

5. The Discharger was also regulated under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which regulates discharges to surface waters. A ROWD and application for WDRs was received August 23, 2012, to phase out the NPDES discharge.

6. The NPDES permit allowed the Facility to discharge its effluent into the Imperial Valley Central Drain, which flows to the Alamo River.

7. The Discharger operated the Facility under Order R7-2013-0018, but kept the NPDES permit active until it was certain that discharge to the evaporation/percolation ponds was feasible on a long-term basis. The NPDES permit remained active under Order R7-2014-0026 until it was rescinded on May 15, 2019.

Wastewater Treatment Facility and Discharge

8. The Discharger owns and operates the Facility, which is designed to serve a student and faculty population of up to approximately 6,000. The Facility uses an extended aeration activated sludge package plant that provides secondary treatment, with a capacity of 0.100 million gallons per day (MGD). Raw sewage flows by gravity through the collection system to a lift station located approximately 0.25 miles north of the Facility before being pumped into the Facility. The Facility consists of two contact stabilization activated sludge package plants operating in parallel to provide secondary treatment. The first package plant operates at a design capacity of 0.100 MGD and runs continuously. The second package plant operates at a design capacity of 0.050 MGD and runs only when the first plant is not in operation. Both plants consist of a manual rake bar screen, contact tank, secondary clarifier, stabilization tank, and aerobic digester. Secondary-treated effluent from the package plants is then disinfected through an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system prior to discharge.

9. The treatment process is illustrated in the Process Flow Schematic diagram included in Figure 3. Although the Facility's treatment capacity of the package plant is 0.100 MGD, its disposal capacity is limited to its three evaporation/percolation ponds which have a combined area of 72,000 square feet (1.65 acres) with a combined discharge capacity of 0.050 MGD. In other words, the disposal capacity is half of the treatment capacity. However, the Facility actually processes an average of 0.005 MGD of wastewater, with an average maximum of about 0.018 MGD. It is not anticipated that wastewater flows will increase beyond currently observed values.

10. The Discharger's Self-Monitoring Reports (SMR) from January 2020 through November 2024 characterize the WWTP performance as follows:

Table 1. Influent Data

Constituent	Units	Average
20° C BOD_5[1]	mg/L[2]	179
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	310

Table 2. Effluent Data

Constituent	Units	Average
Flow	MGD	0.005
20° C BOD_5	mg/L	5
TSS	mg/L	5
pH	Standard units	7
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	mg/L	4
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	958
E.coli	MPN[3]	36

11. The Discharger is not currently monitoring nitrogen or nitrate in its effluent. However, historical effluent monitoring data under the Facility's previous NPDES permit recorded an average nitrate concentration of 12.8 mg/L and an average total nitrogen concentration of 21.7 mg/L from 2008 to 2011.

[1] 5-day biochemical oxygen demand at 20 °C.

[2] milligrams per liter

[3] Most probable Number (per 100 milliliters)

General Site Conditions

12. Annual precipitation in the Imperial Valley averages about three inches.

13. The Alamo River is located to the east of the Facility.

14. There are no domestic or municipal wells within 500 feet of the Facility.

15. Community water supply, which comes from the Imperial Irrigation District's Central Main Canal, has an average TDS concentration of 760 mg/L. (Imperial Irrigation District, *2023 Water Quality Data*.)

16. Per the Discharger's *Treated Wastewater Infiltration Ponds, Imperial Valley College, August 2012*:

    a. A groundwater sample was obtained, and the results indicate that the TDS concentration is 12,168 mg/L.

    b. Groundwater was encountered at 9 feet below ground surface (bgs).

    c. The soils below the test locations consist predominantly of a mixture of silt and clay.

    d. The infiltration rates at the four test locations are 15.92, 2.15, 2.39, and 10.19 centimeters per hour (cm/hr).

17. The project site is located in the seismically active Imperial Valley and is considered likely to be subject to moderate to strong ground motion from earthquakes in the region.

18. Distance to groundwater beneath the evaporation/percolation ponds is approximately seven feet.

Regulatory Considerations

Waste Discharge Permitting Authority

19. This Order is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13263, subdivision (a), which provides that "[t]he regional board, after any necessary hearing, shall prescribe requirements as to the nature of any proposed discharge, existing discharge, or material change in an existing discharge with relation to the

conditions existing in the disposal area or receiving waters upon, or into which, the discharge is made or proposed."

20. The statute further provides that WDRs "shall implement water quality control plans and shall take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected, the water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose, other waste discharges, the need to prevent nuisance[4], and the provisions of Section 13241." (Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (a).)

