CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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ORDER R7-2015-0006
NPDES NO. CAG997001

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOW THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS WITHIN THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

A Discharger, as described in the following table, who has complied with the requirements for coverage under this General Order, is authorized to discharge wastes, once permit coverage is effective as described in this General Order.

For the purposes of this General Order, references to the "Discharger", "Permittee", or "Enrollee" in applicable Federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policies are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

Table 1. Discharger Information

Dischargers	Dischargers are those parties deemed responsible by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (hereinafter, Regional Water Board) discharging or proposing to discharge low threat wastewaters to surface waters of the Colorado River Basin Region. Low threat discharges are (a) treated or untreated, (b) clean or relatively pollutant free, and (c) pose an insignificant threat to water quality.

Table 2. Administrative Information

This General Order was adopted on:	September 17, 2015
This General Order shall become effective on:	October 1, 2015
This General Order shall expire on:	September 30, 2020

I, Robert Perdue, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of the Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on September 17, 2015.

Robert Perdue, Executive Officer

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I. FACILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Facilities.

This General Order applies to individuals, public agencies, private business, and other legal entities that occasionally discharge treated or untreated wastewater directly to waters of the United States that pose an insignificant or minimal threat (i.e., low threat) to water quality. Some discharges may need minimal treatment, such as settling out sediment or dechlorination, in order to remove specific pollutants prior to discharge and/or application of best management practices (BMPs) to ensure that the discharge does not create conditions of pollution or nuisance.

The purpose of this General Order is to regulate discharges of low threat wastewaters from a discrete point source to surface waters. A low threat discharge is defined as a planned, short-term and/or minimized volume discharge from a definable project that results in a point source discharge where the discharge requires a minimal level of treatment and/or is controlled to eliminate or reduce pollutants and minimize volume and discharge rates through implementation of BMPs. Discharges that may receive authorization for coverage under this General Order shall not contain pollutants in concentrations above applicable water quality objectives or criteria and must be consistent with applicable State and Federal antidegradation policies.

B. Related State Water Board or Regional Water Board General Permits

Dischargers of low threat wastewaters who have been enrolled for coverage under an existing Statewide or Regional Water Board general permit listed in Table 3 or an individual permit are not required to apply for coverage under this General Order. Such individuals or entities may continue to discharge to surface waters pursuant to the applicable existing general or individual permit.

Table 3. Related General Permits

General Permit	Water Quality Order No. (NPDES General Permit No.)
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity	2012-0006-DWQ (CAS000002)
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities Excluding Construction Activities	2014-0057-DWQ (CAS000001)
WDRs for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)	2013-0001-DWQ (CAS000004)
WDRs for the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	2014-0077-DWQ Amending 2012-0011-DWQ (CAS000003)
Treated Groundwater from Cleanup of Petroleum-related and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Regional Water Board General Permit	R7-2009-0400 (CAG917001)
Statewide General NPDES Permit for Utility Vaults and Underground Structures	2014-0174-DWQ (CAG990002)
Statewide NPDES Permit for Drinking Water Discharges	2014-0194-DWQ (CAG140001)

C. Authorized Discharges

1. To be authorized by this General Order, applicants must demonstrate that the discharge or proposed discharge meets the following criteria:

   a. The discharge does not cause or substantially contribute to impairment of beneficial uses of the receiving water.

b. The discharge shall not cause or substantially contribute to adverse impacts on the receiving water, including, but not limited to, erosion, adverse impacts on aquatic life, or creation of undesirable nuisance conditions (e.g., algae, vectors, localized flooding);

c. Pollutant concentrations in the discharge will meet water quality objectives and criteria and will not cause, have a reasonable potential to cause, or substantially contribute to an excursion above any applicable Federal water quality criterion established by U.S. EPA pursuant to CWA section 303;

d. Pollutant concentrations in the discharge will not cause, have a reasonable potential to cause, or substantially contribute to an excursion above any water quality objective or criteria adopted by the Regional Water Board or State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board);

e. Best practicable treatment or control of the discharge shall be implemented to assure that pollution and nuisance will not occur, and the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained;

f. The discharge is necessary because no feasible alternative to the discharge (reclamation, evaporation, infiltration, discharge to a sanitary sewer system, etc.) is available;

g. The discharge is limited to that increment of wastewater that remains after implementation of all reasonable alternatives for reclamation or disposal; and

h. The discharge does not cause acute or chronic toxicity in the receiving water.

2. Low threat discharges that may be authorized by this General Order are relatively pollutant-free wastewaters that pose little threat to water quality when treated with simple, low technology treatments and/or controlled with BMPs to eliminate or reduce pollutants and minimize volume and discharge rates. Discharges to surface waters of the Colorado River Basin Region that meet the definition of “low threat,” above, shall be eligible for coverage under the General Order.

3. Examples of activities that have the potential to discharge low threat wastewaters include, but are not limited to the following:

<u>Dewatering Activities.</u> This category includes discharges from entities undertaking dewatering activities.

a. Treated or untreated groundwater from permanent or temporary dewatering operations to construct or protect pipelines and structures from groundwater infiltration or flotation;

b. Subterranean seepage dewatering, such as water extracted from crawl space pumps;

<u>Groundwater Extraction Activities.</u> This category includes discharges from entities that extract groundwater as a result of drilling, constructing, developing, and purging wells. Entities discharging VOC contaminated groundwater **are not eligible** for coverage under this General Order.

a. Groundwater generated from well drilling, construction and development purging of wells;

b. Groundwater extracted during aquifer tests;

c. Equipment wash water;

d. Geothermal well testing;

e. Groundwater infiltration (e.g. seepage, foundation, or footage drainage, seawater infiltration);

Other Low Threat Discharge Activities. This category includes discharges from public and private entities that engage in other miscellaneous activities that result in low threat discharges.

a. Pilot treatment discharges (less than 2 years in duration and where water is removed, treated, and discharged into the same water body at points having similar water characteristics);

b. Evaporate condensate (e.g., discharges associated with atmospheric condensates including refrigeration, air conditioners, compressor condensate, and cooling towers);

c. Equipment washing and spill wash water not covered by applicable effluent limitations guidelines and standards;

d. Discharges from drainage of swimming or ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impoundment water.

