

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
81 Higuera Street, Suite 200
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-5427**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
ORDER NO. 97-40
FOR
CAL-AGRA, INC.
HOLLISTER, SAN BENITO COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (hereafter Board), finds:

1. Cal-Agra, Inc. (hereafter Discharger), owns and operates a fertilizer and agricultural chemicals (herbicides and pesticides) sales and application business at 2790 Buena Vista Road, Hollister, in San Benito County as shown on Attachment "A" of this Order. There are orchards adjacent to the facility to its east, west, and north. Buena Vista Road is immediately south of the facility. San Benito River is about 2,000 feet south of the facility.
2. Discharger submitted a complete Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) on March 4, 1997. Cal-Agra requested to start operating before adoption of this Order. Board staff did not object to this request on the condition that Cal-Agra implements the Operation and Maintenance Plan contained in the ROWD. Cal-Agra started operating at the site on March 10, 1997.
3. Cal-Agra sells fertilizer and applies it to farmlands using ground application equipment. Pesticides and herbicides are stored at the facility and delivered to the point of application. Farmers are responsible for farm application of

pesticides or herbicides as well as the proper handling and disposal of empty pesticides and herbicides containers. Good housekeeping practices are needed to prevent fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides spills at the facility.

4. Cal-Agra used to operate a similar business at 640 McCray Street in Hollister. Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 91-34 regulates the handling and disposal of wastewater, agricultural chemicals, and fertilizer rinsewater at the previous location. The Discharger is in the process of closing that facility.
5. Washing or rinsing of equipment is done on a concrete rinse pad equipped with a rinsate collection system. The rinse pad is located at the northeastern section of the facility as shown on Attachment "B" of this Order. The wash pad is sloped toward a concrete sump at the center of the wash pad. Wastewater from the sump is pumped into an above ground polyethylene storage tank. The rinsewater is used for orchard or landscape irrigation. Good housekeeping practices are needed to prevent soil and ground water contamination that may result from improper handling and disposal of wastewater.

6. Domestic wastes are discharged to an on-site septic system regulated by the San Benito County Health Department.
 7. A February 1991 well log from an adjacent property at 2680 Buena Vista Road shows lithology beneath the site consists of brown clay to a depth of about 40 feet below ground surface, gravelly sand to about 55 feet, silty sand and small gravel to about 85 feet, blue clay with some gravel to about 180 feet, and blue clay with more gravel to 205 feet. Ground water was first encountered at about 150 feet below ground surface. There is no available information on the local ground water flow direction; however, the October 1991 Luhdorff & Scalmanini report, "San Benito County Ground Water Investigation" states the ground water from the San Juan Valley flows eastward toward a cone of depression in the vicinity of Hollister.
 8. Analytical results of an April 1997, ground water sample collected from an on-site well show 6.6 mg/l nitrate and 1,120 mg/l total dissolved solids.
 9. The Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Basin (Basin Plan), was revised and adopted by the Board on September 8, 1994. The Basin Plan incorporates statewide plans and policies by reference and contains a strategy for protecting beneficial uses of State waters. The Basin Plan states that whenever the existing water quality is better than what is established by objectives, the existing quality shall be maintained.
 10. Potential beneficial uses of ground water that could be affected by the discharge include municipal and domestic supply, agricultural supply, and industrial supply.
 11. Discharge of waste is a privilege, not a right, and authorization to discharge is conditional upon the discharge complying with provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, to protect beneficial uses, and to prevent nuisance. Compliance with this Order should assure conditions are met and mitigate any potential adverse changes in water quality due to the facility's operation.
 12. The San Benito County Planning Commission adopted on July 17, 1996, a Negative Declaration for the Cal-Agra facility in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.) and State Guidelines.
 13. On **June 23, 1997**, the Board notified the Discharger, interested agencies and persons of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for the discharge, and has provided them with a copy of the proposed Order and an opportunity to submit written views and comments, and scheduled a public hearing.
- IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, pursuant to authority in Section 13263 of the California Water Code, CalAgra, Inc., its agents, successors, and assigns, shall maintain compliance with the following:
- (Note: General permit conditions, definitions and the method of determining compliance are contained in the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements," dated January, 1984, included as part of this Order. Applicable paragraphs are referenced in paragraph C.8. of this Order.

