

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**INVESTIGATIVE ORDER NO. R9-2007-0081  
FOR  
FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT'S  
DISCHARGE OF TERTIARY TREATED EFFLUENT TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN, DUE  
TO A LINE BREAK IN THE FALLBROOK LAND OUTFALL PIPE**

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

1. Fallbrook Public Utility District (hereinafter FPUD) owns and operates the FPUD wastewater treatment plant No. 1 and the Fallbrook land outfall pipeline, including the section of the Fallbrook land outfall pipeline located at the intersection of Oceanside Boulevard and Cleveland Street in Oceanside, San Diego County. The Fallbrook land outfall pipeline conveys tertiary treated effluent from the FPUD wastewater treatment plant No. 1 to the Oceanside Ocean Outfall.
2. Pursuant to Order No R9-2006-002 (NPDES Permit No. CA 0108031) FPUD is permitted to discharge up to 2.7 million gallons per day (MGD) of tertiary treated effluent from the FPUD wastewater treatment plant No. 1 to the Pacific Ocean via the Oceanside Ocean Outfall. Order No. 91-39 also establishes waste discharge requirements for the discharge of tertiary treated effluent from the FPUD wastewater treatment plant No. 1 to recycled water use sites in Fallbrook.
3. FPUD notified the Regional Board of a 135,000-gallon discharge of tertiary treated effluent that occurred on April 21, 2007 between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm from a section of the Fallbrook land outfall located at the intersection of Oceanside Boulevard and Cleveland Street in Oceanside, San Diego County. FPUD reported that the discharge occurred as a result of a 3 inch diameter hole in a section of the Fallbrook land outfall pipe. FPUD also reported that 105,000-gallons of tertiary treated effluent entered the Pacific Ocean via a storm drain, while 30,000 gallons were recovered using vector trucks.
4. The above stated discharge is in violation of Prohibitions A1. and A8. of Order No 91-39. Prohibition A1. of Order No. 91-39 prohibits the discharge of wastes, including windblown spray and runoff of effluent applied for irrigation, to lands which have not been specifically described in the report of waste discharge and for which valid waste discharge requirements have not been established, while Prohibition A 8. of Order No. 91-39 prohibits the discharge of waste in a manner other than as described in the findings of Order No. 91-39.

5. Pursuant to CWC Section 13267, the Regional Board may investigate the quality of waters of the state by requiring dischargers to submit technical or monitoring reports.
6. Submittal of technical information is necessary to determine the nature, circumstances, extent and gravity of the April 21, 2007 discharge of tertiary treated effluent.
7. The costs associated with providing the information, including sampling, analysis and reporting, are reasonable for assessing the circumstances of an illicit discharge of tertiary treated effluent of the magnitude of this incident to waters of the state.
8. This action is for information gathering purposes and, as such, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 2100 Et seq.) in accordance with Section 15306, Chapter 3, Title 14, California Administration Code.

**FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, pursuant to California Water Code section 13267, to submit a technical report to the Regional Board no later than **5:00 PM, May 23, 2007**. The technical report must include the following:


1. Detailed information about the nature and circumstances that resulted in the discharge from the land outfall pipe. Include the chronology of events from when the spill was determined and the names and contact information of all FPUD personnel that responded to the incident and/or that were involved in onsite repairs.
2. An explanation of how the volume of tertiary effluent discharged and the volume of effluent recovered were estimated. Provide any supporting documentation such as tabular or graphical flow monitoring data of flow volumes in the subject pipeline or at the treatment plant during that might help quantify the discharge volume.
3. Detailed chronological descriptions of all actions taken by FPUD and/or the City of Oceanside to terminate the discharge, repair the land outfall pipeline, and mitigate any impacts. Please include an evaluation of the results of these actions.
4. The age and condition of the land outfall pipe, as well as the date and extent of the last preventive maintenance and/or inspection (e.g. line cleaning, closed-circuit television inspection) that was performed on the land outfall pipe prior to April 21, 2007 discharge.
5. Copies of any photographs taken during or after the discharge. Photographs shall include appropriate identifying information, such as date taken, name of

photographer, and textual summary of information being presented, as well as its relevance.

6. Any other pertinent information that will assist the Regional Board in evaluating this discharge.

All information provided in response to this Request for Technical Information must include the following signed certification statement:

*"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."*

  
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JOHN H. ROBERTUS  
Executive Officer

3 May 2007  
Date

JHR: mpm: rwm: oo