

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION

ORDER NO. 83-31

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE
CITY OF OCEANSIDE
ROBERT A. WEESE FILTRATION PLANT
SLUDGE DISPOSAL SITE NEAR VISTA
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds that:

1. Mr. James F. Turner, Water Utilities Director, City of Oceanside (hereinafter discharger), submitted a complete Report of Waste Discharge dated August 16, 1983, for the Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant sludge disposal site. The Report of Waste Discharge was accepted on September 16, 1983.
2. The existing water filtration plant is located at 3885 Silverleaf Lane, Vista, California, in the NE¹/₄ of Section 11, T11S, R3W, SBB&M, located on the San Marcos Quadrangle within the U.S.G.S., 7.5 Minute Topographic Series and in the Bonsall Hydrographic Subarea of the Bonsall Hydrographic Subunit of the San Luis Rey Hydrographic Unit.
3. The ²⁵16.5 million gallon per day (MGD) capacity of the Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant provides potable water to the City of Oceanside.
4. The discharger reports that filter backwash water is discharged into concrete settling basins. The supernatant from the concrete settling basins is decanted back to the plant influent and the sludge is pumped to four earthen sludge basins. After further dewater, sludge, a Group 2 waste, is then disposed on a construction spoil area adjacent to the concrete settling basins.
5. The discharger estimates that 30 cubic yards per month of sludge will be disposed on the 10,000 square foot site.
6. The sludge disposal site is underlain by a zone of two to four feet of highly weathered rock and approximately twenty feet of partially weathered rock. Sound metamorphic rock is encountered approximately thirty feet below the surface.
7. The discharger reports that a proposed 5,500 acre-foot potable water reservoir would be located downstream from the filtration plant and sludge disposal site.
8. The disposal site meets the criteria contained in the California Administrative Code, Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 15, for classification as a Class II-2 disposal site suitable to receive water treatment sludges.

9. The discharger reports that partial results of an analysis of the sludge leachate from the sludge drying beds at the Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant are as follows:

Constituent	Unit	Concentration
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	594
Chloride	mg/l	65
Sodium	mg/l	67.3
Sulfate	mg/l	164
Iron	mg/l	0.07
pH	Units	7.50
BOD, 5-day 20°C	mg/l	32.4

10. The *Comprehensive Water Quality Control Plan Report, San Diego Basin (9)* (Basin Plan) was adopted by this Regional Board on March 17, 1975; approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on March 20, 1975; and updated by the Regional Board on February 27, 1978, and March 23, 1981.
11. The Basin Plan established the following beneficial uses for the surface waters of the Bonsall Hydrographic Subunit.
- (a) Agricultural supply
 - (b) Industrial service supply
 - (c) Water contact recreation
 - (d) Noncontact water recreation
 - (e) Warm fresh water habitat
 - (f) Wildlife habitat
 - (g) Preservation of rare and endangered species
12. The Basin Plan established the following beneficial uses for the ground waters of the Bonsall Hydrographic Subunit.
- (a) Municipal and domestic supply
 - (b) Agricultural supply
 - (c) Industrial service supply
 - (d) Ground water recharge

Note: mg/l = milligrams per liter

13. The Basin Plan established the following water quality objectives for the Bonsall Hydrographic Subarea.

Constituent	Concentration not to be exceeded more than 10 percent of the time during any one year period			
	Ground Water		Surface Water	
Total Dissolved Solids	1500	mg/l ^{1/2/}	500	mg/l
Chloride	500	mg/l ^{1/2/}	250	mg/l
Percent Sodium	60		60	
Sulfate	500	mg/l ^{1/2/}	250	mg/l
Nitrogen and Phosphorus	---		*	
Nitrate	45	mg/l ^{1/2/}	---	
Iron	0.85	mg/l ^{1/2/}	0.3	mg/l
Manganese	0.15	mg/l ^{1/2/}	0.05	mg/l
Methylene Blue Active Substances	0.5	mg/l ^{1/2/}	0.5	mg/l
Boron	0.5	mg/l ^{1/2/}	0.5	mg/l
Dissolved Oxygen	---		**	
Odor	None			
Turbidity	5	NTU	20	NTU
Color	15	units ^{2/}	20	units ^{2/}
Fluoride	1.0	mg/l ^{2/}	1.0	mg/l

* Concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus, by themselves or in combination with other nutrients, shall be maintained at levels below those which stimulate algae and emergent plant growth. Threshold total Phosphorus (P) concentrations shall not exceed 0.05 mg/l in any stream at the point where it enters any standing body of water, nor 0.025 mg/l in any standing body of water. A desired goal in order to prevent plant nuisances in streams

Note: NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

A list of all footnotes referenced will be found following the last page of the waste discharge requirements section.

and other flowing waters appears to be 0.1 mg/l total P. These values are not to be exceeded more than 10 percent of the time unless studies of the specific water body in question clearly show that water quality objectives changes are permissible and changes are approved by the Regional Board. Analogous threshold values have not been set for nitrogen compounds; however, natural ratios of nitrogen to phosphorus are to be determined by surveillance and monitoring and upheld. If data are lacking, a ratio of N:P = 10:1 shall be used.