Throughout the Order, requirements taken from the Basin Plan are marked by an "A" superscript and those not marked are based on professional judgment.)

A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

1. Discharge, overflow, bypass, leakage, seepage, and overspray of any waste or contaminated site runoff water to drainageways and adjacent properties are prohibited.
2. Discharge of hazardous materials at the site, other than to impermeable containment vessels, is prohibited.
3. Discharge of wastes that may adversely affect surface and ground water quality is prohibited.

B. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

1. Empty pesticide containers shall be disposed only at a disposal site approved by the Regional Board to receive these wastes. Opened and non-waterproof containers shall be properly stored and protected to prevent spillage, overtopping and leakage which could impact surface or ground water quality.
2. Pesticide/fertilizer waste, shall be discharged to a regulated waste disposal site approved by the Board to receive hazardous and/or toxic waste, or recycled or treated onsite, unless it is demonstrated by analysis that the waste is non-hazardous/non-toxic and the Executive Officer acknowledges same in writing.
3. Fertilizer storage tank sludge and fertilizer spill cleanup material may be applied to

farmland in accordance with good agricultural practice.

4. Residues from pesticide spill cleanup and/or other activity, such as yard scraping, shall be discharged to an appropriate waste disposal site approved by the Board, unless it is demonstrated by analysis that the material can be safely applied at non-regulated sites and application is approved in writing by the Executive Officer.
5. Surface drainage shall be intercepted and diverted away from areas where the water may be contaminated by business activities.
6. All storm drainage contaminated as a result of operations at this facility shall be contained and properly disposed.
7. Collected and stored rinsewater containing pesticide or fertilizer residues shall be disposed in accordance with the law and in a manner approved by the Board. If applied to farmland, it shall be applied in amounts considered to be sound agricultural practice.
8. Storage and transport of hazardous materials shall be in compliance with state laws and regulations.
9. Discharge shall not contain taste or odor producing substances in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.^A
10. Discharge shall not cause ground water to contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 15, Article 5.5, Section 64444.5, Table 5 as listed below.^A

	<u>Constituent</u>	<u>mg/l</u>
(a)	Chlorinated Hydrocarbons	
	Endrin	0.0002
	Lindane	0.004
	Methoxychlor	0.1
	Toxaphene	0.005
(b)	Chlorophenoxy	
	2,4-D	0.1
	2,4,5-TP Silvex	0.01
(c)	Synthetics	
	Atrazine	0.003
	Bentazone	0.018
	Benzene	0.001
	Carbon Tetrachloride	0.0005
	Dibromochloropropane	0.0002
	1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.005
	1,2-Dichloroethane	0.0005
	1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.006
	1,3-Dichloropropene	0.0005
	Ethylbenzene	0.680
	Ethylene Dibromide	0.00002
	Molinate	0.02
	Monochlorobenzene	0.03
	Simazine	0.01
	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	0.001
	Tetrachloroethylene	0.005
	Thiobencarb	0.07
	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.2
	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.032
	Trichloroethylene	0.005
	Vinyl Chloride	0.0005
	*Xylenes	1.75

* MCL is for either a single isomer or the sum of the isomers.

