

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

73-720 Fred Waring Dr. #100
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 346-7491

[Regional Board Website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver) (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver>)

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R7-2025-0016



ORDER INFORMATION

Order Type(s):	Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)
Status:	ADOPTED
Program:	Non-15 Discharges to Land
Discharger(s):	Salton Community Services District
Facility:	Desert Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant
Address:	Coolidge Rd and Hwy 86, Desert Shores, California 92274
County:	Imperial County
APN(s):	001-190-062
GeoTracker ID:	WDR100035561
WDID:	7A130110031
Prior Order(s):	WDRs Order R7-2014-0007 WDRs Order 98-008 WDRs Order 90-073 WDRs Order 85-107 WDRs Order 80-078

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 June 3, 2025.

Original signed by

MICHAEL PLACENCIA
Executive Officer

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GLOSSARY

Antidegradation Policy	Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California, State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-16
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for Colorado River Basin Region (inclusive of all amendments)
bgs	Below Ground Surface
BOD5	Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand at 20°C
BPTC	Best Practicable Treatment and Control
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.)
CEQA Guidelines	Regulations for Implementation of CEQA (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.)
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
GPD	Gallons per Day
MCL[s]	Maximum Contaminant Level[s] for Drinking Water under Title 22
mg/L	Milligrams per Liter
MGD	Millions of Gallons per Day
MRP	Monitoring and Reporting Program
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
ROWD	Report of Waste Discharge
Title 22	California Code of Regulations, Title 22

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GLOSSARY

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

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

USEPA.....United States Environmental Protection Agency

WDRs.....Waste Discharge Requirements

WQO[s].....Water Quality Objective[s]

(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. This Order prescribes waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for the Salton Community Services District (Discharger), which owns and operates the Desert Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) in Imperial County.
2. On December 23, 2024, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for updated WDRs for the Facility as requested by the Colorado River Basin Water Board.
3. The Facility is located in Desert Shores, near the intersection of Coolidge Road and Highway 86, in Imperial County, in the Northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 9 East, Mount San Bernardino Base and Meridian. The Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) is 001-190-062. The Facility's location is also depicted on the maps in **Attachment B**.
4. Regulatory coverage under this Order is strictly limited in scope to those waste discharges, activities and processes described and expressly authorized herein.
5. The Discharger is prohibited from initiating discharge of new wastes (i.e., other than those described herein), or making material changes to the character, volume and timing of discharges authorized herein, without filing a new ROWD per Water Code section 13260. (Wat. Code, § 13264, subd. (a).). Failure to file a new ROWD before initiating such material changes shall constitute an independent violation of this Order.
6. This Order is also strictly limited in applicability to those individuals and/or entities specifically designated above as "Discharger," subject only to the discretion to designate or substitute new parties in accordance with this Order.

Facility

7. The Facility is a wastewater treatment and disposal facility that provides sewerage service to the residents and businesses of Desert Shores, an unincorporated community in Imperial County.

8. The Discharger also owns a wastewater collection system regulated under State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ (Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems).
9. The Facility consists of seven unlined evaporation/percolation ponds, each of which are equipped with aerators. The location of these seven ponds, which total approximately 8.27 acres, is shown in **Figure 2** of **Attachment B**. Typically, only two to three ponds are in operation at any given time. For purposes of this Order, these seven onsite ponds are collectively referred to as the “**Designated Disposal Area**.”
10. The Facility is designed for a maximum flow of 0.2 million gallons per day (MGD).
11. The evaporation/percolation ponds are monitored for dissolved oxygen and pH when the pond level is one foot deep or higher.
12. **Table 1** below summarizes the characterization of Facility influent, as reported in the Discharger’s Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) for January 2019 through December 2024.

Table 1. Influent Characterization.

Constituent	Units	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Flow	MGD	0.098	0.174	0.051
BOD5	mg/L	212	640	65
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	195	1,300	12

13. There were two domestic wells located approximately 0.25 miles away and immediately downgradient and northeast of the Facility.
14. On January 22, 1996, the Colorado River Basin Water Board staff inspected the Facility in response to a nearby property owner’s complaint of groundwater and soil contamination believed to be caused by seepage from the Facility evaporation/percolation ponds. The property owner claimed that seepage water

from the Facility's evaporation/percolation ponds had impacted the well on his property with increased Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) concentrations in the groundwater and caused soil moisture and salt crusting.

15. In 1996, the Discharger installed a network of groundwater monitoring wells at the Facility to investigate soil and groundwater contamination. The Discharger's initial investigation produced inconclusive results and continued monitoring was required in Order 98-008.
16. A technical report titled "Corrective Action Plan – Desert Shores Wastewater Collection and Disposal System", dated September 12, 1997, was submitted by the Discharger. The report indicated that high salinity in the groundwater was a result of saltwater from the Salton Sea infiltrating into portions of the sanitary sewer collection system. Saltwater comingled with domestic wastewater was pumped to the evaporation/percolation ponds, then percolated to the groundwater. The report further concluded that restoring the quality of the areal groundwater, downgradient of the Facility to the point where it is suitable for domestic use, was not likely to be feasible.
17. On March 5, 1998, the Colorado River Basin Water Board issued Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) 98-019 requiring the Discharger to take corrective action for impacts due to groundwater contamination. Subsequently, the Discharger:
 - a. Provided domestic water service to residents adjacent to the Facility;
 - b. Provided soil remediation to the property closest to the Facility; and
 - c. Performed a survey and repaired portions of the sanitary sewer collection system that had infiltration of saltwater from the Salton Sea.
18. On June 15, 2005, the Colorado River Basin Water Board issued the Discharger a letter acknowledging the completion of all tasks required by CAO 98-019.
19. In February 2013, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff investigated numerous complaints of nuisance odors and surface wetting on and around the property adjacent to the Facility. Staff observed that the soils in the area immediately around the Facility appeared wet, but could not conclusively determine the source of the surface wetting observed. Groundwater monitoring at the Facility is essential to determine the extent to which discharges of wastes from the Facility may be contributing to the surface wetting and are impacting groundwater quality.

