



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region



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## MODIFICATION TO MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAMS MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

Consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board Order No. WQ-2006-0003 and pursuant to Water Code sections 13267 and 13383, the Monitoring and Reporting Programs (MRP) for municipal wastewater treatment plants that are operating within the Santa Ana Regional Board jurisdiction were amended to add revised reporting requirements to the reporting section. These revised reporting requirements are effective immediately and apply to unauthorized discharges of sewage or other waste from the wastewater treatment plants.

These reporting requirements are necessary to ensure proper compliance with the waste discharge requirements and to collect needed information regarding discharges of sewage or other waste that could affect the quality of waters of the state. To verify that dischargers have received this MRP amendment, the dischargers were asked to sign and send the attached certification to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The revised language is provided below in quotes.

- “1. In accordance with the requirements of Health and Safety Code section 5411.5, the discharger shall provide notification to the local health officer or the director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water body of any unauthorized release of sewage or other waste that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to any waters of the state.
2. In accordance with the requirements of Water Code section 13271, the discharger shall provide notification to the Office of Emergency Services of the release of reportable amounts of hazardous substances or sewage that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to any waters of the state. The California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 2250, defines a reportable amount of sewage as being 1,000 gallons. The phone number for reporting these releases to the Office of Emergency Services is (800) 852-7550.
3. The discharger shall notify the Regional Water Quality Control Board of any unauthorized release of sewage from its wastewater treatment plant that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to a water of the state as soon as possible, but not later than **two (2) hours** after becoming aware of the release. This notification does not need to be made if the discharger has notified the Office of Emergency Services. The phone number for reporting these releases of sewage to the Regional Water Quality Control Board is (951) 782-4130. At a minimum, the following information shall be provided:

**California Environmental Protection Agency**



- (a) The location, date, and time of the release.
  - (b) The water body that received or will receive the discharge.
  - (c) An estimate of the amount of sewage or other waste released and the amount that reached a surface water at the time of notification.
  - (d) If ongoing, the estimated flow rate of the release at the time of the notification.
  - (e) The name, organization, phone number and email address of the reporting representative.
4. As soon as possible, but **not later than twenty four (24) hours** after becoming aware of an unauthorized discharge of sewage or other waste from its wastewater treatment plant to a water of the state, the discharger shall submit a statement to the Regional Water Quality Control Board by email at [spillreportR8@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:spillreportR8@waterboards.ca.gov). If the discharge is 1,000 gallons or more, this statement shall certify that the State Office of Emergency Services has been notified of the discharge in accordance with Water Code section 13271. The statement shall also certify that the local health officer or director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water bodies has been notified of the discharge in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 5411.5. The statement shall also include at a minimum the following information:
- (a) Agency, NPDES No., Order No., and MRP CI No., if applicable.
  - (b) The location, date, and time of the discharge.
  - (c) The water body that received the discharge.
  - (d) A description of the level of treatment of the sewage or other waste discharged.
  - (e) An initial estimate of the amount of sewage or other waste released and the amount that reached a surface water.
  - (f) The Office of Emergency Services control number and the date and time that notification of the incident was provided to the Office of Emergency Services.
  - (g) The name of the local health officer or director of environmental health representative notified (if contacted directly); the date and time of notification; and the method of notification (e.g., phone, fax, email)."

Gerard J. Thibeault  
Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board- Santa Ana Region  
3737 Main Street, Suite 500  
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Dear Mr. Thibeault:

I certify that I have received the Monitoring and Reporting Program amendments concerning reporting discharges of sewage dated December 1, 2008.

Signature	
Name	
Title	
Agency	
NPDES or Order No. for each wastewater treatment plant.	