

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

**FACT SHEET
APPLICATION FOR
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
AND
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
TO DISCHARGE TO STATE WATERS**

Public Notice No. 00-001
NPDES No. CA0104973
Board Order No. 00-014

Coachella Valley Water District
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the Regional Board proposed to renew waste discharge requirements for the discharge. The tentative proposed determinations are described below.

Description of Proposed Discharge

Coachella Valley Water District owns a sewage collection, treatment and disposal system that provides sewage services to the Coachella Valley area. The wastewater treatment facility is located at 63-002 Fillmore Street in Thermal, Ca. 92274.

The wastewater facility provides treatment through a lagoon system, preceded by headworks consisting of two pre-aeration ponds and a screening facility (screens, conveyor, washer/compactor, parshall flumes, headworks building, and odor control). There are 16 aeration lagoons and 8 polishing ponds . Currently, the wastewater treatment facility is designed for a maximum daily flow of 7.0 million-gallons-day (MGD).

Treated effluent is chlorinated and dechlorinated prior to discharged into the Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel.

Basis for Discharge Specifications

Effluent discharged from this facility could contain pollutants in sufficient quantities to affect receiving water quality. Pursuant to Section 13263, Article 4, Chapter 4 of the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Regional Boards are required to issue Waste Discharge Requirements for discharges that could affect the quality of the State's waters. Furthermore, Federal Regulation 40 CFR 122.1 requires the issuance of NPDES permits for pollutants discharges from a point source to the waters of the United States. The draft discharge requirements contain specific discharge limitations for selected pollutants.

Constituents

Basis for Limitations

Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD)	Discharge is to waters that support aquatic life, which is dependent on oxygen. Organic matter in the discharge may consume oxygen as it breaks down.
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	High levels of suspended solids can adversely impact aquatic habitat. Untreated or improperly treated wastewater can contain high amounts of suspended solids.
Settleable Matter	High levels of settleable matter can have an adverse effect on aquatic habitat. Untreated or improperly treated wastewater can contain high amounts of settleable matter.
Hydrogen Ion (pH)	Hydrogen Ion (pH) is a measure of Hydrogen Ion concentration in the water. A range specified between 6 to 9 ensures suitability of biological life. This limitation has been adopted in the Basin Plan of the Region
Toxicity	Toxicity testing ensures that the effluent does not contain metals, chemicals, pesticides or other constituents in concentration toxic to aquatic life.
E. Coli	These limits are required by the Basin Plan for waters designated for water contact recreation (REC1).
Flow	The present design capacity is 7.0 MGD.
Chlorine	High levels of chlorine are harmful to aquatic life.

Written Comments

Interested parties and agencies are invited to submit written comments on the proposed waste discharge requirements and the Regional Board's Executive Officer's proposed determinations. Comments should be submitted in writing not later than April 10, 2000 to:

Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

The application number shall appear on the first page of any submitted comments. All comments received by the above date will be considered in the formulation of the final determinations.

Public Hearing

The Waste Discharge Requirements will be considered by the Regional Board at a public hearing to be held at the City of La Quinta City Council Chambers, 78-495 Calle Tampico, La Quinta on May 10, 2000.

Waste Discharge Requirements Appeals

Any person may petition the State Board to review the decision of the Regional Board regarding waste discharge requirements. A petition must be made within 30 days of the Regional Board's hearing.

Additional Information

Persons wishing further information may write to the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

or call the Regional Board at (760) 346-7491