20. On July 23, 2013, the Board's Assistant Executive Officer issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the Discharger for failure to comply with groundwater monitoring requirements under Order 98-008. The NOV was accompanied by a technical reporting directive (Wat. Code, § 13267) requiring the Discharger to investigate the condition of the groundwater monitoring wells and submit a work plan and implement groundwater monitoring under Order 98-008.
21. In response, the Discharger submitted a workplan dated August 23, 2013, reporting that groundwater monitoring wells were silted and unusable for monitoring, and required redevelopment or replacement.
22. On December 20, 2013, Board staff sent a letter to the Discharger requiring that the groundwater monitoring network be reconditioned or reconstructed, and groundwater monitoring be initiated immediately thereafter.
23. The Discharger initially attempted to redevelop the existing wells, but during the redevelopment effort it was determined that the wells were unable to be redeveloped for the purpose of compliance with Order 98-008. The 13 existing groundwater monitoring wells were destroyed and replaced with nine new wells in the locations of the old groundwater monitoring wells, as shown in **Figure 3 of Attachment B**.
24. The previous WDRs order required that the Discharger conduct a two-year groundwater study to quantify groundwater degradation for TDS, nitrogen, and coliforms. The study, submitted on June 7, 2017, found that elevated concentrations of TDS, chloride, and sulfate were detected in the groundwater wells. Fecal coliform was not detected in the groundwater wells, however total coliform was detected in wells MW-3, MW-4, and MW-11. Nitrates were not detected in the groundwater wells above their respective Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). In addition, the previous order required the Discharger to provide a Quality Assurance Project Plan detailing the protocols to conduct the groundwater monitoring required by the Order. The Quality Assurance Project Plan was submitted on October 13, 2017.

Proposed Changes at Facility

25. No changes in the character of influent are anticipated. The ROWD does not identify discharges from industrial users subject to federal categorical Pretreatment Standards into its collection system. The Discharger will be required to provide an annual routine assessment of its industrial dischargers in order to determine whether a pretreatment program will be necessary.

26. **Table 2** summarizes the Facility's effluent, as reported in the Discharger's SMRs from January 2019 through December 2024.

Table 2. Effluent Characterization.

Constituent	Units	Average	Maximum	Minimum
pH	Std. Units	7.8	8.5	6.9
BOD5	mg/L	63	300	7.8
TSS	mg/L	109	310	31
TDS	mg/L	931	2300	280
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	5.8	13.4	2.5
Nitrate as N	mg/L	1.46	4.4	ND
Nitrite as N	mg/L	0.4	1.6	ND
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	34	50	16
Ammonia as N	mg/L	20.6	39	0.07
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	5.4	6.3	4

27. This Order removes the previous average monthly effluent limit of 45 mg/L and average weekly effluent limit of 65 mg/L for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). The previous limits apply to treatment equivalent to secondary treatment. The Facility utilizes partially aerated facultative ponds, so the BOD effluent limits are not appropriate for the Facility's treatment technology. Additionally, the BOD effluent limits were primarily in place for odor control. The Order includes discharge specifications requiring dissolved oxygen (DO) content in the upper zone (one foot) of the aeration/percolation ponds to be equal to or greater than 1.0 mg/L. The discharge specification for DO is intended to address odors.

General Site Conditions

28. The site elevation is approximately 165 feet below sea level. The site slopes are relatively flat and are generally sloped to the northeast with an average slope of approximately 2.5 percent.
29. There are no streams in the vicinity of the Facility, however, the area is subject to infrequent flash floods. The Salton Sea is located approximately 1.18 miles to the northeast. Over the last 20 years, the water level in the Salton Sea has decreased approximately 11 feet.
30. Soil in the vicinity of the Facility is predominately comprised of silty clay, sand, gravel, and cobbles.
31. The site is located in a seismically active desert region.
32. Based on data from the nearest weather station (KCATHERM30), the Facility has an annual average precipitation of about 3 inches and a mean pan evaporation of 72 inches per year.
33. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Precipitation Frequency Atlas 14, Vol. 6 (rev. 2014), 100-year and 1,000-year, 24-hour rainfall events are estimated to result in 4.50 and 7.79 inches of precipitation, respectively.¹
34. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) [Flood Insurance Rate Map](https://msc.fema.gov/portal) (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal>), the Facility is not located within a 100-year floodplain.
35. Land uses in the vicinity include residential, industrial, and recreational uses.
36. Domestic water is supplied by the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD). From January 2020 to December 2024, TDS concentrations averaged approximately 398.4 mg/L. After 2021, the average concentrations decreased to 170 mg/L. This dramatic decrease is attributed to a change in the source water of CVWD.

¹ Source: [NOAA Precipitation Frequency Data Server](https://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds)
(<https://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds>)

CVWD is using groundwater from wells outside of the local area. There are no domestic wells within 500 feet of the on-site infiltration ponds.