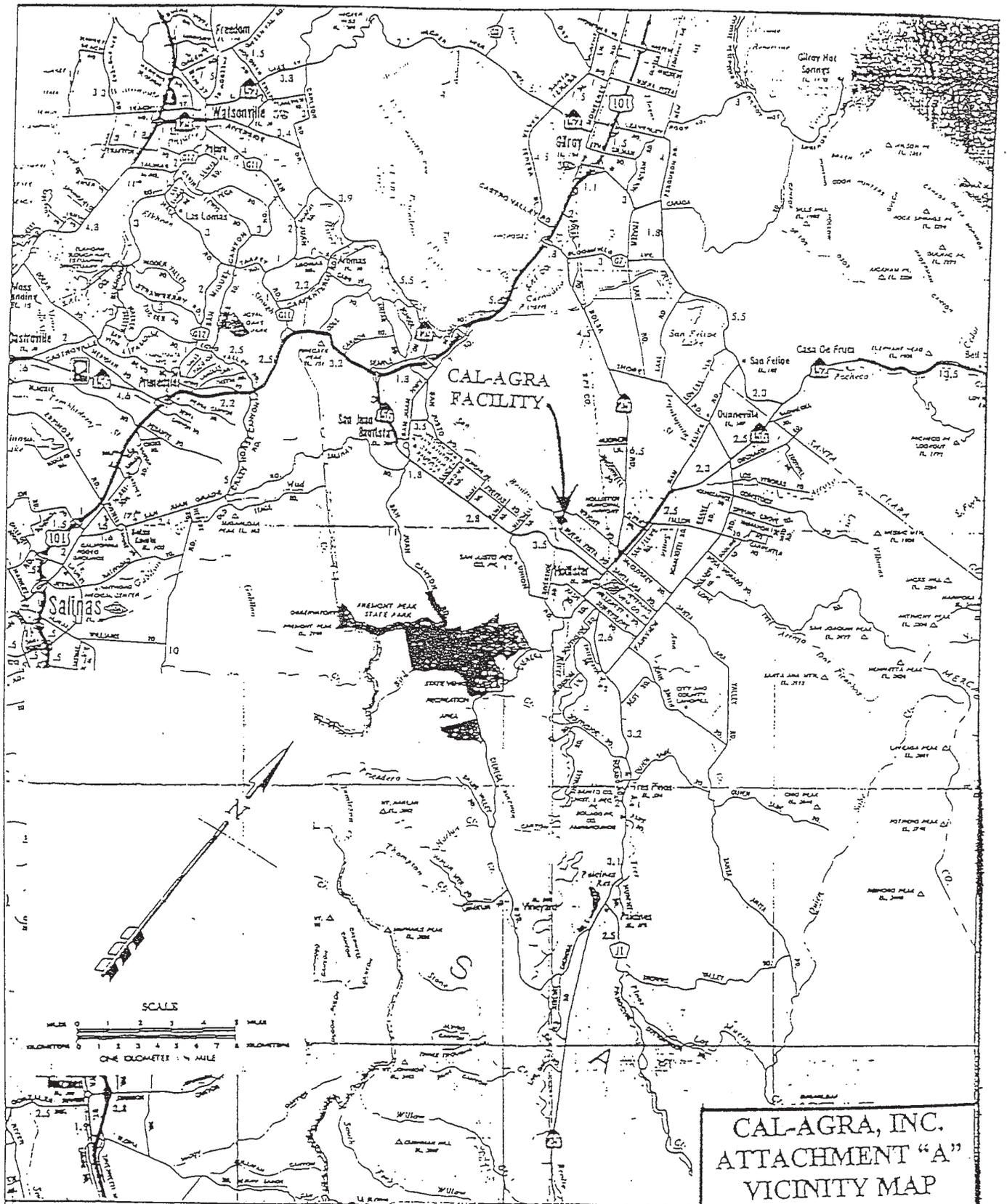
11. Discharge shall not cause concentrations of chemical constituents in ground water to exceed limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, , Chapter 15, Article 4, Sections 64435, Tables 2 and 3 as listed below.^A

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Maximum Contaminant Level</u> <u>mg/l</u>
Aluminum	1.0
Arsenic	0.05
Barium	1.0
Cadmium	0.01
Chromium	0.05
Lead	0.05
Mercury	0.002
Selenium	0.01
Silver	0.05

