

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

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**ORDER NO. R9-2019-0012  
AMENDING**

**ORDER NO. R9-2014-0009  
As Amended by Order Nos. R9-2014-0094 and R9-2017-0024,  
NPDES NO. CA0108928**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE UNITED STATES SECTION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
SOUTH BAY INTERNATIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT,  
DISCHARGE TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN VIA THE SOUTH BAY OCEAN OUTFALL**

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

**Background**

1. On June 26, 2014, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2014-0009 (NPDES No. CA0108928), establishing waste discharge requirements for the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (Discharger or USIBWC) to discharge up to 25 million gallons per day (MGD) of secondary-treated effluent from the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) into the Pacific Ocean via the South Bay Ocean Outfall (SBOO).
2. On November 12, 2014, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2014-0094 to correct the requirements for the screening period for whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing contained in section III.C of Attachment E of Order No. R9-2014-0009, to make requested clarifications to Order No. R9-2014-0009, and to correct other typographical errors.
3. On December 13, 2017, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2017-0024 to modify the SBOO receiving water monitoring program, aligning the program with the Point Loma Ocean Outfall receiving water monitoring program. Order No. R9-2017-0024 also modified the monitoring requirements for chromium, bringing the requirements in line with current available approved analytical methods.

**Purpose of this Order**

4. The SBIWTP, which is owned and operated by the USIBWC, receives sewage wastewater flows from Tijuana, Mexico through a connection to the Tijuana sewage collection system. Order No. R9-2014-0009, section VI.C.5.a.i requires USIBWC to develop and comply with concentration limitations and mass emission rates for the influent to the SBIWTP facility referred to as Maximum Allowable Headworks Allocations (MAHA). The MAHA provide a means for helping to ensure an adequate pretreatment program is implemented in Tijuana and to prevent the introduction of pollutants into the wastewater from Tijuana that could potentially inhibit or disrupt treatment operations at the SBIWTP.

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5. Order No. R9-2014-0009, section VI.C.5.a.i required USIBWC to submit a report with the proposed influent limitations, referred to as the MAHA Report, to the San Diego Water Board for approval and incorporation into Order No. R9-2014-0009. The approved and incorporated influent limitations will supersede the interim limitations currently set forth in Order No. R9-2014-0009, section VI.C.5.a.ii, Table 7, *Interim Influent Limitations*.
6. USIBWC submitted the MAHA Report on June 18, 2018. The proposed influent limitations in the MAHA Report are listed in the following table:

Parameter	Average Monthly Influent Limitation	
	Milligrams per liter (mg/l) *	Pounds per day (lbs/day)
Antimony	0.44	92
Arsenic	0.0403	8.41
Cadmium	0.0165	3.44
Chromium, Total	0.257	53.6
Copper	0.0480	10.0
Cyanide	0.103	21.4
Lead	0.259	54.0
Mercury	0.00369	0.77
Molybdenum	0.337	70.2
Nickel	0.218	45.5
Selenium	0.0208	4.34
Silver	0.0916	19.1
Thallium, Total	0.212	44.2
Zinc	0.0820	17.1
Chlorodibromomethane (Dibromochloromethane)	2.61	545
Chloroform	0.0116	2.41
Phenol	3.26	680
Tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (TCDD) Equivalents	0.000000233	0.0000486
Toluene	150.00	31,275

\* Concentration-based influent limitations based on the facility permitted flow of 25 MGD.

7. The San Diego Water Board is amending Order No. R9-2014-0009 to approve and incorporate the influent limitations contained in the June 18, 2018 MAHA Report cited in Finding 6 above.

### Legal Authorities

8. Section 13263(e) of the California Water Code provides that the San Diego Water Board may, upon application by any affected person, or on its own motion, review and revise waste discharge requirements. Section 122.62(a) of title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations authorizes the reopening and modification of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit based upon new information.
9. Order No. R9-2014-0009 is not being reopened for any other purpose than the revisions contained herein. Except as contradicted or superseded by the findings and directives set forth in this Order, all of the previous findings and directives of Order No. R9-2014-0009, as amended by Order Nos. R9-2014-0094 and R9-2017-0024, shall remain in full force and effect.

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**California Environmental Quality Act**

10. This action is exempt from the requirement for preparation of environmental documents under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, division 13, chapter 3, section 21000 *et seq.*) in accordance with section 13389 of the Water Code.

**Public Participation**

11. The San Diego Water Board has notified all known interested parties of its intent to adopt this Order and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.

12. The San Diego Water Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to adoption of this Order.

13. Any person aggrieved by this action of the San Diego Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 *et seq.* The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the adoption date of this Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. This Order amends Order No. R9-2014-0009, NPDES No. CA0108928, as described in the revised version included as Attachment 1 to this Order. Added text to Order No. R9-2014-0009 is displayed in red-underline text and deleted text is displayed as ~~red-strikeout~~ text. Modifications to Order No. R9-2014-0009 were made to the following sections:

<u>Page No.</u>	<u>Section No.</u>
33 through 34	Section VI.C.5.a.ii
F-39	Attachment F, Section VI.B.5.a

2. The amended version of Order No. R9-2014-0009, included as Attachment 1 to this Order, shall become effective on February 13, 2019.

3. San Diego Water Board staff is directed to prepare and post a conformed copy of Order No. R9-2014-0009, as amended by Order Nos. R9-2014-0094 and R9-2017-0024, incorporating the revisions made by this Order.

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on February 13, 2019.

TENTATIVE  
David W. Gibson  
Executive Officer