Groundwater and Subsurface Conditions

37. Soil borings indicate that the upper two to five feet consist of loose and moist silty clay. The clay is underlain by wet clayey sand with gravel and cobbles.
38. Reports submitted by the Discharger indicate that the depth to groundwater in the vicinity of the Facility is between four and 17 feet bgs.
39. Historical data shows variations in the groundwater TDS concentrations in the vicinity of the Facility. Groundwater samples collected in April 1997 indicated that the TDS concentration in a nearby well located at a residence in the vicinity of the Facility was 10,997 mg/L. On November 4, 1996, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff collected wastewater samples from the Facility with TDS concentrations ranging between 7,139 mg/L and 16,984 mg/L. The Discharger's recent SMRs show groundwater TDS concentrations for the monitoring wells ranging from 890 mg/L to 30,000 mg/L.
40. Water quality data for the groundwater in the vicinity of the Facility prior to its construction is sparse. The data that is available indicates that the well at Coolidge Springs had a TDS concentration of about 2,200 mg/L, a chloride concentration of 990 mg/L, and a sulfate concentration of 300 mg/L.
41. The Dischargers SMRs provide groundwater monitoring data for nine wells in the vicinity of the discharge. **Figure 3**, incorporated herein and made part of this Order by reference, shows the location of the groundwater monitoring wells.
42. Regional groundwater flow in the area is to the northeast, towards the Salton Sea.
43. The Facility's groundwater monitoring network currently consists of the monitoring wells identified in **Table 3**.

Table 3—Groundwater Monitoring Network

Monitoring Well	Depth to Groundwater/ Approximate Location
MW-2	10.1 ft bgs / 33°23'33.54"N, 116° 3'5.74"W
MW-3	13.6 ft bgs / 33°23'34.96"N, 116° 3'6.21"W
MW-4	10.4 ft bgs / 33°23'30.92"N, 116° 3'5.63"W
MW-6	8.1 ft bgs / 33°23'31.41"N, 116° 3'3.37"W
MW-9	12.1 ft bgs / 33°23'34.63"N, 116° 3'2.62"W
MW-10	11.9 ft bgs / 33°23'35.02"N, 116° 3'3.99"W
MW-11	11.1 ft bgs / 33°23'36.51"N, 116° 3'2.49"W
MW-12	12 ft bgs / 33°23'36.32"N, 116° 3'4.27"W
MW-13	13.4 ft bgs / 33°23'27.75"N, 116° 3'4.29"W

44. Groundwater quality and depth monitoring data is collected from MW-3, MW-4, MW-9, MW-11, and MW-13 and groundwater depth monitoring data is collected from MW-2, MW-6, MW-10, and MW-12. Average downgradient groundwater quality is summarized in **Table 4**.

Table 4—Downgradient Groundwater Quality

Constituent	Units	MW-3	MW-4	MW-9	MW-11	MW-13
TDS	mg/L	8,200	2,328	10,693	23,714	2,064
pH	s.u.	7.3	7.25	7.35	6.9	7.25
Chloride	mg/L	3,071	673	4,071	11,679	524
Sulfate	mg/L	2,207	470	2,679	3,779	520

Constituent	Units	MW-3	MW-4	MW-9	MW-11	MW-13
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	0.46	0.73	0.2	ND	1.7
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	0.1	6.9	0.31	0.03	1.7
Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 mL	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

45. Groundwater quality data from 2020 to 2024 from the monitoring wells indicate that groundwater quality varies across the area. The recent average TDS concentration of the effluent is generally below 1,000 mg/L and groundwater concentrations of TDS from 890 mg/L to as high as 30,000 mg/L have been observed in the groundwater wells.
46. The Discharger's average effluent concentration from January 2020 to December 2024 was 34 mg/L for total nitrogen and 931 mg/L for TDS. The average effluent TDS concentration is less than the average concentrations found in the downgradient groundwater monitoring wells.

Regulatory Considerations

Waste Discharge Permitting Authority

47. 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."
48. 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,² and the provisions of Section 13241.” (Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (a).)

49. The ability to discharge wastewater is a privilege, not a right. The adoption of this Order shall not be construed as establishing a vested right in the continuance of discharge activities. (Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (g).)
50. For the purposes of determining 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 waste discharges that could either degrade water quality without violating water quality objectives, or cause beneficial use impairments that are minor relative to Categories 1 and 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 WMUs.

Basin Plan Implementation

51. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses of groundwater and surface water within the region, establishes numeric and narrative water quality objectives (WQOs) protective of such uses, and incorporates applicable State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) plans and policies.
52. This Order prescribes WDRs for discharges to groundwater within the Anza-Borrego Planning Area, West Salton Sea Hydrologic Unit (721.00), for which the designated beneficial uses of groundwater are as follows:

² “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).)

- a. Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN); and
 - b. Agricultural Supply (AGR).
53. The Basin Plan establishes the following WQOs for MUN-designated groundwater:
- a. Tastes and Odors (Narrative): Groundwater shall not contain taste or odor-producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses as a result of human activity (Ch. 3, § IV.A);
 - b. Coliform Bacteria (Numeric): Groundwater shall not contain coliform organisms in exceedance of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, title 22 (Title 22), section 64426.1 (Ch. 3, § IV.B); and
 - c. Chemical Constituents (Numeric): Groundwater shall not contain organic and inorganic chemical constituents in concentrations exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) established for drinking water per Title 22, sections 64431, 64444 and 64678 (Ch. 3, § IV.C).
54. With respect to the narrative WQO for chemical constituents, specifically the objective for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), the Title 22 Secondary MCL specifies a recommended limit of 500 mg/L, and an upper limit of 1,000 mg/L.³
55. 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 re-designated by a Basin Plan Amendment, even if the specified TDS threshold is exceeded.
56. As discussed in Finding 40, water quality data for the groundwater in the vicinity of the Facility prior to its construction indicates that the well at Coolidge Springs had a TDS concentration of about 2,200 mg/L, which is just short of the 3,000

³ Salinity may alternatively be expressed in terms of microsiemens per centimeter (µS/cm) of Electrical Conductivity (EC). As a Secondary MCL, Title 22 specifies a recommended limit of 900 µS/cm, and an upper limit of 1,600 µS/cm.

mg/L outer limit under the Sources of Drinking Water Policy, but well beyond the Short-Term Secondary MCL of 1,500 mg/L under Title 22.