21. For purposes waste discharge fees under California Code of Regulations, title 23 (Title 23), section 2200, the Facility has a threat-complexity rating of 3-B.

    a. Threat Category "3" reflects "those discharges of waste that could degrade water quality without violating water quality objectives or could cause a minor impairment of designated beneficial uses as compared with Category 1 and Category 2."

    b. Complexity Category "B" reflects any discharger not included in Category A, with either (1) physical, chemical or biological treatment systems (except for septic systems with subsurface disposal), or (2) any Class II or Class III Waste management units (WMUs).

22. The discharge of waste is a privilege, not a right, and this Order does not create a vested right to continue the discharge. (Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (g).)

Basin Plan, Beneficial Uses

23. The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses and establishes water quality objectives for ground and surface waters in the Region and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives (WQOs). In addition, State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution 88-63 requires that, with certain exceptions, the Regional Water

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[4] Nuisance" is defined by statute as a condition that: "(1) Is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property[;] [¶] (2) Affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons…[;] [and] [¶] (3) Occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes." (Wat. Code, § 13050, subd. (m).)

Board assign the municipal and domestic supply use to waterbodies that do not have beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan.

24. Underlying groundwater at the Facility is within the Imperial Hydrologic Unit. Beneficial uses for groundwater in the Imperial Hydrologic Unit are Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) and Industrial Supply (IND).

25. WDRs implement numeric and narrative WQOs for ground and surface waters established by the Basin Plan. The numeric objectives for groundwater designated for municipal and domestic supply are the maximum contaminant levels (MCL), and bacteriological limits specified in California Code of Regulations, title 22 (Title 22), section 64421 et seq. The narrative objectives are:

    a. Groundwater for use as domestic or municipal water supply (MUN) shall not contain taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses as a result of human activity (Basin Plan, page 3-8).

    b. Discharges of water softener regeneration brines, other mineralized wastes, and toxic wastes to disposal facilities which ultimately discharge in areas where such wastes can percolate to ground water usable for domestic and municipal purposes are prohibited (Basin Plan, page 3-8).

26. Although underlying groundwater is nominally designated for MUN beneficial uses, the Basin Plan incorporates State Water Board Resolution 88-63 (*Sources of Drinking Water Policy*), which provides that groundwater with TDS in excess of 3,000 mg/L cannot reasonably be expected to supply a public water system. However, the *Sources of Drinking Water Policy* also provides that all groundwaters shall be designated for MUN beneficial uses until affirmatively de-designated by a Basin Plan Amendment, even if the specified TDS threshold is exceeded.

27. Water Code section 13149.2, subdivision (d) requires that the Colorado River Basin Water Board, "[w]hen issuing … individual waste discharge requirements … that regulate activity or a facility that may impact a disadvantaged[5] or tribal

[5] For the purposes of this requirement, a "disadvantaged community" is defined as a "community in which the median household income is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income level." (Wat. Code, § 13149.2, subd. (f)(1).)

community,[6] and that includes a time schedule in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 13263 for achieving an applicable water quality objective, an alternative compliance path that allows time to come into compliance with water quality objectives, or a water quality variance…," must include finding(s) regarding "potential environmental justice,[7] tribal impact, and racial equity considerations" that are relevant to the permitting action. This Order does not incorporate a time schedule for compliance with applicable WQOs, or any of the other provisions described in Water Code section 13149.2, subdivision (d). Accordingly, no additional findings are necessary under section 13149.2.

Compliance with Antidegradation Policy

28. State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution 68-16 ("Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters of the State") (Resolution 68-16) requires a Regional Water Board in regulating the discharge of waste to maintain "high quality" waters of the state (i.e., background water quality) until it is demonstrated that any change in quality will be consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State, will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses, and will not result in water quality less than that described in plans and policies (e.g., violation of any water quality objective). Moreover, the discharge is required to meet WDRs that result in the best practicable treatment or control (BPTC) of the discharge necessary to assure pollution or nuisance will not occur, and the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people will be maintained.

29. The baseline for determining whether waters are "high quality" under the Antidegradation Policy is the highest quality achieved since the policy was established in 1968. If the subject waters have not achieved the minimum quality

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[6] For the purposes of this requirement, a "tribal community" is defined as a "community within a federally recognized California Native American tribe or nonfederally recognized Native American tribe on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004." (Wat. Code, § 13149.2, subd. (f)(2).)

[7] Water Code section 13149.2 incorporates the general definition of "environmental justice" in Public Resources Code section 30107.3, subdivision (a): "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures, incomes, and national origins, with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies." (Wat. Code, § 13149.2, subd. (f).)

necessary to meet WQOs since 1968, the waters are considered "poor quality," which means the Antidegradation Policy does not apply. This determination is made on a constituent-by-constituent basis, meaning that waters may be considered "high quality" with respect to some constituents but not others.