D. Exclusion of Coverage

1. The Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board or the Regional Administrator of the USEPA may require any person authorized to discharge wastes by this General Order to subsequently apply for and obtain an individual NPDES permit. Any interested person may petition the Executive Officer or the Regional Administrator to take action in accordance with this finding. Cases where an individual permit may be required include the following:

a. The Discharger is not in compliance with the conditions of this General Order or the Notice of Applicability (NOA) from the Executive Officer;

b. Changes in technologies or practices that impact the control or abatement of pollutants in the discharge;

c. New or revised effluent limitation guidelines are promulgated for the category of discharges covered by this General Order;

d. Changes to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin (hereinafter Basin Plan) are adopted that contain requirements applicable to the discharges covered by this General Order; or

e. The requirements of section 122.28(a), title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations[1] are not met. These requirements specify the criteria for issuance of general permits.

II. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. General Order Application

To obtain coverage under this General Order, which also serves as an NPDES permit, dischargers shall submit a completed Notice of Intent (NOI) as provided in Attachment C. A

[1] All further regulatory references are to title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations unless otherwise indicated.

Discharger having multiple discharges involving the same or substantially similar types of operations into the receiving water(s) need only submit one NOI but must specify in the NOI estimates of the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges expected in the receiving water(s).

a. **Wastewater Sampling.** All dischargers are required to analyze the proposed discharge for conventional and non-conventional pollutants, the priority pollutants regulated under the CTR, and the constituents specified in the Basin Plan except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the State Implementation Policy (SIP). These parameters are specified in Attachment B. If the discharge will be discharged to a water quality-listed segment (WQLS) pursuant to the latest Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list (hereinafter 303(d) List), the Discharger shall also analyze for the parameter(s) causing the impairment(s).

   Finally, applicants proposing to discharge to the New River, Alamo River, Imperial Valley Drains, Coachella Valley Drains, Palo Verde Valley Drains, and to tributaries to the Salton Sea must also sample for several additional parameters specified in the Basin Plan and as contained in Attachment B of this General Order. Dischargers are to submit the results of all sampling performed to the Regional Water Board along with the completed NOI.

   Attachment B also provides screening levels for pollutants.

b. **Submittals.** All required submittals shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board, at the following address:

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

B. Termination of Discharges

If the Discharger wishes to terminate authorization under this General Order, the Discharger shall submit a completed Notice of Termination (NOT). Termination from coverage will occur on the date specified in the NOT unless the Regional Water Board notifies the Discharger otherwise. All discharges shall cease before the date of termination, and any discharge to surface waters on or after this date shall be considered in violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) unless that discharge is authorized by another NPDES permit.

C. Transferring Ownership

Coverage under this General Order may be transferred in case of change of ownership of land or discharge facility provided the existing discharger notifies the Executive Officer of the proposed transfer date, and the notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new dischargers containing a specific date of transfer of coverage, responsibility for compliance with this General Order, and liability between them.

III. FINDINGS

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds:

A. Background.

1. On November 19, 1998, USEPA Region IX authorized the State of California to issue general NPDES permits in accordance with section 122.28. Section 122.28 allows for the

issuance of general permits to regulate categories of discharges if the sources within each category:

a. Involve the same or substantially similar types of operations;

b. Discharge similar types of waste;

c. Require the same effluent limitations or operating conditions;

d. Require the same or similar monitoring; and

e. Are more appropriately controlled under a general permit than under individual permits.

2. On November 19, 2009, the Regional Water Board adopted General Order R7-2009-0300 (NPDES Permit No. CAG997001) in accordance with section 122.28 to regulate discharges of low threat wastewaters.

B. Discharge Description. This General Order covers wastewater discharges that pose little or no threat to water quality.

C. Legal Authorities. This Order serves as WDRs pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260). This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this facility to surface waters.

D. Background and Rationale for Requirements. The Colorado River Basin Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the application, through monitoring and reporting programs, and other available information. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F), which contains background information and rationale for the requirements in this Order, is hereby incorporated into and constitutes Findings for this Order. Attachments A through E and G through I are also incorporated into this Order.

E. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law. The provisions/requirements in subsections IV.B, IV.C, and V.B of this Order are included to implement state law only. These provisions/requirements are not required or authorized under the Federal CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.); consequently, violations of these provisions/requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.

F. Notification of Interested Parties. The Colorado River Basin Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of the notification are provided in the Fact Sheet.

G. Consideration of Public Comment. The Colorado River Basin Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this General Order supersedes General Board Order R7-2009-0300 except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the CWA and regulations adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order. This action in no way prevents the Colorado River Basin Water Board from taking enforcement action for past violations of the superseded Order.

IV. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

A. The discharge of waste to land not owned or controlled by the Discharger is prohibited unless authorized in Waste Discharge Requirements or NPDES Permit.

B. Discharge of treated wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described by the Discharger in its NOI application or as authorized by the Executive Officer is prohibited.