** Ninety percent or more of natural seasonal minimum oxygen concentration and more than 5.0 mg/l maintained at least 90 percent of the time.

14. The Basin Plan contains the following prohibitions which are applicable to the discharge:

"The dumping or deposition of oil, garbage, trash or other solid municipal, industrial or agricultural waste directly into inland waters or watercourses or adjacent to the watercourses in any manner which may permit its being washed into the watercourse is prohibited.

"Dumping or deposition of oil, garbage, trash or other solid municipal, industrial or agricultural waste into natural or excavated sites below historic water levels or depositions of soluble industrial wastes at any site is prohibited, unless such a site has been specifically approved by the Regional Board for that purpose.

"Land grading and similar operations causing soil disturbance which do not contain provisions to minimize soil erosion and limit suspended matter in area runoff are prohibited."

15. The City of Oceanside has prepared a negative declaration in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the State Guidelines.
16. The Regional Board has reviewed the negative declaration and determined there will be no substantial adverse changes in the environment as a result of the project.
17. The Regional Board, in establishing the requirements contained herein, considered factors including, but not limited to the following:
- (a) Past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of water.
 - (b) Environmental characteristics of the hydrographic unit under consideration, including the quality of water available thereto.

- (c) Water quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area.
 - (d) Economic considerations.
 - (e) The need for developing housing within the region.
18. The Regional Board has considered all water resource related environmental factors associated with the existing discharge of waste.
 19. The Regional Board has notified the discharger and all known interested parties of the intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the existing discharge.
 20. The Regional Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the existing discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That the City of Oceanside, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following for the Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant:

A. PROHIBITIONS

1. Discharges of wastes to lands which have not been specifically described to the Regional Board and for which valid waste discharge requirements are not in force are prohibited.
2. The discharge of any radiological, chemical or biological warfare agent, or high-level radiological waste or Group 1 waste is prohibited.
3. The discharge of sludge shall not:
 - (a) Cause the presence of coliform or pathogenic organisms in waters pumped from the basin;
 - (b) Cause the occurrence of objectionable tastes and odors in waters pumped from the basin;
 - (c) Cause waters pumped from the basin to foam;
 - (d) Cause the presence of toxic materials in waters pumped from the basin;
 - (e) Cause the pH of waters pumped from the basin to fall below 6.0 or rise above 9.0;

- (f) Cause this Regional Board's objectives for the ground or surface waters of the Bonsall Hydrographic Subunit as established in the Comprehensive Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region to be exceeded;
 - (g) Cause odors, septicity, mosquitos or other vectors, weed growth or other nuisance conditions.
 - (h) Cause a surface flow off the City of Oceanside's property.
4. Odors, vectors, and other nuisances of sludge origin beyond the limits of the treatment plant site or disposal area are prohibited.

B. *DISCHARGE SPECIFICATION*

1. All waste treatment, containment and disposal facilities shall be protected against 100-year peak stream flows as defined by the San Diego County flood control agency.
2. All waste treatment, containment and disposal facilities shall be protected against erosion, overland runoff and other impacts resulting from a 100-year frequency 24-hour storm.
3. Surface drainage from tributary areas, and internal site drainage from surface or subsurface sources, shall not contact or percolate through wastes discharged at the site.
4. No liquids shall be deposited at this site, and water used during disposal site operations shall be limited to a minimal amount reasonably necessary for dust control purposes.
5. Annually, prior to the anticipated rainfall period, all necessary runoff diversion channels shall be in place to prevent erosion or flooding of the site.
6. Runoff from tributary irrigated areas shall not be allowed to flow into water treatment sludge wastes or areas containing water treatment sludge wastes.
7. No water treatment sludge wastes shall be placed in ponded water from any source.
8. The exterior surfaces of the disposal area shall be graded to promote lateral runoff of precipitation and to prevent ponding.
9. The discharger shall remove and relocate any wastes which are discharged at this site in violation of these requirements.

C. PROVISIONS

1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of pollutants shall create a pollution, contamination or nuisance as defined by Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
2. The discharger must comply with all conditions of this Order. Any waste discharge requirement noncompliance constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and is grounds for (a) enforcement action; (b) for waste discharge requirement termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or (c) for the denial of a Report of Waste Discharge renewal application.
3. In an enforcement action, it shall not be a defense for the discharger that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with this Order. Upon reduction, loss, or failure of the treatment facility, the discharger shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with this Order, control production or all discharges, or both, until the facility is restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided. This provision applies, for example, when the primary source of power for the treatment facility fails, is reduced, or is lost.
4. The discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact on the environment resulting from noncompliance with this Order.
5. The discharger shall, at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order.
6. This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the discharger for the modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination of this Order, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any condition of this Order.
7. This Order is not transferrable to any person except after notice to the Executive Officer. The Regional Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of this Order to change the name of the discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the California Water Code.

8. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privilege. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to the property of another, nor protect the discharger from his liabilities under federal, state or local laws, nor create a vested right for the discharger to continue his waste discharge.
9. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
 - (a) Enter upon the discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this Order;
 - (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order;
 - (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order; and
 - (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring compliance with this Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location.
10. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant and shall be available to operating personnel at all times.

D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. The discharger shall file a new Report of Waste Discharge within 120 days prior to the following:
 - (a) Significant change in disposal method (e.g., change in the method of treatment which would significantly alter the nature of the waste).
 - (b) Significant change in the disposal area (e.g., moving the discharge to another drainage area, or to a disposal area significantly removed from the original area, potentially causing different water quality or a nuisance problem).
 - (c) Other circumstances which result in a material change in character, amount, or location of the waste discharge.
 - (d) Any planned changes in the regulated facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with these waste discharge requirements.

2. The Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant sludge disposal site shall be completely constructed and operable prior to the initiation of disposal of wastes at the site. A report from the design engineer certifying the adequacy of the disposal facility shall be submitted by the discharger. The certification report shall contain a requirement-by-requirement analysis, based on acceptable engineering practices, of how the process and physical design of the facilities will ensure compliance with the waste discharge requirements. The design engineer shall affix his signature and engineering license number to the certification report and should submit it prior to construction of the facilities. The discharge shall not be initiated until:
 - (a) The certification report is received;
 - (b) The Regional Board has been notified of the completion of facilities by the discharger;
 - (c) An inspection of the facilities has been made by staff of the Regional Board; and
 - (d) Staff has notified the discharger by letter that the discharge can be initiated.
3. The discharger shall furnish to the Executive Officer of this Regional Board, within a reasonable time, any information which the Executive Officer may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order. The discharger shall also furnish to the Executive Officer, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this Order.
4. The discharger must notify the Executive Officer, in writing, at least 30 days in advance of any proposed transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage to a new discharger. The notice must include a written agreement between the existing and new discharger containing a specific date for the transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage between the current discharger and the new discharger. This agreement shall include an acknowledgment that the existing discharger is liable for violations up to the transfer date and that the new discharger is liable from the transfer date on.
5. The discharger shall comply with the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 83-31. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 83-31.
6. Where the discharger becomes aware that they failed to submit any relevant facts in a Report of Waste Discharge, or submitted incorrect information in a Report of Waste Discharge or in any report to the Regional Board, they shall promptly submit such facts or information.

7. The discharger shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally to the Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected; the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours. The following occurrence(s) must be reported to the Executive Officer within 24 hours:
 - (a) Any bypass from any portion of the treatment facility.
 - (b) Any discharge of treated or untreated wastewater resulting from sewer line breaks, obstruction, surcharge or any other circumstance.
 - (c) Any treatment plant upset which causes the effluent limitations of this Order to be exceeded.
8. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Executive Officer of this Regional Board shall be signed as follows:
 - (a) The Report of Waste Discharge shall be signed as follows:
 - (1) *For a corporation* - by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice-president.
 - (2) *For a partnership or sole proprietorship* - by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
 - (3) *For a municipality, state, federal or other public agency* - by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
 - (b) All other reports required by this Order and other information required by the Executive Officer shall be signed by a person designated in paragraph (a) of this provision, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. An individual is a duly authorized representative only if:
 - (1) The authorization is made in writing by a person described in paragraph (a) of this provision;
 - (2) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity; and

- (3) The written authorization is submitted to the Executive Officer.
9. The discharger shall submit reports required under this Order, or other information required by the Executive Officer, to:

Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
6154 Mission Gorge Road, Suite 205
San Diego, California 92120

E. NOTIFICATIONS

1. These requirements have not been officially reviewed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and are not issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.
2. The California Water Code provides that any person who intentionally or negligently violates any waste discharge requirement issued, reissued, or amended by this Regional Board is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$6,000 per day.
3. The California Water Code provides that any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports, as required under this Order, or falsifying any information provided in the monitoring reports is guilty of a misdemeanor.

I, Ladin H. Delaney, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on November 14, 1983.

Ladin H. Delaney

*Ladin H. Delaney
Executive Officer*

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION

Footnote references for waste discharge requirements of Order No. 83-31,
*Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Oceanside, Robert A. Weese
Filtration Plant Sludge Disposal Site Near Vista, San Diego County*

1. The recommended plan would allow for measurable degradation of ground water in this basin to permit continued agricultural land use. Point sources, however, would be controlled to achieve effluent quality corresponding to the tabulated numerical values. In future years demineralization may be used to treat ground water to the desired quality prior to use.
2. A portion of the Upper Mission Basin is being considered as an underground potable water storage reservoir for treated imported water. The area is located north of Highway 76 on the boundary of hydrographic subareas 3.11 and 3.12. If this program is adopted, local objectives approaching the quality of the imported water would be set and rigorously pursued.