30. Underlying groundwater is "poor quality" specifically with respect to TDS. As discussed in Finding 16.a, the Discharger's site investigation indicates that first-encountered groundwater has a TDS concentration of over 12,000 mg/L, which far exceeds even the outer limit for potential MUN beneficial uses.

31. With respect to nitrate, the WQO for MUN-designated groundwater is 10 mg/L. However, there is currently no groundwater monitoring information for nitrogen, nitrate or nitrite. It is therefore not known whether underlying groundwater is considered "high quality" with respect to nitrate. Nor is effluent currently monitored for these constituents. This Order requires the Discharger to monitor its effluent for nitrate and total nitrogen, and to comply with a 10 mg/L effluent limit for total nitrogen in months where the average daily discharge volume exceeds 20,000 gallons; otherwise, the effluent limit will not apply.[8] Due to the relatively small discharge volume (approx. 5,000 gallons/day), it is not anticipated that the Facility's effluent will substantially degrade groundwater quality, or cause underlying groundwater to not meet the applicable WQO. This Order therefore complies with the Antidegradation Policy.

Stormwater

32. Federal regulations for storm water discharges were promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on November 16, 1990, (40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124) to implement the Clean Water Act's storm water program set forth in Clean Water Act section 402(p) (33 U.S.C. § 1342(p).). In pertinent part, the regulations require specific categories of facilities that discharge storm water associated with industrial activity to "waters of the United States" to obtain NPDES permits and to require control of such pollutant discharges using Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT) and Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT) to prevent and reduce pollutants and any more stringent controls necessary to meet water quality standards. Facilities

[8] This approach is based on the State Water Board's *General WDRs for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, which only imposes a total nitrogen effluent limit on systems with a flow rate over 20,000 gallons per day. (See Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, § D.1 & Table 4, pp. 27-28.)

used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal or domestic sewage, including land dedicated to the disposal of sewage sludge that are within the confines of the facility with a design flow of one million gallons a day or more, or required to have an approved pretreatment program under 40 CFR Part 403, are considered to be engaging in "industrial activity" for purposes of the Clean Water Act's storm water program. Because the WWTP has a design flow of 0.050 MGD, it is not subject to the storm water program.

33. This Order does not authorize discharges of stormwater to Waters of the United States (WOTUS).

Compliance with California Environmental Quality Act

34. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and implementing Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq.) the adoption of this Order is categorically exempt from the procedural requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.), as the Facility is "an existing facility" with negligible or no expansions in use. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, 15301.).

Public Participation

35. In developing these WDRs, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff have complied with Water Code section 189.7, subdivision (a)(1), which requires "equitable, culturally relevant community outreach to promote meaningful civil engagement from potentially impacted communities of proposed discharges of waste that may have disproportionate impacts on water quality in disadvantaged communities or tribal communities…."

36. The Board has notified the Discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to draft WDRs for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public meeting and an opportunity to submit comments (Wat. Code, § 13167.5.).

37. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

38. This Order is also issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267, subdivision (b)(1), which provides that the Board may require that persons discharging waste within the region "shall furnish, under penalty of perjury,

technical or monitoring program reports…," provided that the discharger's burdens of compliance, including costs, is reasonable relative to the need for the submittals and the benefits to be obtained.

39. The various notifications, technical reports and monitoring program reports required under this Order, including those contained within Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in **Attachment A**, are necessary to ensure compliance with the WDRs. The burdens of monitoring and reporting imposed on the Discharger under this Order and the SMP are reasonable relative to the need for compliance described above.

40. The Executive Officer may issue a Revised MRP as a standalone order, pursuant to delegated authority under Water Code section 13267. Upon issuance, the Revised MRP shall supersede the provisions of **Attachment A**.

41. Water Code section 13267, subdivision (b)(1) authorizes regional water boards to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements.

42. The various notifications, technical reports and monitoring program reports required under this Order, including those contained within the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in **Attachment A**, are necessary to ensure compliance with the WDRs.

43. In accordance with section 13267, the burdens of monitoring and reporting imposed on the Discharger under this Order and the separately adopted MRP, are reasonable relative to the need for compliance described above.

44. The Executive Officer may issue a Revised MRP as a standalone order, pursuant to delegated authority under Water Code section 13223 and Colorado River Basin Water Board Resolution R7-2022-0036. Upon issuance, the Revised MRP shall supersede the provisions of **Attachment A**.

REQUIREMENTS

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Water Code sections 13263 and 13267, that Order R7-2014-0026 is rescinded (except for enforcement purposes), and that the Discharger shall comply with the following requirements.

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. "Hazardous Waste," as defined per Title 22, section 66261.3 et seq., and "Designated Waste," as defined per Water Code section 13173 shall not be discharged or released at the Facility.

2. The storage, treatment, or disposal of wastes shall not cause conditions constituting a "contamination," "pollution," or "nuisance" as defined per subdivisions (k), (l), and (m) of Water Code section 13050.