Antidegradation Policy

57. The Basin Plan incorporates the State Water Board's *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California*, Resolution 68-16 (Antidegradation Policy), which prohibits the Colorado River Basin Water Board from authorizing discharges that will result in the degradation of "high quality waters," unless it is demonstrated that any such degradation in water quality:
- a. Will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses,⁴ or otherwise result in water quality less than that prescribed in applicable plans and policies (e.g., violation of WQOs);
 - b. Will be mitigated through best practicable treatment and control (BPTC);
 - c. Is consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state of California.
58. 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 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.
59. Based on experiences with similar facilities, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff have identified the following constituents with the potential to degrade groundwater in the Facility's effluent, each of which is discussed below:
- a. Total Nitrogen (Nitrate plus Nitrite),
 - b. TDS (Salinity), and

⁴ The Water Code defines "Pollution" in relevant part as the "alteration of the quality of the waters of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects ... [¶] [t]he waters for beneficial uses." (Wat. Code, § 13050, subd. (l)(1)(A).)

c. Coliform Organisms.

60. Nitrogen: The Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) (i.e., WQO) for nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen is 10 mg/L. According to the Discharger's Annual SMRs for 2014 through 2023, the Facility's effluent has an average total nitrogen concentration ranging between 5.25 to 50 mg/L, with an average of 23 mg/L. Downgradient groundwater monitoring wells show average total nitrogen concentrations ranging from 0.1 mg/L to 6.9 mg/L, below the primary MCL. However, the assimilative capacity in local groundwater for nitrogen is unclear. The Discharger is required to investigate the feasibility of nitrogen treatment to achieve an effluent limitation of 10 mg/L, which may be prescribed in the future. The monitoring wells may be insufficient to detect impacts to groundwater. Therefore, this Order includes a Special Provision for the Discharger to further evaluate the adequacy of the existing groundwater monitoring network.

Table 5. Antidegradation Policy Analysis: Nitrogen.

Constituent	Unit	Background	Effluent (Avg.)	MW-3	MW-4	MW-9	MW-11	MW-13
Nitrate as N	mg/L	(unknown)	1.46	0.46	0.73	0.2	ND	1.7
Nitrite as N	mg/L	(unknown)	0.4	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	(unknown)	34	0.1	6.9	0.31	0.03	1.7

61. **TDS (Salinity):** With respect to TDS, local groundwater has been estimated to have a concentration ranging from 890 mg/L to 30,000 mg/L. Groundwater data from the nearby well at Coolidge Springs historically had a TDS concentration of about 2,200 mg/L, which exceeds the numeric benchmark supporting the narrative WQO for tastes and odors in MUN-designated groundwater. For this reason, the underlying groundwater is considered "poor quality" with respect to TDS for purposes of the Antidegradation Policy.
62. Even if the underlying groundwater was considered "high" quality with respect to TDS, the Facility's discharge would be consistent with the Antidegradation Policy. The average effluent TDS concentration of 931 mg/L is less than the average concentrations found in the downgradient groundwater monitoring wells and the TDS concentration found at the nearby well prior to the Facility's construction.

The Discharger's groundwater monitoring data establishes that the Facility's wastewater discharges are actually diluting TDS concentrations in downgradient groundwater.

Table 6. Antidegradation Policy Analysis: TDS.

Constituent	Unit	Background	Effluent (Avg.)	MW-3	MW-4	MW-9	MW-11	MW-13
TDS	mg/L	2,200	931	8,200	2,328	10,693	23,714	2,064

63. Coliform Organisms: The most probable number (MPN) of coliform organisms in untreated domestic wastewater is typically 10^7 to 10^8 per 100 mL, and in secondary-treated wastewater, it can range from 10^5 to 10^6 organisms per 100 mL (USEPA, Design Manual: Municipal Wastewater Disinfection, EPA/625/1-86/021, Oct. 1986.). Coliforms do not generally transport through soils any appreciable distance, but given the depth to groundwater of between four and 17 feet bgs at the evaporation/percolation ponds, it is likely that pathogen-indicator bacteria will reach groundwater at densities exceeding those prescribed in Title 22, section 64426.1. The groundwater monitoring wells around the Facility are located at least 150 feet downgradient, or greater, from the evaporation/percolation ponds. The groundwater monitoring wells have been monitored quarterly and analyzed for bacteria with all results below the detection limit of 1.8 MPN/100 mL for Fecal Coliform over the past five years. Given the soil types around the Facility, it is not likely that pathogen-indicator bacteria will transport any appreciable distance from the Designated Disposal Area and it is not expected that the discharge will degrade any beneficial use of the groundwater in the vicinity of the Facility. Consequently, no groundwater degradation is anticipated.
64. Notwithstanding implementation of BPTC, a degree of groundwater quality degradation will occur as a result of the Facility's operation—specifically in terms of nitrate/nitrite (and possibly total coliform). However, such degradation nevertheless is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state of California. The Discharger provides a valuable service to the community that is protective of human health and the environment and contributes to the economic development of the area. The economic prosperity of surrounding communities and associated industries is of maximum benefit to the people of the state and provides sufficient justification for allowing the limited groundwater degradation that may occur under this Order.

