

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

ORDER NO. 01-012

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
CALIFORNIA REDI- DATE LLC., OWNER/OPERATOR
PROCESS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
Thermal – Riverside County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. California Redi-Date LLC, Owner/Operator (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), located at 87-500 Avenue 56, Thermal, CA 92274, as shown on Site Location Map incorporated herein and made a part of this Order, submitted an application to update its Report of Waste Discharge dated on March 5, 2001, for its process wastewater treatment facility (hereinafter referred to as the facility).
2. The plant uses water for washing dates. Washwater is pumped from the date processing plant to the wastewater treatment facility. Washwater flows through a fine screen where stems, pits, skins and other suspended solids are removed and collected. Collected solid waste is removed daily for disposal at an approved solid waste management facility. Wastewater then flows in succession through two (2) aerated lagoons and two (2) polishing lagoons for treatment. Both types of lagoons are equipped with surface-mounted mechanical aerators for enhanced treatment capability. At the aerated lagoons, aerators are controlled by Dissolved Oxygen (DO) probes and a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), which turns the aerators on and off as needed to meet the pre-selected DO level.
3. The design flow capacity of the date washing plant is 200,000 gallons-per-day (gpd). During peak season the maximum average daily flow is 90,000 gpd and the daily average flow is 62,000 gpd.
4. From the aerating lagoons, the wastewater is discharged to the polishing lagoons for further removal of solids by means of settling. Subsequently, the solids are removed from the lagoons manually.
5. The treated wastewater is then disposed in evaporation-percolation ponds located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 15, T6S, R8E, SBB&M as indicated on the attached Vicinity Map incorporated herein and made a part of this Order. The area of each pond is about 1.8 acres.
6. There are four (4) monitoring wells located on the site (as shown on the attached Vicinity Map). Groundwater depth in the general vicinity of the facility is reported to be seven (7) feet below ground surface.
7. California Redi-Date is required, to install one (1) additional groundwater monitoring well (as shown on the attached Vicinity Map), by December 2001.
8. No chemicals are used for the treatment of the process water. Process water is drawn from two (2) wells located approximately 500 feet south of the treatment facility.

9. The discharge from this facility has been subject to Waste Discharge Requirements adopted in Board Order No. 94-031.
10. This Board Order updates the Waste Discharge Requirements to comply with the current laws and regulations as set forth in the California Water Code and California Code of Regulations.
11. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan) was adopted November 17, 1993, and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this region.
12. The beneficial uses of groundwater of the Coachella Hydrologic Subunit are:
 - a. Municipal Supply (MUN)
 - b. Industrial Supply (IND)
 - c. Agricultural Supply (AGR)
13. In accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, the issuance of these Waste Discharge Requirements, which governs the operation of an existing facility involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et.seq.)
14. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to update Waste Discharge Requirements for this facility.
15. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Board Order No. 94-031 is rescinded and in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code of Regulations adopted thereunder, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Wastewater effluent discharged to the evaporation-percolation ponds from the treatment facility shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Monthly Average Value</u>	<u>Maximum Value</u>
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L ¹	--	400 ²

2. The pH of the effluent shall be maintained between 6.0 to 9.0.
3. Wastewater flow to the evaporation-percolation ponds shall not exceed 200,000 gpd.

¹ mg/L = Milligrams per Liter

² The total dissolved solids concentration should not exceed 400 mg/L above the average annual total dissolved concentration in the plant's water supply.

B. Specifications

1. The treatment or disposal at this facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050(l) and 13050(m) of Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. No wastewater other than the washwater generated from the treatment facility shall be discharged into the evaporation-percolation ponds.
3. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facilities inoperable.
4. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any water supply.
5. There shall be no surface flow of wastewater away from the discharge facility.
6. A minimum depth of freeboard of two (2) feet shall be maintained at all times in the evaporation-percolation ponds.
7. Solids and settled materials removed during the treatment process shall be disposed of in a manner that will not result in pollution or nuisance as defined by the California Water Code.
8. Adequate measures shall be taken to maintain aerobic condition at the ponds.
9. The treatment site shall be protected from any washout or erosion of wastes or covering material, and from any inundation which could occur as a result of floods having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.
10. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular,
 - a. An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
 - b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, or herbicides.
 - c. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.

C. Prohibitions

1. The direct discharge of wastes to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
2. Bypass or overflow of untreated or partially treated wastewater is prohibited, unless approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
3. The discharge of waste containing any carcinogen or reproductive toxins listed by the Governor pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25349.13, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65), where such chemical passes, or may pass, into any source of drinking water is prohibited.
4. Discharge of treated wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described in Findings No. 2, 4 and 5 is prohibited.

D. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-012", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
2. Prior to any modifications in this facility, which would result in material change in the quality or the quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of the discharge, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
3. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the discharger shall transmit a copy of this Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Board.
4. The discharger shall ensure that all site personnel are familiar with the contents of this Board Order, and shall maintain a copy of this Board Order at the site.
5. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
6. Facilities shall be available to keep the plant in operation in the event of commercial power failure.
7. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
 - a. Enter upon premises regulated by this Board Order, or the place where records must be kept under the condition of this Board Order;
 - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - c. Inspect at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations required under this Board Order; and
 - d. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at this location.
8. The discharger must comply with all the requirements of this Board Order, including timely submission of technical and monitoring reports as directed by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Any noncompliance with this Board Order constitutes a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action.
9. The Board will review this Order periodically and may revise requirements when necessary.
10. The discharger shall, at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances), which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Board Order.

11. The discharger shall comply with the following:
 - a. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
 - b. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information including all calibration and maintenance records, copies of all reports required by this Board Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of the sample, measurement, or report. This period may be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge or when requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
 - c. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling and measurements.
 2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements.
 3. The date(s) analyses were performed.
 4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses.
 5. The analytical techniques or methods used.
 6. The result of such analyses.
12. All maintenance performed shall be reported with the monitoring reports as required.
13. All regulated disposal systems shall be readily accessible for sampling and inspection.
14. The discharger shall provide an inventory of all hazardous materials, which will be handled at the facility.
15. The discharger may be required to submit technical reports as directed by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
16. By August 1, 2001 the discharger shall construct an additional monitoring well to monitor the quality of ground water flow in the south eastern direction as shown in the attached vicinity map.

I, Phil Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on June 27, 2001.

Executive Officer