3. Discharge of treated wastewater at a location other than the Designated Disposal Area specified in Finding 9, or in a manner other than as described in the findings is prohibited.

4. The Facility shall be maintained to prohibit sewage or treated effluent from surfacing or overflowing.

5. Except as authorized in another order (i.e., NPDES permit), waste and wastewater shall not be discharged to:

    a. Any surface waters or watercourses; or

    b. Land that is not owned by the Discharger, or validly authorized for such use by the owner in writing.

6. Surfacing or ponding of wastewater outside of the designated disposal locations is prohibited.

7. Untreated or partially wastewater (e.g., bypass or overflow) shall not be discharged at or from the Facility to land, surface water, watercourses or groundwater.

B. Discharge and Pond Specifications

1. At least two feet of freeboard shall be maintained in all evaporation/percolation ponds at all times.

2. All treatment, storage, and disposal areas shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

3. All evaporation/percolation ponds shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow and design seasonal precipitation. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a 24-hour event with a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.

4. The Discharger shall take reasonable steps to prevent public contact with undisinfected wastewater (e.g., installing barriers, fences and signs). Conspicuous signs shall be posted in a prominent location in each area where non-disinfected wastewater is stored onsite. Each sign or label with “Non-disinfected wastewater - No body contact or drinking” wording shall be displayed as well as the international warning symbol.

5. Objectionable odors originating at the Facility shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the wastewater treatment and disposal area.

6. The evaporation/percolation ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular:

    a. An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.

    b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, or herbicides.

    c. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.

7. The evaporation/percolation ponds shall be maintained so they will be kept in aerobic conditions. The dissolved oxygen (DO) content in the upper zone (one foot) of the evaporation/infiltration ponds shall not be less than 1.0 mg/L.

C. Effluent Limitations

1. Effluent discharged to the evaporation/percolation ponds for disposal shall not exceed the following effluent limits in **Table 3** below.8

2. The discharge of wastewater to the evaporation/percolation ponds shall not exceed a 30-day monthly average of 0.050 MGD.

3. Effluent shall not have a pH below 6.0 or above 9.0.

4. The geometric mean bacterial density for E.Coli (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period) shall not exceed a Most Probable Number (MPN) of 126 MPN per 100 milliliters, nor shall any sample exceed the maximum allowable bacterial density of 400 MPN per 100 milliliters.

Table 3. Effluent Limits.

Constituent	Units	Monthly Average	Weekly Average
Flow	MGD	0.050	N/A
20^{o} C BOD	mg/L	30	45
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	30	45
Total Nitrogen[9]	mg/L	10	N/A[10]

D. Monitoring Reporting and Notification Requirements

1. **Compliance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program.** The Discharger shall comply with the MRP or in the event of a subsequently

[9] The total nitrogen effluent limit does not apply in months when the average discharge volume does not exceed 20,000 gallons per day.

[10] Not Applicable

issued Revised MRP, the provisions of that Revised MRP, which shall supersede the provisions of the operative MRP.

2. Noncompliance Notifications.

a. The Discharger shall report orally, any noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment. The noncompliance shall be reported immediately within 24 hours to the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer, and the Office of Emergency Services as soon as:

i. The Discharger has knowledge of the discharge,

ii. Notification is possible, and

iii. Notification will not substantially impede cleanup or other emergency measures.

b. If noncompliance occurs outside of business hours, the Discharger shall leave a message to the primary case manager identified on the GeoTracker website. The Discharger may additionally leave a message on the Regional Water Board's office voicemail at (760) 346-7491

c. A written report shall also be provided within five (5) business days of the time the discharger becomes aware of the incident. The written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause, the period of noncompliance, the anticipated time to achieve full compliance, and the steps taken or planned, to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The discharger shall report all intentional or unintentional spills in excess of one thousand (1,000) gallons occurring within the facility or collection system to the Regional Water Board office in accordance with the above time limits.

d. The Discharger shall report all other instances of noncompliance with the Discharger's next scheduled SMR or earlier if requested by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer, or if required by an applicable standard for sludge use and disposal.

3. **Capacity Notification.** The Discharger shall provide a report to the Regional Water Board when it determines that the plant's average dry-weather flow rate for any month exceeds 80 percent of the design disposal

capacity. The report should indicate what steps, if any, the discharger intends to take to provide for the expected wastewater treatment capacity necessary when the plant reaches design capacity.

4. **Supplemental Monitoring Activity.** The results of any monitoring activity conducted in addition to those activities already required under the MRP (or conducted on a more frequent basis) shall be reported in the next regularly submitted Self-Monitoring Report required under the MRP General Monitoring Requirements.