65. Based on the foregoing considerations, the wastewater discharges authorized under this Order are consistent with the Antidegradation Policy.

Stormwater

66. On July 1, 2015, the State Water Board adopted Water Quality Order 2014-0057-DWQ (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CAS000001), *General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities* (Industrial General Permit). Facilities used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal or domestic sewage with a design flow of one million gallons per day or more, or that are required to have an approved pretreatment program under 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 403, must enroll under the Industrial General Permit, unless there is no discharge of industrial stormwater to waters of the United States (WOTUS).⁵ The Facility treats domestic sewage and sewage sludge, however, the design flow of the facility is less than one million gallons per day. Therefore, the discharge is not subject to the federal CWA's stormwater program requirements.
67. This Order does not authorize discharges of stormwater to the WOTUS.

Additional Water Quality Considerations

68. This Order, which prescribes WDRs in accordance with the Basin Plan, for wastewater that does not need to be managed as "hazardous waste," is exempt from the prescriptive requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 27 (Title 27), section 20005 et seq. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090.)
69. Water Code section 106.3, subdivision (a) provides that it is "the established policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary

⁵ USEPA regulations for stormwater discharges were promulgated on November 16, 1990 (40 C.F.R. parts 122, 123, and 124) to implement the Clean Water Act's stormwater program set forth in Clean Water Act section 402(p) (33 U.S.C. §1342(p)). In relevant part, the regulations require specific categories of facilities that discharge stormwater associated with industrial activity to WOTUS to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (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.

purposes.” Although subdivision (a) does not apply directly to the prescribing of WDRs (see Wat. Code, § 106.3, subd. (b)), this Order nevertheless furthers the stated policy by requiring that the receiving groundwater comply with WQOs protective of MUN beneficial uses.

70. 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^[6] or tribal community,^[7] 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,^[8] 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.

California Environmental Quality Act

71. The adoption of this Order is categorically exempt from the procedural requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

⁶ 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).)

⁷ 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).)

⁸ 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).)

(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.)

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

72. This Order is also issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267, subdivision (b)(1), which provides that the Colorado River Basin Water 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.
73. 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.
74. 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.
75. 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**.

Scope of Order

76. This Order, which prescribes WDRs for the discharge of nonhazardous wastewater to land in accordance with the Basin Plan, is exempt from the prescriptive standards for solid waste disposal set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 27 (Title 27), section 20005 et seq. (Title 27, § 20090, subd. (b).)
77. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as preempting or superseding otherwise applicable regulatory requirements issued by local, state, or federal agencies.

Public Participation

78. 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....”
79. The Dischargers and other interested public agencies and persons were notified of the Board’s intent to prescribe the WDRs in this Order, and provided an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations at a public hearing. (Wat. Code, § 13167.5.)
80. The Colorado River Basin Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all timely comments pertaining to this discharge.

REQUIREMENTS

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Water Code sections 13263 and 13267, that Order R7-2014-0007 is rescinded (except for enforcement purposes), and that the Discharger shall comply with the following requirements.

A. Prohibitions

1. Waste classified as “hazardous,” as defined in Title 27, section 20164, or constituting “designated waste,” as defined in Water Code section 13173, shall not be discharged at the Facility.
2. The storage, treatment, or disposal of waste at the Facility shall not cause conditions constituting a “contamination,” “pollution,” or “nuisance,” as defined per subdivisions (k), (l), and (m) of Water Code section 13050.
3. Wastewater shall not be permitted to bypass the aeration/percolation ponds relied upon for compliance with this Order, or otherwise be permitted to overflow from its designated containment structures.
4. Waste shall not be discharged at a location other than the Designated Disposal Area specified in Finding 9, or in a manner other than as described in the findings generally.

5. Wastewater shall not be discharged from the Facility into surface waters or surface drainage courses.
6. The discharge of wastewater to land not controlled by the Discharger, or not authorized for such use, is prohibited.
7. Objectionable odors, originating from the Facility and associated with the generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of waste, shall not be perceivable beyond the boundaries of the Facility or areas not owned/controlled by the Discharger.
8. The Discharger shall not accept waste in excess of the treatment capacity of the disposal system.
9. Surfacing or ponding of wastewater outside of the designated disposal locations is prohibited.

B. Discharge Specifications

1. Wastewater shall be discharged to the Designated Disposal Area, as described in Finding 9.
2. All Facility systems and equipment shall be operated to optimize the quality of the effluent.
3. All conveyance, treatment, storage, and disposal systems shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.
4. Public contact with wastewater at the Facility shall be prevented through such means as fences, signs, or acceptable alternatives.
5. The Discharger shall design, construct, operate, and maintain all Facility impoundments sufficiently to protect the integrity of containment dams and berms and prevent overtopping and/or structural failure. The operating freeboard in any impoundments shall never be less than two feet (measured vertically from the lowest possible point of overflow).
6. Wastewater treatment, storage, and disposal ponds or structures shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow, design seasonal precipitation, and ancillary inflow and infiltration during

the winter while ensuring compliance with all requirements of this Order. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.

