

SUMMARY OF WATER QUALITY ORDER

ORDER NO.	WQO 2008-0008
DATE ADOPTED	September 2, 2008
PETITION TITLE	Petition of CALIFORNIA SPORTFISHING PROTECTION ALLIANCE
POPULAR NAME <i>[if applicable]</i>	CALSPA
REGIONAL BOARD	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
FILE NO[S]	SWRCB/OCC File A-1894

PRECEDENTIAL DECISION

The City of Davis owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant with a dry weather design flow of about 7.5 million gallons a day. Wastewater is discharged to either the Willow Slough Bypass or the Conaway Ranch Toe Drain, both of which are waters of the United States. The discharges flow to the Yolo Bypass, which is within the Sacramento River watershed.

Petitioner raised a series of objections to the permit issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board for the wastewater treatment plant owned and operated by the City of Davis. The contentions addressed in this order deal with Permit provisions related to chronic toxicity, hardness-dependent metals, and electrical conductivity. The order remands the permit to the regional board to address several issues. Those concern the toxicity of the discharge, various hardness determinations in the effluent limitations, and electrical conductivity. Unless otherwise indicated, issues not addressed by this order are deemed dismissed.

The order directs the regional board to do eight things on remand. It is to amend the permit to add a narrative limit for chronic toxicity, to add acute and chronic effluent limitations for copper, and to add an effluent limitation for silver at one discharge point. The regional board is ordered to revise the Fact Sheet discussion of hardness and those of reasonable potential for lead, zinc, nickel, copper, and silver at one or more discharge points. The regional board is also ordered to review the electrical conductivity study prepared and submitted by the City of Woodland to determine its applicability to this permit.