5. **General Reporting Requirements.** The Discharger shall comply with the following General Reporting Requirements:

   a. **Electronic Submittal.** All materials shall be submitted electronically via the GeoTracker Database (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov).[11] After uploading, Dischargers shall notify Regional Water Board staff via email to RB7_WDRs_paperless@waterboards.ca.gov, or another address specified by staff. The following information shall be included in the body of the email:

      Attention: Land Disposal Unit

      Report Title: [Report Title]

      Upload ID: [Number]

      Facility: Imperial Valley College Wastewater Treatment Plant

      County: Imperial County

      GeoTracker ID: WDR100031475

[11] Large files must be split into appropriately labelled, manageable file sizes and uploaded into GeoTracker.

b. **Qualified Professionals.** All technical reports[12] submitted under this Order shall be prepared by, or under the direct supervision of, a competent licensed civil engineer, engineering geologist, or other Qualified Professional. The submittal shall be signed and stamped (when applicable) by the Qualified Professional and contain a brief summary of the Qualified Professional's qualifications.

c. **Data Presentation and Formatting.** In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange data in tabular form so that the date, the constituents, the concentrations, and the units are readily discernible. Additionally, data shall be summarized in a manner that clearly illustrates compliance/noncompliance.

d. **Non-Detections / Reporting Limits.** Unless reporting limits are specified in the same table, non-detections and sub-RL concentrations shall be reported as "< [limit]" (e.g., "< 5 µg/L").

e. **Units.** Absent specific justification, all monitoring data shall be reported in the units specified herein.

f. Certification.

i. All submittals under this Order shall be accompanied by a transmittal containing the following certification that is signed by either the Required Signatory or their Authorized Representative:

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

[12] A "technical report" is a one incorporating the application of scientific or engineering principles.

ii. The Required Signatory shall be the individual identified in **Table 4** below. To act as an Authorized Representative for a Required Signatory (**Table 4**), an individual must be identified[13] and duly authorized in writing by the Required Signatory; this written authorization shall be provided to the Board beforehand, or concurrently with the first submittal signed by the Authorized Representative.

Table 4. Required Signatories for Submittals.

Category of Discharger	Required Signatory
Corporations	Senior Vice President or Equivalent Principal Executive
Limited Liability Companies (LLCs)	Manager
General Partnerships and Limited Partnerships (LPs)	General Partner
Sole Proprietorships	Sole Proprietor
Public Agencies	Principal Executive or Ranking Elected/Appointed Official

E. Other Provisions

1. Standby, power generating facilities shall be available to operate the plant during a commercial power failure.

[13] This identification may be in reference to the Authorized Representative's title or position, provided it is one that customarily has the responsibility of supervising the Facility's overall operation (e.g., facility manager, superintendent).

2. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facilities inoperable.

3. The Facility shall be supervised and operated by personnel possessing certification of appropriate grade per Title 23, section 3680 et seq.

4. The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all systems and components of collection, treatment and control, installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with this Board Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate process controls, and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities/systems when necessary to achieve compliance with this Board Order. All systems in service or reserved shall be inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Records of inspections and maintenance shall be retained and made available to the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer on request.

5. **Facility Inspection.** Dischargers and their agents shall permit Board staff to inspect the Facility during business to verify compliance with WDRs. Failure to consent to a reasonable request for inspection constitutes a violation of this Order.

6. **Facility Operation and Maintenance.** The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all systems and components of collection, treatment, and control installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with this Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes, but is not limited to, effective performance, adequate process controls, and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities/systems when necessary to achieve compliance with this Order. All systems in service or reserved shall be inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Records of inspections and maintenance shall be retained and made available to the Colorado River Basin Water Board on request.

7. **Duty to Mitigate.** The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

8. **Disposal Capacity.** The Discharger shall provide a report to the Colorado River Basin Water Board when it is determined that the Facility's average

dry-weather flow rate for any month exceeds 80 percent of the design disposal capacity of 0.050 MGD. The report shall indicate what steps, if any, the Discharger intends to take to provide for the expected wastewater disposal capacity necessary when the plant reaches design capacity.

9. **Material Changes.** Prior to any modifications which would result in any material change in the quality or quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of discharge, the Discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Colorado River Basin Water Board, and if required by the Colorado River Basin Water Board, obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.

10. **Operational Personnel.** The Facility shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing the necessary expertise in the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment system.

11. **Onsite Physical Copies of Order.** Physical copies of this Order, as well as of the Monitoring and Reporting Program, shall be maintained onsite at the Facility, and shall be identified to all operating personnel; the Discharger shall ensure that such personnel are familiarized with these materials.

12. **Records Retention.** The Discharger shall retain copies of all reports required by this Order and the associated MRP. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of five years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. Records may be maintained electronically. This period may be extended in writing by the Executive Officer.