7. On or about 1 October of each year, available capacity shall at least equal the volume necessary to comply with Sections B.5 and B.6.
8. All ponds and open containment structures shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. Specifically:
 - a. An erosion control program shall be implemented to ensure 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.
 - d. The Discharger shall consult and coordinate with the local Mosquito Abatement District to minimize the potential for mosquito breeding as needed to supplement the above measures.
9. Newly constructed or rehabilitated berms or levees (excluding internal berms that separate ponds or control the flow of water within a pond) shall be designed and constructed under the supervision of a California Registered Civil Engineer.
10. Wastewater within any unlined impoundment (including the Designated Disposal Area) shall not have a pH less than 6.0 or greater than 9.0.
11. Beginning in 2025, the Discharger shall monitor sludge accumulation in each Facility impoundment at least every five years, and periodically remove sludge as necessary to maintain adequate storage capacity. Specifically, if the estimated volume of sludge in the reservoir exceeds five percent of the permitted reservoir capacity, the Discharger shall complete sludge cleanout within 12 months after the date of the estimate.
12. The aeration/percolation ponds shall be maintained so that they continuously operate in aerobic conditions. The dissolved oxygen content

in the upper zone (one foot) of the aeration/percolation ponds shall be equal to or greater than 1.0 mg/L. If there is little or no water in the ponds, the monitoring report shall state “No standing water in ponds and/or not sufficient water in the ponds to sample safely” in place of reporting dissolved oxygen concentration.

C. Effluent Limitations

The Facility’s wastewater (effluent), following treatment, shall comply with the Effluent Limitations below in **Table 7**.

Table 7. Effluent Limitations.

Parameter	Units	Limitation	Determination
Average Daily Flow	MGD	0.2	30-Day Average Dry-Weather Flow
pH	Std. Units	≥ 6.0 ≤ 9.0	--

D. Groundwater Limitations

Discharge of wastewater from the Facility shall not cause groundwater to:

1. Exceed applicable WQOs;
2. Acquire taste, odor, toxicity, or color that create nuisance conditions;
3. Impair beneficial uses; or
4. Contain constituents or organisms in excess of applicable Title 22 MCLs (see, e.g., Title 22, § 64426.1 [bacteriological constituents], § 64431 [inorganics], § 64444 [organics], § 64678 [lead, copper]).

E. Solids Disposal Requirements⁹

1. Sludge and Solid Waste shall be removed from screens, sumps, and ponds as needed to ensure optimal plant operation.
2. Residual sludge, biosolids, and solid waste shall be permanently disposed offsite at a landfill permitted under Title 27, section 20000 et seq.

F. Monitoring, Reporting and Notification Requirements

1. **Compliance with Monitoring and Reporting Program.** The Discharger shall comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in Attachment A, or in the event of a subsequently issued Revised MRP, the provisions of that Revised MRP, which shall supersede the provisions of Attachment A as the operative MRP.
2. **Noncompliance Notifications.** Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment. Information shall be provided orally to the Colorado River Basin Water Board office and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) within 24 hours of when the Discharger becomes aware of the incident. If noncompliance occurs outside of business hours, the Discharger shall leave a message on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's office voicemail.

A written report shall also be provided within five 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. A final certified report must be submitted through

⁹ For the purposes of this section: "sludge" means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes; "solid waste" includes grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment at the Facility; "residual sludge" means sludge that will not be subject to further treatment at the Facility; and "biosolids" refers to sludge that has been treated and tested and shown to be capable of being beneficially used as a soil amendment for agriculture, silviculture, horticulture, and land reclamation activities pursuant to federal and state regulations.

GeoTracker. Additional information may be added to the certified report, in the form of an attachment, at any time.

All other forms of noncompliance shall be reported in the next scheduled Self-Monitoring Report (SMR), or earlier if requested by the Executive Officer.

3. **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) (<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>).¹⁰ After uploading, Dischargers shall notify Colorado River Basin 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:	Desert Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant
County:	Imperial County
GeoTracker ID:	WDR100035561
 - b. **Qualified Professionals.** All technical reports¹¹ submitted under this Order shall be prepared by, or under the direct supervision of, a competent licensed civil engineer or engineering geologist (Qualified Professional). The submittal shall be signed and stamped 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,

¹⁰ Large files must be split into appropriately labelled, manageable file sizes and uploaded into GeoTracker.

¹¹ A "technical report" is a one incorporating the application of scientific or engineering principles.

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 (RL) 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.** 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.

- i. The Required Signatory shall be the individual identified in **Table 8** below.
- ii. To act as an Authorized Representative for a Required Signatory (**Table 8**), an individual must be identified¹² 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.

¹² 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).

Table 8. 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

G. Special Provisions

1. **Existing Groundwater Monitoring Network Study.** Within 18 months of the adoption of this Order, the Discharger shall submit, for Executive Officer approval, a technical work plan to determine the adequacy of the existing groundwater monitoring network.

The technical work plan shall describe the current condition of the groundwater monitoring network (e.g., monitoring locations, sampling protocol, or quality assurance/quality control).

If the technical work plan indicates that repair or addition of monitoring wells is necessary to adequately monitor water quality conditions, the Discharger shall submit a time schedule for Executive Officer approval that includes a description of proposed changes to the groundwater monitoring network and a time schedule for implementation of these changes. Within six months of Executive Officer written approval¹³, the

¹³ The Executive Officer may approve the work plan and time schedule with any revisions that are determined to be warranted under the circumstances.

Discharger shall begin implementation of the work plan in accordance with the time schedule.