C. PROVISIONS

- Discharger shall maintain a copy of this Order at the site where they are always available to operating personnel and regulatory authorities.
- Discharger shall immediately cleanup any dry fertilizer spill on unpaved areas. Dry fertilizer spills in paved areas may be cleaned up at the end of day provided there is no probability of rain on that day. Liquid fertilizer spills shall be cleaned up immediately unless spill is contained in a paved and bermed area. Liquid fertilizer tanks shall be provided with an impermeable dual containment.
- Discharger shall immediately cleanup any pesticide or herbicide spills whether the surface is paved or not.
- Discharger shall notify the Regional Board's Executive Officer and the San Benito County Health Department of significant spills within four hours of occurrence.
- Discharger shall pump out the wastewater sump when full. At a minimum, the wastewater sump shall be pumped out at the end of each day.
- Any material discharged at this site in violation of this Order shall be cleaned up, removed, and used or disposed of properly.
- Discharger shall have continuing responsibility for correcting any problems that may arise in the future as a result of this business operation or of water applied to this property during subsequent use of the land for other purposes.

8. Discharger shall comply with items of the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements", dated January, 1984, listed below:
 - A. 3, 7, 12, 14, 18 through 24, and 26.
 - B. 1 and 3 through 7.
 - C. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 10 through 15.
 - E. 1 through 4.
 - F. 1, 2, 6, 8, 13, 15, 16, 18 and 19.
9. Discharger shall comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 97-40 as specified by the Executive Officer.
10. Pursuant to Title 23, Chapter 3, Sub-Chapter 9, of the California Code of Regulations, the Discharger must submit a written report to the Executive Officer not later than April 1, 2002, that addresses:
 - a. Whether there will be changes in the continuity, character, location, or volume of wastewater over the subsequent five years; and,
 - b. Whether, in the Discharger's opinion, there is any portion of the Order that is incorrect, obsolete, or otherwise in need of revision.



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
81 Higuera Street, Suite 200
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-5427

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 97-40

for

CAL-AGRA, INC.
HOLLISTER, SAN BENITO COUNTY

WASTE DISPOSAL/REFUSE MONITORING

Discharger shall maintain records of the following information:

1. Volumes of liquids and solids containing Group I wastes that are transported and disposed offsite. Disposal site(s) shall be identified.
2. Volumes of fertilizer residues or rinsewater used onsite for irrigation or disposed offsite (including that applied to farmlands). Disposal site(s) shall be identified.
3. Records of all onsite spills of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other chemical and subsequent cleanup actions.
4. Results of analysis of fertilizer rinsewater used onsite or disposed offsite for **total dissolved solids, nitrate and chemical constituents listed in items 10 and 11 of B. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS*** of this Order. The analysis shall be conducted at least annually (no later than September 30 of every year). Samples shall be collected from the first batch of rinsewater used during the annual reporting period (October 1 through September 30). Analytical data shall be submitted with monitoring reports.

* In lieu of analyzing for the chemical constituents in B.10 and 11, the Discharger may submit a certification, under penalty of perjury, that there were no spills or discharges of these chemicals during the reporting period.

Field records or logs used for tracking the above listed items shall be maintained onsite and made available to Board staff for review upon request.

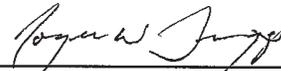
PAVED AREAS AND SUMPS MONITORING

Discharger shall conduct a thorough annual inspection of all paved areas and wastewater sumps by September 30 of every year. The paved areas and sumps shall be inspected for cracks or holes that allow the discharge of nitrate contaminated wastewater to the soil and ground water. Results of the inspection and follow up corrective actions (if applicable) shall be recorded and reported. The report shall confirm the site is ready for winter.

REPORTING

Monitoring reports shall be submitted annually on the 20th day of October. All reports in this Monitoring and Reporting Program are required pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267.

ORDERED BY:



Roger W. Briggs
Executive Officer

9-7-97

Date