13. **Changes in Ownership.** Prior to any change in ownership of this operation, the Discharger shall notify the Executive Officer in writing at least 30 days in advance. The notice shall include a written transfer agreement between the existing owner and the new owner. At a minimum, the transfer agreement shall contain a specific date for transfer of responsibility for compliance with this Order, and an acknowledgment that the new owner or operator is liable for compliance with this Order from the date of transfer. The Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of this Order to formally substitute the permitted parties, and to incorporate other requirements as appropriate.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A— Monitoring and Reporting Program
Attachment B— Maps and Facility Diagrams

ENFORCEMENT

If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, the Dischargers fail to comply with the provisions of this Order, the Executive Officer may refer this matter to the Attorney General for judicial enforcement, may issue a complaint for administrative civil liability, or may take other enforcement actions. Failure to comply with this Order may result in the assessment of Administrative Civil Liability of up to $10,000 per violation, per day, depending on the violation, pursuant to the Water Code, including sections 13268, 13350 and 13385. The Colorado River Basin Water Board reserves its right to take any enforcement actions authorized by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Any person aggrieved by this Colorado River Basin Water Board action may petition the State Water Board for review in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 et seq. To be timely, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the 30th day after the date of this Order; if the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the next business day. The law and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available on the State Water Board website (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality). Copies will also be provided upon request.

ATTACHMENT A— MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

A. General Requirements

1. Testing and Analytical Methods. The collection, preservation and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) approved procedures. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of either the USEPA's Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants Under the Clean Water Act (40 C.F.R. part 136) or Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods Compendium (SW-846), unless otherwise approved by the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Executive Officer

2. Laboratory Certification. All analyses shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP), unless otherwise approved by the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Executive Officer.

3. Reporting Levels. All analytical data shall be reported with method detection limits (MDLs) and with either the reporting level or limits of quantitation (LOQs) according to 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 136, Appendix B. The laboratory reporting limit for all reported monitoring data shall be no greater than the practical quantitation limit (PQL).

4. Sample Location(s). Samples shall be collected at the location specified in the WDRs. If no location is specified, sampling shall be conducted at the most representative sampling point available.

5. Representative Sampling. All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The time, date, and location of each grab sample shall be recorded on the chain of custody form for the sample. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by staff.

6. Instrumentation and Calibration. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy. In the event that continuous monitoring equipment is out of

service for a period greater than 24-hours, the Discharger shall obtain representative grab samples each day the equipment is out of service. The Discharger shall correct the cause(s) of failure of the continuous monitoring equipment as soon as practicable. The Discharger shall report the period(s) during which the equipment was out of service and if the problem has not been corrected, shall identify the steps which the Discharger is taking or proposes to take to bring the equipment back into service and the schedule for these actions.

7. Field Test Instruments. Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided:

   a. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;

   b. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;

   c. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and

   d. Field calibration reports are submitted

8. **Records Retention.** The Discharger shall comply with the following:

   a. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.

   b. The Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, copies of all reports required by this Board Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order, for a period of at least 5 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application.

   c. Records of monitoring information shall include:

      i. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements.

      ii. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements.

      iii. The date(s) analyses were performed.

iv. The individual(s) who performed the analyses.

v. The analytical techniques or methods used; and

vi. The results of such analyses.

9. **Inoperative Facility.** If the facility is not in operation, or there is no discharge during a required reporting period, the Discharger shall forward a letter to the Regional Water Board indicating that there has been no activity during the required reporting period.

10. **Averaging.** If only one sample is available for a given reporting period, compliance with monthly average, or weekly average Discharge Specifications, will be determined from that sample.

B. Monitoring Requirements

1. **Influent.** The Facility's influent (i.e., wastewater prior to treatment) shall be monitored in accordance with MRP Table 1.

2. **Secondary Effluent.** The Facility's secondary effluent (i.e., treated wastewater discharged to the evaporation/percolation ponds) shall be monitored in accordance with MRP Table 2.

3. **Sludge.** The Discharger shall sample and analyze the sludge removed from the ponds in accordance with MRP Table 3. Additionally, the Discharger shall annually report the following information for all sludge or solids hauled offsite for disposal:

a. Volume,

b. Type (screenings, grit, raw sludge, digested sludge),

c. Use (agricultural, composting, etc.), and

d. Destination.

