

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 83-34

CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT OF THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL
PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN BY THE ADDITION OF A
PROHIBITION OF WASTE DISCHARGE FROM INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DIS-
POSAL SYSTEMS WITHIN THE MISSION CANYON AREA, SANTA BARBARA
COUNTY

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (Regional Board) adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (basin plan) on March 14, 1975.
2. Division 7 of the California Water Code specifies that basin plans will be periodically reviewed and may be revised.
3. Most of Mission Canyon is an unincorporated community of 2,400 persons located adjacent to the City of Santa Barbara in Santa Barbara County.
4. On-site soil absorption or evapotranspiration systems are the sole means of wastewater disposal in the Mission Canyon area.
5. The Mission Canyon area has soils with low percolation capacity, steep slopes, and shallow depth to bedrock.
6. The predominate lot size in Mission Canyon of 6,000 to 10,000 square-feet is too small to accommodate individual sewage disposal systems under such adverse geologic conditions.
7. In 1978, the Santa Barbara County Department of Health Care Services completed a report which included a 1958 survey of 294 residences. On-site investigations revealed 32 problem disposal systems. Of those interviewed, 174 residents alluded to the potential of having problems if they were not water-conservation minded.
8. In updating of the County Department of Health Care Services' records in 1982, 172 separate well-documented system failures were counted from 1955 to 1982. Of the 200 documented complaints for the period 1955 to 1982, 44 percent (9 percent of the total parcels developed) dealt with surfacing effluent.
9. The Santa Barbara County Department of Health Care Services conducted surface water sampling which indicated human waste contamination of Mission Creek.
10. The Regional Board has evaluated a draft project report that identifies adverse environmental impacts from continued use of septic tanks in the Mission Canyon area and discusses alternative wastewater management plans. Alternatives evaluated include individual and community subsurface disposal systems, establishing an on-site maintenance district, and conventional sewerage systems.

12. Mission Canyon's Phase I report cites conditions which constitute contamination and pollution as defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
13. Based on the above facts and findings, on February 25, 1983, after a public hearing, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 83-04 revising Chapter 5 of the basin plan to include a discharge prohibition of the Mission Canyon area.
14. On March 14, 1983, the Regional Board submitted a request for State Board consideration of approval for the above-titled basin plan amendment in accordance with Section 13245 of the California Water Code.
15. The Regional Board has followed appropriate procedures to satisfy all relevant State statutes.
16. The State Board concurs that effluent disposal and ground water conditions are in need of remedy to protect present and potential beneficial uses of water and to prevent pollution and nuisance problems.
17. Basin plan amendments do not become effective until approved by the State Board. The State Board may approve the amendments or remand them to the Regional Board for reconsideration.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the basin plan be amended as follows:

- o Under "Local Governing Jurisdiction Recommendation" section, add "Mission Canyon" to the discussion pertaining to on-site wastewater management plans as follows:

"On-site wastewater management plans should be prepared and implemented by local governing jurisdictions (e.g., County Planning Departments) for applicable portions of San Martin, San Lorenzo Valley, Carmel Valley, Carmel Highlands, Prunedale, El Torro/Canyon Del Rey, Santa Margarita/Garden Farms, Los Osos/Baywood Park, Arroyo Grande, Nipomo, Los Alamos, upper Santa Ynez Valley, Los Olivos/Ballard, and Mission Canyon." *

- o Insert the following prohibition:

"Discharge of waste from additional individual sewage disposal systems is prohibited and the discharge of waste from existing individual sewage disposal systems is prohibited after July 1, 1986, in portions of Mission Canyon, Santa Barbara County, and more particularly described as:

* The language contained in this paragraph was proposed in Regional Board Resolution No. 82-09 dated December 10, 1982. This resolution has not yet been approved by the State Board. Therefore, approval of the language pertaining to on-site wastewater management plans is contingent upon further State Board action.

Surface Water Prohibition Zone

This zone is 200 (horizontal) feet wide and extends 100 feet either side of Mission Canyon, Rattlesnake Canyon and Lauro (Diablo) Canyon Creeks' surface water flow line. The Mission Canyon Creek 200 foot zone begins at the southwest corner of the county boundary and terminates at the northernmost boundary of Township 4 North, Range 27 West, Section 4 San Bernardino Base and Meridian. The Rattlesnake Canyon Creek 200 foot zone begins at the point of confluence with Mission Canyon Creek and Terminates upstream at the city/county boundary. The Lauro (Diablo) Canyon Creek 200 foot zone applies to the portion of the creek upstream from Lauro Reservoir.

Prohibition Area Description

Prohibition area description is included as Attachment A.

Those parcels with existing systems within the surface water prohibition zone are subject to the conditions of the prohibition. The property owner must relocate the discharge outside the designated zone by July 1, 1986 to a site compatible with the basin plan siting criteria."

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on May 24, 1983.


Clint Whitney
Executive Director