C. The discharge of trash to the waters of the State is prohibited.

D. Except as allowed under the Standard Provisions for NPDES permits (hereinafter Standard Provisions), included as Attachment D, the bypass or overflow of untreated wastewater or wastes to the waters of the State is prohibited.

E. The Discharger shall not extract, accept, or treat waste in excess of the BMP or Control Strategy Plan or disposal capacity of the system as specified in the Discharger's NOA from the Executive Officer.

F. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any water supply.

G. The discharge of any substances in concentrations toxic to animal or plant life is prohibited.

H. The treatment or disposal of wastes from the facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), respectively, of the California Water Code.

V. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Final Effluent Limitations Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

a. Discharges of wastewater from low threat discharge activities shall be subject to the effluent limitations in Table 4 below.

Table 4. Effluent Limitations for All Low Threat Discharges

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations		
		Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	95	---	---
BOD_5 @ 20° C or $CBOD_5$ @ 20° C	mg/L	55 for BOD_5 or 50 for $CBOD_5$	---	---
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25	---	---
pH	standard units	---	6.0	9.0
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH)[1]	mg/L	0.1	---	---
Chlorine, Total Residual (TRC)	mg/L	**1-hour Average**		**4-Day Average**
		0.019		0.011

[1] Applies only to operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites, or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in discharge operation.

VI. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations

Receiving water limitations are based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this General Order. The discharge shall not cause the following in waters of the United States:

1. Result in the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the receiving water to fall below 5.0 mg/L. When dissolved oxygen in the receiving water is already below 5.0 mg/L, the discharge shall not cause any further depression.
2. Result in the presence of oil, grease, floating material (liquids, solids, foam and scum) or suspended material in amounts that create a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
3. Result in the deposition of pesticides or combination of pesticides detectable in concentrations that adversely affects beneficial uses.
4. Result in discoloration in the receiving water that adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. Result in the discharge of biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growths to the extent that such growths cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
6. Result in an increase of turbidity that adversely affects beneficial uses.
7. Result in the normal ambient pH of the receiving water to fall below 6.0 or exceed 9.0 units.
8. Result in altering the natural receiving water temperature that adversely affects beneficial uses.
9. Result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
10. Result in the discharge of an individual chemical or combination of chemicals in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
11. Result in toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments or biota in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
12. Result in an increase in taste or odor-producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses.
13. Result in the violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Colorado River Basin Water Board or the State Water Board as required by the Federal CWA and regulations adopted thereunder. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to CWA section 303 or amendments thereto, the Colorado River Basin Water Board will revise and modify this Permit in accordance with such more stringent standard.
14. Result in the bacterial concentrations in receiving waters supporting a REC-I designation that exceed the following concentrations as measured by the following bacterial indicators and is shown in the following table:

Name of Water Body	**Unit**	**E. Coli**		**Enterococci**		**Fecal Coliform**	
		Average[2]	**Max**	**Average[2]**	**Max**	**Average[2]**	**Max[3]**
Colorado River	MPN[1]	126	235	33	61	200	400
New River	MPN	126	400	33	100	200	400
Alamo River	MPN	126	400	33	100	200	400
Imperial Valley Drains	MPN	126	400	33	100	200	400
Coachella Valley Drains	MPN	126	400	33	100	200	400

Name of Water Body	Unit	E. Coli		Enterococci		Fecal Coliform	
		Average[2]	Max	Average[2]	Max	Average[2]	Max[3]
Palo Verde Valley Drains	MPN	126	400	33	100	200	400

[1] Most Probable Number
[2] The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period)
[3] No more than ten percent of total samples during any 30-day period may exceed 400 MPN per 100 ml.

15. Result in the bacterial concentrations in receiving waters supporting a REC-II designation that exceed the following concentrations, as measured by the following bacterial indicators and shown in the following table:

Name of Water Body	Unit	E. Coli		Enterococci		Fecal Coliform	
		Average[2]	Max	Average[2]	Max	Average[2]	Max
Colorado River	MPN[1]	630	1,175	165	305	165	305
New River	MPN	630	2,000	165	500	165	500
Alamo River	MPN	630	2,000	165	500	165	500
Imperial Valley Drains	MPN	630	2,000	165	500	165	500
Coachella Valley Drains	MPN	630	2,000	165	500	165	500
Palo Verde Valley Drains	MPN	630	2,000	165	500	165	500

[1] Most Probable Number
[2] The geometric mean bacterial density (based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period)

16. Result in the concentration of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in receiving waters as shown in the following table.

Name of Water Body	Annual Average TDS (mg/L)	Maximum TDS (mg/L)
New River	4,000	4,500
Alamo River	4,000	4,500
Imperial Valley Drains	4,000	4,500
Coachella Valley Drains	2,000	2,500
Palo Verde Valley Drains	2,000	2,500

VII. PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

1. **Federal Standard Provisions**. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D of this General Order.

2. **Colorado River Basin Water Board Standard Provisions**. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions. In the event that there is any conflict, duplication, or overlap between provisions specified by this General Order, the more stringent provision shall apply:

a. The Discharger shall comply with all conditions of this General Order. Noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Federal Clean Water Act and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification of waste discharge requirements; or denial of a permit renewal application.

b. The Discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the contents of this General Order, and shall maintain a copy of this General Order at the site.

c. The Discharger shall immediately notify the Office of Emergency Services by phone at (800) 852-7550 to report any noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment as soon as: (1) the Discharger has knowledge of the discharge, (2) notification is possible, and (3) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures.