MRP Table 1. Influent Monitoring.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow	MGD	Grab	Daily[1]	Quarterly
Five-Day BOD at 20°C	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
TSS	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly

[1] Reported for each day with average monthly flow calculated

MRP Table 2. Effluent Monitoring.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Sampling Freq.	Reporting Freq.
Flow (Total Pond Effluent)	MGD	Grab	Daily	Quarterly
BOD	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
TSS	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
pH	pH units	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
Escherichia coli (E.coli)	MPN/100mL	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Nitrate as Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
VOCs (USEPA Methods 624/625)	g/L	Grab	Annually	Quarterly

MRP Table 3. Sludge Monitoring.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Arsenic	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Cadmium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Copper	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Lead	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Mercury	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Molybdenum	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Nickel	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Zinc	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Fecal Coliform	MPN/gram	Composite	Annually	Annually

C. Reporting Requirements[2]

1. **Quarterly Reporting.** The Discharger shall report the results of all monitoring required to be reported on a quarterly basis via Quarterly Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs).

    a. **Submittal Deadlines.** Quarterly SMRs shall be submitted on the following dates:

        i. April 30 (Quarter 1 [Jan. 1 – Mar. 31]);

        ii. July 31 (Quarter 2 [April 1 – June 30]);

[2] See WDRs Order for additional requirements for the submittal of SMRs.

iii. October 31 (Quarter 3 [July 1 – Sept. 30]); and

iv. January 31 (Quarter 4 [Oct. 1 – Dec. 31]).

b. **Required Contents.** Quarterly SMRs shall include the results of all monitoring activity within the subject quarter, and which is required to be reported on a quarterly basis, as well as the following:

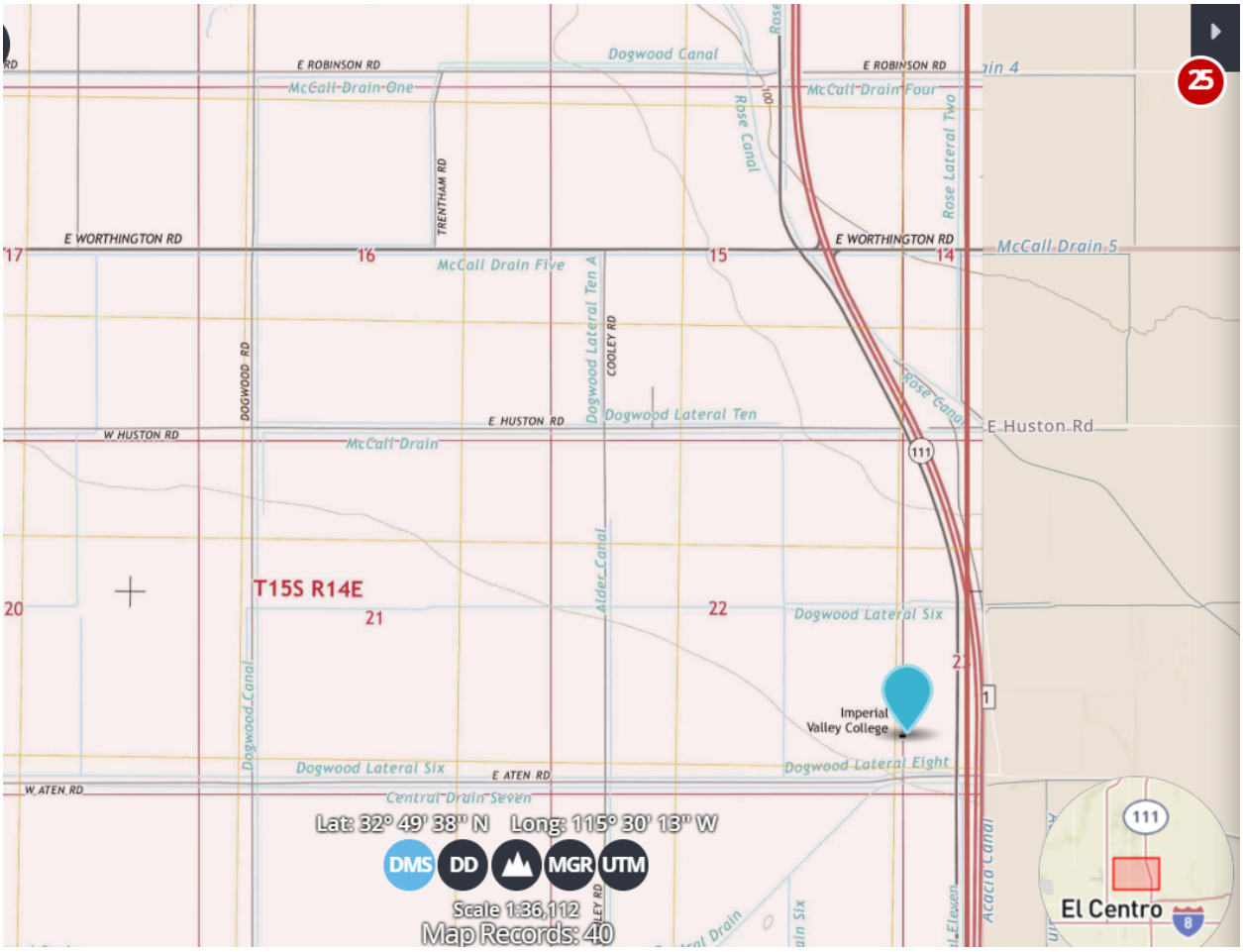
i. Facility Map depicting sampling points.

ii. A discussion of any violations of the WDRs Order occurring during the subject quarter, completed and planned corrective actions.