2. **Total Nitrogen Effluent Limit Feasibility Study.** Within three years of adoption of this Order, the Discharger shall submit a technical report evaluating the feasibility of implementing nitrogen removal for compliance with a 10 mg/L effluent limit for total nitrogen.
3. **Request for Extension.** If the Discharger is unable to comply with the Special Provisions within the applicable schedule, the Discharger may request an extension subject to approval by the Executive Officer. The extension request must be in writing and submitted as soon as a delay is recognized and prior to the compliance date. The extension request should include justification for the delay.

H. Other Provisions

1. **Facility Inspection.** Dischargers and their agents shall permit Board staff to inspect the Enrolled Facility during business to verify compliance with WDRs. Failure to consent to a reasonable request for inspection constitutes a violation of this Order.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Disposal Capacity.** The Discharger shall provide a report to the Colorado River Basin Water Board when it determines that the Facility's average

dry-weather flow rate for any month exceeds 80 percent of the design disposal capacity. 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.

5. **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.
6. **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.
7. Physical copies of this Order, as well as of the operative 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.
8. 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.
9. **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) (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 U.S. 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 specified in the MRP or 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 practical quantitation limits (PQLs) 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 PQL.
4. **Sampling Location(s).** Samples shall be collected at the location(s) 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 Colorado River Basin Water Board staff.
6. **Instrumentation and Calibration.** All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger shall be properly maintained and calibrated to ensure their continued accuracy. Any flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices. In the event that continuous monitoring equipment is out of service for a period greater than 24 hours, the Discharger shall obtain

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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 that:
 - 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 retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of the sampling or measurement. This period may be extended by request of the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Executive Officer at any time. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 - a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurement(s);
 - b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurement(s);
 - c. The date(s) analyses were performed;
 - d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 - e. The analytical techniques or method used; and

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- f. All sampling and analytical results, including:
 - i. units of measurement used;
 - ii. minimum reporting limit for the analyses;
 - iii. results less than the reporting limit but above the method detection limit (MDL);
 - iv. data qualifiers and a description of the qualifiers;
 - v. quality control test results (and a written copy of the laboratory quality assurance plan);
 - vi. dilution factors, if used; and
 - vii. sample matrix type.
- 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 Colorado River Basin Water Board indicating that there has been no activity during the required reporting period.

B. Monitoring Requirements

- 1. Wastewater that is discharged to the Designated Disposal Area (Influent) shall be monitored in accordance with **MRP Table 1** below.

MRP Table 1. Influent Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow	MGD	Measurement	Daily	Quarterly
BOD5	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
TSS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly

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2. Wastewater stored within the Designated Disposal Area (Effluent) shall be monitored in accordance with **MRP Table 2** below. Samples shall be collected from opposite the inlet at a depth of one foot and from each pond in use. If there is little or no water in the evaporation/percolation ponds, the monitoring report shall state: “No standing water in ponds” in lieu of reporting dissolved pH and dissolved oxygen concentration.

MRP Table 2. Effluent (Pond) Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Freeboard	0.1 feet	Measurement	Monthly	Quarterly
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Quarterly
BOD5	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
TSS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Nitrate as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nitrite as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Ammonia as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
VOCs (EPA 624)	µg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

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3. The domestic water supply shall be monitored in accordance with **MRP Table 3** below. Samples shall be collected at a location or in a manner that is representative of actual TDS concentrations of domestic water distributed to the community.

MRP Table 3. Source Water Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly

4. The Facility's groundwater elevation monitoring wells (wells MW-2, MW-6, MW-10, and MW-12) shall be monitored in accordance with **MRP Table 4** below.

MRP Table 4. Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Depth to Groundwater	ft	Measurement	Quarterly	Quarterly

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5. The Facility's groundwater quality monitoring wells (wells MW-3, MW-4, MW-9, MW-11, and MW-13) shall be monitored in accordance with **MRP Table 5**.

MRP Table 5. Groundwater Quality Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Depth to Groundwater	ft	Measurement	Quarterly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	s.u.	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nitrate as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nitrite as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
VOCs	µg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
Total Coliform	MPN/100mL	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
E. Coli	MPN/100mL	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

6. Prior to offsite disposal, sludge generated at the Facility shall be sampled and analyzed in accordance with **MRP Table 6**.

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ATTACHMENT A—MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**MRP Table 6. Sludge Monitoring Schedule.**

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Arsenic	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Cadmium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Copper	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Total Chromium	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
Selenium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Zinc	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Fecal Coliform	MPN/gram	Composite	Annually	Annually

C. Reporting Requirements

1. **Quarterly Reporting.** Daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly monitoring shall be included in the Quarterly Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs). Quarterly SMRs shall be submitted by **January 31st, April 30th, July 31st, and October 31st**. Each report shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. **Cover Letter.** A transmittal letter summarizing the essential points in the report.
 - b. **Maps.** Maps depicting the Facility layout and the location of sampling points.