   Although State and Regional Water Boards do not have duties as first responders, it is important to ensure that the agencies that do have first responder duties are notified in a timely manner in order to protect public health and beneficial uses. To carry out this objective, the following notification requirements are to be implemented:

   i. For any discharges of sewage that result in a discharge to a drainage channel or surface water, the Discharger shall, as soon as possible, but not later than two (2) hours after becoming aware of the discharge, notify the State Office of Emergency Services.

   ii. As soon as possible, follow the notification, reporting, monitoring, and recordkeeping requirements under WQ 2013-0058-EXEC for the Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems. (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2013/wqo2013_0058exec.pdf).

d. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the Discharger shall transmit a copy of this Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Colorado River Basin Water Board. The new owner/operator shall apply for this Permit.

e. Prior to any modifications in this facility, which would result in material change in the quality or, quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of discharge, the Discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Colorado River Basin Water Board and if required by the Colorado River Basin Water Board obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.

f. 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.

g. This Order does not authorize violation of any Federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

h. Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from this facility, may subject the Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or Federal law enforcement entities.

i. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, maximum daily, average weekly, average monthly, instantaneous maximum or instantaneous minimum, or receiving water limitation of this Order, the Discharger shall notify the Colorado River Basin Water Board by email to RB7-coloradoriver@waterboards.ca.gov within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing within five days, unless the Colorado River Basin Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall state the nature, time, duration, and cause of noncompliance, and shall describe the measures being taken to remedy the current noncompliance and, prevent recurrence including, where applicable, a schedule of implementation. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.

j. Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of the use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion or a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. (Wat. Code §1211.)

B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements

The Discharger shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E of this General Order. This MRP may be modified by the Executive Officer at any time during the term of this General Order, and may include an increase in the number of parameters to be monitored, the frequency of the monitoring or the number and size of samples to be collected or minor clarifications on MRP requirements. Any increase in the number of parameters to be monitored, the frequency of the monitoring or the number and size of samples to be collected may be reduced back to the levels specified in the original MRP at the discretion of the Executive Officer.

C. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

a. This General Order may be reopened for modification, or revocation and reissuance, as a result of the detection of a reportable priority pollutant generated by special conditions included in this General Order. These special conditions may be, but are not limited to, fish tissue sampling, whole effluent toxicity, monitoring requirements on internal waste stream(s), and monitoring for surrogate parameters. Additional requirements may be included in this General Order as a result of the special condition monitoring data.

b. The Discharger shall submit data sufficient to determine if a WQBEL is required in the discharge permit as required under the SIP. It is the Discharger's responsibility to provide all information requested by the Colorado River Basin Water Board for use in the analysis. The permit shall be reopened to establish WQBELs, if necessary.

c. This General Order may be modified, rescinded and reissued, for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for a General Order modification, rescission and reissuance, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any General Order condition. Causes for modification include the promulgation of new regulations, modification of land application plans, or modification in sludge use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the State Water Board or the Colorado River Basin Water Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.

d. The CWA requires the Colorado River Basin Water Board to modify, or terminate and reissue, the NPDES permit if a discharger must implement a pretreatment program. Public notice and a comment period are mandatory for these actions.

e. TMDLs for pathogens, nutrients, salt, dissolved oxygen, VOCs, trash, pesticides, and selenium are to be developed by the Regional Water Board. The permit may be reopened and modified in the future to include appropriate requirements necessary to fully implement the approved TMDL, if needed.

2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements – Not Applicable

3. Best Management Practices (BMP)

a. Each Discharger authorized under this Order shall develop and implement a BMP Plan that includes site-specific plans and procedures to prevent the generation and potential release of pollutants to waters of the United States. The BMP Plan must be available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. Existing applicants must update the BMP or Control Strategy Plan as necessary while new applicants must *develop and maintain a copy of* the BMPs at the discharge location, and all site-operating personnel shall be familiar with the contents of the BMP or Control Strategy Plan.

The BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the U.S. EPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (EPA 833-B-93-004). The Discharger may consult other handbooks for guidance, such as the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/, to address the site-specific discharge situation. In particular, the Discharger shall address each area identified in the U.S. EPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* that will ensure proper operation and maintenance, prevent additional chemicals or other substances from being introduced into the discharge, and prevent the addition of pollutants from the other non-permitted process waters, spills, or other sources of pollutants. The necessary BMPs or control strategies shall be identified, developed, and implemented prior to the initiation of the discharge.

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications

a. This General Order (Attachment D, Standard Provision I.D) requires that the Permittee at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) that are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with this General Order.

b. Treatment systems and BMPs shall be constructed, operated, and maintained in a manner that ensures compliance with all requirements of this General Order.

5. Other Special Provisions

a. The Discharger may be required to submit technical reports as directed by the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Executive Officer.

b. The Discharger shall exclude from the wastewater treatment plant any liquid or solid waste that could adversely affect the plant operation or effluent quality. The excluded liquid or solid waste shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations.

6. Required Submittals and Annual Reports

a. **Deliverables and Annual Report Due Dates.** The Discharger shall comply with the following compliance schedule as summarized in Table 5:

Table 5. Deliverables and Due Date for Annual Report

Activity	Description	Due Date
Annual Report	The annual report shall include the following: 1. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the facility/project for emergency and routine situations. 2. A statement certifying whether the current Best Management Practices (BMPs) or Control Strategy Plan, reflect the Discharger's operations as currently constructed and operated, and the date when the BMPs or Control Strategy Plan was last revised and last reviewed for adequacy. 3. A summary report that includes the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges to the receiving water(s). 4. For those dischargers with a project specific NOA, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were in compliance with this General Order.	**February 1**, annually

VIII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Compliance with the effluent limitations contained in section IV of this General Order will be determined as specified below:

A. General.

Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined using sample reporting protocols defined in the MRP of this General Order. For purposes of reporting and administrative enforcement by the Regional and State Water Boards, the Discharger shall be deemed out of compliance with effluent limitations if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the Reporting Level (RL).