2. **Annual Reporting.** In addition to the above information, the 4th Quarter SMR, which is due on January 31, shall contain the results of all monitoring that is required to be reported on an annual basis.

ATTACHMENT B— MAPS AND FACILITY DIAGRAMS

Figure 1. Location of Facility.



Location of Wastewater Treatment Facilities and
Discharges: SE ¼ of Section 22, T15S, R14E, SBB&M
and
NW ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 23, T15S, R14E, SBB&M

Figure 2.Location of Ponds

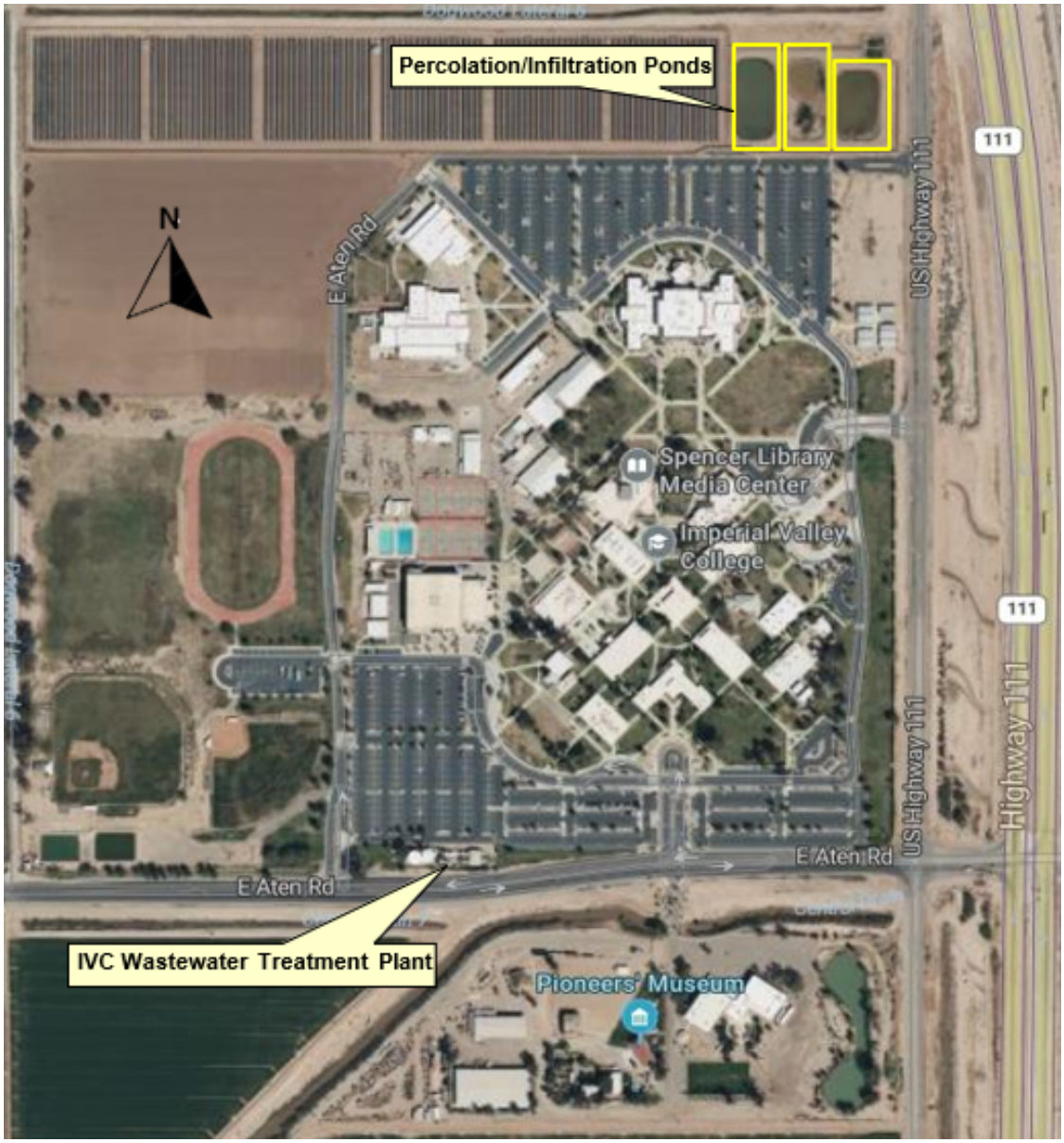


Figure 3. Wastewater Flow Schematic.