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- c. **Tabulated Monitoring Data.** Tables of the data collected. Each row shall be a monitoring event and each column shall be a separate parameter at a single location (or a single average, as appropriate).
 - d. **Compliance Summary.** Identification of any violations found since the last report was submitted, and actions taken or planned for correcting each violation. If the Discharger previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. If no violations have occurred since the last submittal, this shall be stated.
- 2. **Annual Reporting.** In addition to the above requirements, the 4th Quarter SMR (due January 31) shall contain the following:
 - a. **Tabulated Summary of All Previous Monitoring Data.** Tables of the data collected. The tables shall include all of the data collected to-date at each monitoring point, organized in chronological order, with the oldest data in the top row and progressively newer data in rows below the top row. Each row shall be a monitoring event and each column shall be a separate parameter at a single location (or a single average, as appropriate).
 - b. **Graphical Display.** Graphs depicting monitoring parameters through time, with the concentrations being the y-axis and time being the x-axis. Logarithmic scales can be used for values that vary by orders of magnitude. Individual graphs can combine multiple locations or multiple chemicals if that allows the data to be compared more easily.
 - c. **Pretreatment Report.** Information concerning significant industrial wastewater discharged to the treatment facility, and an affirmative statement concerning whether there is a need to establish an industrial pretreatment program.
 - d. **Operation and Maintenance Summary.** Information concerning operation and maintenance of the facility, including documentation showing the calibration of flow meters and equipment, modifications to the Operation and Maintenance Manual, and any modifications or updates to the Discharger's wastewater rules and/or regulations.

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- e. **Compliance Summary.** Identification of any violations found since the last report was submitted, and actions taken or planned for correcting each violation. If the Discharger previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. If no violations have occurred since the last submittal, this shall be stated.
 - f. **Summary of Sludge Disposal Activities.** The quantity, location, and method of disposal of all sludge and similar solid materials being produced at the Facility. If no sludge is disposed of during the subject year, the Discharger shall indicate "No Sludge Removed."
3. **Supplemental Monitoring.** The results of any analyses or monitoring activities conducted in addition to those specified herein, or conducted on more frequent basis than otherwise required herein, shall be reported to the Colorado River Basin Water Board in the next regularly submitted SMR.

ATTACHMENT B—MAPS AND FACILITY DIAGRAMS

Figure 1. Map with Facility Location



Figure 2. Site Plan

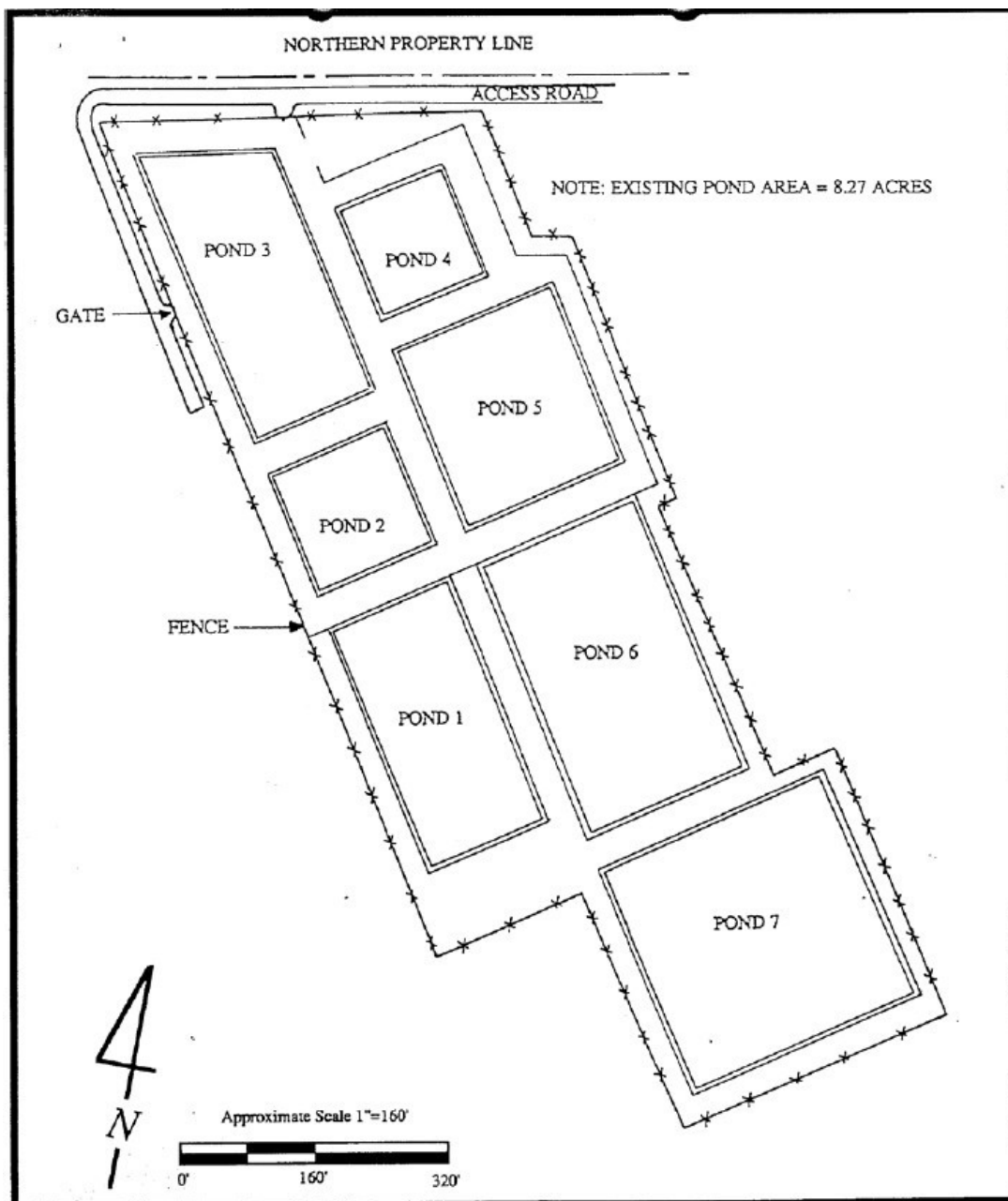


Figure 3. Monitoring Well Locations