B. Total Residual Chlorine Effluent Limitations.

Monitoring for chlorine residual or for dechlorination agent residual in the effluent is an appropriate method for compliance determination. A positive residual dechlorination agent in the effluent indicates that chlorine is not present in the discharge, which demonstrates compliance with the effluent limitations. This type of monitoring can also be used to prove that some chlorine residual exceedances are false positives. For Dischargers that dechlorinate, field monitoring data showing either a positive dechlorination agent residual or a chlorine residual below the reporting level or prescribed limit (whichever is higher) is sufficient to show compliance with the total residual chlorine effluent limitations, as long as the instruments are maintained and calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Any excursion above the 1-hour average or 4-day average total residual chlorine effluent limitations and greater than or equal to a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L or a future reporting level included in a statewide policy adopted by the State Water Board is a violation.

If the Discharger conducts continuous monitoring and the Discharger can demonstrate, through data collected from a back-up monitoring system, that a chlorine spike recorded by the continuous monitor was not actually due to chlorine in the discharge, then any excursion resulting from the recorded spike may not be considered an exceedance, but rather reported as a false positive.

C. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL).

If a daily discharge exceeds the MDEL for a given parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that 1 day only within the reporting period. For any 1 day during which no sample is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that day.

D. Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation.

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation for a parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both are lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation). There are no mass limits are for instantaneous minimum effluent limitations.

E. Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation.

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is higher than the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for a parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both exceed the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation). There are no mass limits for instantaneous maximum effluent limitations.

F. Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations.

1. In accordance with section 2.4.5 of the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP), compliance with water quality-based effluent limitations shall be determined as follows:

   a. Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation if the concentration of a priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (ML).

   b. When determining compliance with an average monthly effluent limitation and more than one sample result is available in a month, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

      i. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, and followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.

ii. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than a DNQ.

iii. If a sample result, or the arithmetic mean or median of multiple sample results, is below the reported ML, and there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and the Discharger conducts a PMP, the Discharger shall not be deemed out of compliance.

ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

Acute Toxicity Test
Acute toxicity test is a test to determine the concentration of effluent or ambient waters that causes an adverse effect (usually mortality) on a group of test organisms during a short-term exposure (e.g., 24, 48, or 96 hours). Acute toxicity is determined using statistical procedures (e.g., point estimates or a t-test).

Ambient Toxicity
Ambient toxicity is measured by a toxicity test on a sample collected from a receiving waterbody.

Annual Average Effluent Limitation
The highest allowable average of monthly discharges over a calendar year, calculated as the sum of all monthly discharges measured during a calendar year divided by the number of monthly discharges measured during that year.

Arithmetic Mean (μ)
Also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

Arithmetic mean = $\mu = \Sigma x / n$ where: Σx is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and n is the number of samples.

Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)
The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

For the AMEL concentration limit, it is the sum of the measured sample values divided by the number of samples for the month.

For the AMEL mass loading limit, it is the sum of the product of the flow rate (mgd) x measured sample value (mg/L) x 8.34 divided by the number of samples for the month.

Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)
The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)
BMPs are methods, measures, or practices designed and selected to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants to surface waters from point and non-point discharges including storm water. BMPs include structural and non-structural controls, and operation and maintenance procedures, which can be applied before, during, and/or after pollution producing activities.

Bioaccumulative
Those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

Biosolids
Biosolids refer to non-hazardous sewage sludge as defined in 40 C.F.R. section 503.9.

Carcinogenic
Pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

Chronic Toxicity Tests
Chronic toxicity tests measure the sub-lethal effects of a discharge (e.g. reduced growth or reproduction). Certain chronic toxicity tests include an additional measurement of lethality.

Coefficient of Variation (CV)
CV is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

Criteria Continuous Concentration (CCC)
Criteria Continuous Concentration equals the highest concentration of a pollutant to which aquatic life can be exposed for an extended period of time (e.g., 4 days) without deleterious effects.

Criteria Maximum Concentration (CMC)
Criteria Maximum Concentration equals the highest concentration of a pollutant to which aquatic life can be exposed for a short period of time (e.g., 1 hour) without deleterious effects.

Daily Discharge
Daily Discharge is defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)
DNQ are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL. Sample results reported as DNQ are estimated concentrations.

Dilution Credit
Dilution Credit is the amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

Domestic Sewage
Domestic Sewage is waste and wastewater from humans or household operations that is discharged to or otherwise enters a treatment works.

Effect Concentration (EC)
Effect concentration is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause an observable adverse effect (e.g., mortality, fertilization). EC25 is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause observable 25% adverse effect as compared to the control test organisms.

Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)
ECA is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as waste load allocation (WLA) as used in U.S. EPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

Enclosed Bays
Enclosed Bays means indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays include, but are not limited to, Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drake's Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

Estimated Chemical Concentration
The estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

Estuaries
Estuaries means waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouths of streams that serve as areas of mixing for fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and seawater. Estuarine waters included, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in Water Code section 12220, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to the Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Mad, Eel, Noyo, Russian, Klamath, San Diego, and Otay rivers. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

Existing Discharger
Any Discharger that is not a new Discharger. An existing Discharger includes an "increasing Discharger" (i.e., an existing Facility with treatment systems in place from its current discharge that is or will be expanding, upgrading, or modifying its existing permitted discharge after the effective date of the State Implementation Policy).

Geometric Mean
Geometric mean, is a measure of the central tendency of a data set that minimizes the effects of extreme values. The geometric mean used for determining compliance with bacterial standards is calculated with the following equation:

Geometric Mean = $(C_1 \times C_2 \times \ldots \times C_n)^{1/n}$ where n = the number of days samples were collected during the period, and C = the concentration of bacteria (CFU*/100 mL) found on each day of sampling.

*Effluent limitations for bacterial density are expressed in units of a Most Probable Number per 100 milliliters (MPN/100 ml). This calculation of geometric mean is also applicable and shall be used to determine compliance with bacterial effluent limitations.

Group I Pollutants
The list of pollutants is based on Appendix A to 40 C.F.R § 123.45. The State Water Resources Control Board enforcement policy located at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/enforcement/docs/enf_policy_final111709.pdf provides the list in Appendix C: Group 1 Pollutants.

Group 2 Pollutants
The list of pollutants is based on Appendix A to 40 C.F.R § 123.45. The State Water Resources Control Board enforcement policy located at
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/enforcement/docs/enf_policy_final111709.pdf provides the list in Appendix D: Group 2 Pollutants.

Hypothesis Testing
Hypothesis testing is a statistical approach (e.g., Dunnett's procedure) for determining whether a test concentration is statistically different from the control. Endpoints determined from hypothesis testing are no observed effect concentration (NOEC) and lowest observed effect concentration (LOEC).

Incompletely Mixed Discharge
A discharge that contributes to a condition that does not meet the meaning of a completely-mixed discharge condition.

Infeasible
Infeasible means not capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors.

Inhibition Concentration
Inhibition concentration is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause a given, percent reduction in a non-lethal biological measurement (e.g., reproduction or growth), calculated from a continuous model (i.e., Interpolation Method). For example, IC25 is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause a 25 percent reduction in a non-lethal biological measurement.

Inland Surface Waters
All surface waters of the state that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation
The highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation
The lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

In-Stream Waste Concentration
In-stream waste concentration (IWC) is the concentration of a toxicant or effluent in the receiving water after mixing (the inverse of the dilution factor). A discharge of 100% effluent is considered the IWC for this discharge.

LC50
LC50 (lethal concentration, 50%) is the toxicant or effluent concentration that would cause death to 50 percent of the test organisms.

Load Allocation
The portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its non-point sources of pollution or to natural background sources.

Lowest Observed Effect Concentration
Lowest observed effect concentration (LOEC) is the lowest concentration of an effluent or toxicant that results in statistically significant adverse effects on the test organisms (i.e., where the values for the observed endpoints are statistically different from the control).

Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)
The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

Median
The middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of measurements (n) is odd, then the median = $X_{(n+1)/2}$. If n is even, then the median = $(X_{n/2} + X_{(n/2)+1})/2$ (i.e., the midpoint between the n/2 and n/2+1).

Method Detection Limit (MDL)
MDL is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in in 40 C.F.R. part 136, Appendix B, revised as of July 3, 1999, May 18, 2012, and Aug. 19, 2014.

Minimum Level (ML)
ML is the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

Minimum Significant Difference (MSD)
Minimum significant difference is the magnitude of difference from control where the null hypothesis is rejected in a statistical test comparing a treatment with a control. MSD is based on the number of replicates, control performance, and power of the test.

Mixing Zone
The Colorado River Basin Water Board does not have a mixing zone policy in the Basin Plan. Therefore, in order for a mixing zone to be allowed in the Colorado River Basin Region, it would be only pursuant to a State policy. The State Implementation Policy (SIP) allows a mixing zone for priority pollutants and toxicity. Accordingly, a mixing zone applies to the Colorado River Basin Region under this State policy.

The SIP requires a mixing zone analysis be completed before any dilution credit is granted. Following completion of the mixing zone study, the Colorado River Basin Water Board must reconsider the receiving water limitations to ensure that they are as stringent as necessary to fully protect the receiving water.

Municipality
Municipality means a city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body created by or under State law and having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of CWA.

New Discharger
New Discharger includes any building, structure, Facility, or installation from which there is, or may be, a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced after the effective date of the State Implementation Policy.

No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC
No observed effect concentration is the highest tested concentration of an effluent or toxicant that causes no observable adverse effect on the test organisms (i.e., the highest concentration of toxicant at which the values for the observed responses are not statistically different from the control).

Not Detected (ND)
Sample results which are less than the laboratory's MDL.

Notice of Applicability (NOA)
The NOA is the written authorization for coverage under this General Order from the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board. The NOA shall specify the applicable effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

Notice of Intent (NOI)
The NOI is a Discharger's application for coverage under this General Order. The NOI is required to contain all of the elements identified in Attachment C.

Notice of Termination (NOT)
The NOT is a Discharger's notice to the Regional Water Board that the discharge to surface waters has been terminated and coverage under this General Order is no longer necessary. The requirements of the NOT are contained in Attachment I. Termination from coverage shall occur on the date specified in the NOT unless the Regional Water Board notifies the Discharger otherwise within 30 days of receipt of the NOT. All discharges shall cease before the date of termination, and any discharges to surface waters on or after this date shall be considered in violation of the CWA unless such discharges are covered by another NPDES permit.

Objectionable Bottom Deposits
Objectionable Bottom Deposits are an accumulation of materials or substances on or near the bottom of a water body, which creates conditions that adversely impact aquatic life, human health, beneficial uses, or aesthetics. These conditions include, but are not limited to, the accumulation of pollutants in the sediments and other conditions that result in harm to benthic organisms, production of food chain organisms, or fish egg development. The presence of such deposits shall be determined by Colorado River Basin Water Board(s) on a case-by-case basis.

Ocean Waters
Not Applicable.

Percent Effect
The percent effect represents the difference between the response of the species at the IWC (i.e., 100% effluent) and the response in the control sample, relative to the control sample, as a percentage. The percent effect at IWC can be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Percent Effect} = \frac{(\text{Control Mean Response} - \text{IWC Mean Response})}{\text{Control Mean Response}} * 100$$

Persistent Pollutants
Persistent pollutants are substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

PET Tool
The PET tool is a Microsoft Excel file that allows you to configure your data into a format that CIWQS will understand and interpret correctly, which is the CIWQS Data Format, or CDR. You can open the PET Tool in Excel, configure it on the basis of your permit requirements, and then use the configured file as a template for entering data during the different reporting frequency and periods.

Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)
PMP means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Colorado River Basin Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

Pollution Prevention
Pollution Prevention means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in Water Code section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Colorado River Basin Water Board.

Potable Water
Water that is safe for drinking and cooking and is in compliance with the California State Water Resources Control Board or local county health department regulations.

Public Entity
Public Entity includes the Federal government or a state, county, city and county, city, district, public authority, or public agency.

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
POTW means a treatment works as defined in 40 C.F.R. 212, which is owned by a State or municipality. This definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes, and other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW Treatment Plant. The term also means the municipality as defined in 40 C.F.R. 502(4), which has jurisdiction over the Indirect Discharges to and the discharges from such a treatment works.

Quality Assurance (QA)
Quality assurance is a practice in toxicity testing that addresses all activities affecting the quality of the final effluent toxicity data. QA includes practices such as effluent sampling and handling, source and condition of test organisms, equipment condition, test conditions, instrument calibration, replication, use of reference toxicants, recordkeeping, and data evaluation.

Quality Control (QC)
Quality control is the set of more focused, routine, day-to-day activities carried out as part of the overall QA program.

Reference Toxicant Test
Reference toxicant test is a check of the sensitivity of the test organisms and the suitability of the test methodology. Reference toxicant data are part of a routine QA/QC program to evaluate the performance of laboratory personnel and the robustness and sensitivity of the test organisms.

Replicate
Replicate is two or more independent organism exposures of the same treatment (i.e., effluent concentration) within a whole effluent toxicity test. Replicates are typically separate test chambers with organisms, each having the same effluent concentration.

Report of Waste Discharge
For the purposes of this Individual Board Order, references to the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) shall include the California Form 200, USEPA forms and any other application information submitted to the Colorado River Basin Water Board.

Reporting Level (RL)
The RL is the ML (and its associated analytical method) chosen by the Discharger for reporting and compliance determination from the MLs included in this Order, including an additional factor if applicable as discussed herein. The MLs included in this Order correspond to approved analytical methods for reporting a sample result that are selected by the Colorado River Basin Water Board either from Appendix 4 of the SIP in accordance with section 2.4.2 of the SIP or established in accordance with section 2.4.3 of the SIP. The ML is based on the proper application of method-based analytical procedures for sample preparation and the absence of any matrix interferences. Other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the specific sample preparation steps employed. For example, the treatment typically applied in cases where there are matrix-effects is to dilute the sample or sample aliquot by a factor of ten. In such cases, this additional factor must be applied to the ML in the computation of the RL.

Sample
Sample is a representative portion of a specific environmental matrix that is used in toxicity testing.

Satellite Collection System
The portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

Serious Violation
For discharges of pollutants subject to the State Water Board's "Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California," or the "California Ocean Plan", where the effluent limitation for a pollutant is lower than the applicable Minimum Level, any discharge that: (1) equals or exceeds the Minimum Level; and (2) exceeds the effluent limitation by 40 percent or more for a Group 1 pollutant or by 20 percent or more for a Group 2 pollutant, is a serious violation for the purposes of California Water Code section 13385(h)(2).

For discharges of pollutants that are not subject to the State Water Board's "Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California," or the California Ocean Plan (e.g., pollutants that are not addressed by the applicable plan) where the effluent limitation for a pollutant is lower than the quantitation limit specified or authorized in the applicable waste discharge requirements or monitoring requirements, any discharge that: (1) equals or exceeds the quantitation limit; and (2) exceeds the effluent limitation by 40 percent or more for a Group 1 pollutant or by 20 percent or more for a Group 2 pollutant, is a serious violation for the purposes of California Water Code section 13385(h)(2).

Sewage Sludge
Sewage sludge is solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to, domestic septage; scum or solids removed in primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes; and a material derived from sewage sludge. Sewage sludge does not include ash generated during the firing of sewage sludge in a sewage sludge incinerator or grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works. Sewage sludge that has been classified as hazardous shall be disposed in accordance with 40 C.F.R. 261.

Sewage Sludge, Class A
Sewage Sludge to be classified Class A with respect to pathogens shall comply with the requirements in 40 C.F.R. 503.32(a)(2) and the requirements in either 40 C.F.R. 503.32(a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(5), (a)(6), (a)(7), or (a)(8).

Sewage Sludge, Class B
Sewage Sludge to be classified Class B with respect to pathogens shall comply with the requirements in either 40 C.F.R. 503.32(b)(2), (b)(3), or (b)(4).

Significant Difference
Significant difference is a statistically significant difference (e.g., 95 percent confidence level) in the means of two distributions of sampling results.

Significant Figures
Significant figures of a number are those digits that carry meaning contributing to its precision. When adding or subtracting values with different degrees of precision, the last digit retained is determined by the least precise number (i.e., the answer should contain no digits farther to the right of the least precise number). For example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 37.24 \\ \underline{+10.3} \\ 47.54 \end{array} \quad \text{is rounded to } 47.5$$

When multiplying or dividing values with different degrees of precision, the number of significant figures in the answer (3) equals that of the quantity that has the smallest number of significant figures (written above the bracket). For example:

$$\overbrace{113.2}^{4} \; x \; \overbrace{1.43}^{3} = \overbrace{161.876}^{6} \qquad \text{is rounded to } \overbrace{162}^{3}$$

Additional Information on significant figures.

a. All nonzero digits are significant.

b. Zeros between nonzero digits are significant (e.g., 1.005 mg has four significant figures.

c. When a number ends in zeros to the right of a decimal point, they are significant (0.00500 has three significant figures).

d. Zeros which are to the left of the decimal point and in a number larger than 10.

e. When a number ends in zeros that are not to the right of a decimal point, significant figures are indeterminable (e.g., 10300 kg).

f. Only measurements have a limited number of significant figures. Given values, constants, etc. are assumed to have an infinite number of significant figures

In addition, 40 C.F.R. part 136 specifies for some analytical methods, the number of significant figures to which measurements are made. The Discharger shall ensure laboratory analytical results are consistent with the requirements contained in 40 C.F.R. part 136 with regard to significant figures.

Source of Drinking Water
Any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Basin Plan.

Standard Deviation (σ)
Standard Deviation is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = (\sum[(x - \mu)^2]/(n - 1))^{0.5}$$

where:
x is the observed value;
μ is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and
n is the number of samples.

State Implementation Policy (SIP)
The Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California.

Statistic
Statistic is a computed or estimated quantity such as the mean, standard deviation, or Coefficient of Variation.

Technology-Based Effluent Limitation
A technology-based effluent limitation is a permit limit for a pollutant that is based on the capability of a treatment method to reduce the pollutant to a certain concentration.

Teratogenic
Teratogenic pollutants are substances that are known to cause structural abnormalities or birth defects in living organisms.

Test Acceptability Criteria (TAC)
Test acceptability criteria are test method-specific criteria for determining whether toxicity test results are acceptable. The effluent and reference toxicant must meet specific criteria as defined in the test method (e.g., for the Ceriodaphnia dubia survival and reproduction test, the criteria are as follows: the test must achieve at least 80 percent survival and an average of 15 young per surviving female in the control and at least 60% of surviving organisms must have three broods).

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
A TMDL is the sum of the individual waste load allocations and load allocations for receiving water. A margin of safety is included with the two types of allocations so that any additional loading, regardless of source, would not produce a violation of water quality standards.

Total Solids
Total Solids are the materials that remain as residue when dried at 103 to 105 degrees Celsius.

Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)
TRE is a study conducted in a step-wise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity. The first steps of the TRE consist of the collection of data relevant to the toxicity, including additional toxicity testing, and an evaluation of facility operations and maintenance practices, and best management practices. A Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate. A TIE is a set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.

Toxicity Test
Toxicity test is a procedure to determine the toxicity of a chemical or an effluent using living organisms. A toxicity test measures the degree of effect on exposed test organisms of a specific chemical or effluent.

Treatment Works
Treatment works is either a Federally owned, publicly owned, or privately owned device or system used to treat (including recycling and reclamation) either domestic sewage or a combination of domestic sewage and industrial waste of a liquid nature.

t-Test
t-Test (formally Student's t-Test) is a statistical analysis comparing two sets of replicate observations, in the case of WET, only two test concentrations (e.g., a control and IWC). The purpose of this test is to determine if the means of the two sets of observations are different (e.g., if the 100-percent effluent or ambient concentration differs from the control [i.e., the test passes or fails]). The statistical significance (i.e., pass/fail) of a two-sample test can be determined with either a standard t-test (if homogeneity of variance is achieved) or a modified t-test (if homogeneity of variance is not achieved).

Vector Attraction
Vector Attraction is the characteristic of a material that attracts rodents, flies, mosquitoes, or other organisms capable of transporting infectious agents.

Waste Load Allocation (WLA)
The portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution.

Welch's t-Test
Welch's t-Test is an adaptation of the Student's t-test intended for use with two samples having unequal variances.

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)
The aggregate toxic effect of an effluent measured directly by a toxicity test.

ATTACHMENT B – SCREENING LEVELS FOR TOXIC POLLUTANTS REASONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS

I. INSTRUCTIONS

This Attachment contains listings of the parameters Dischargers are to analyze as part of their application for coverage under this General Order. The sampling requirements that are applicable to all discharges are presented in section II below. Additional sampling requirements applicable to discharges to specific waterbodies follow in section III.

Dischargers shall also obtain and analyze a representative sample(s) of the upstream receiving water for hardness. The hardness value is then used to determine the effluent concentration of cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc. If a representative sample cannot be obtained upstream of the discharge, the discharger shall obtain the sample downstream within 100 feet of the discharge location. If the receiving water is comprised entirely of effluent, the discharger may analyze the effluent for hardness in lieu of the receiving water. The analytical method(s) used shall be capable of achieving a detection limit at or below the minimum level, otherwise, a written explanation shall be provided.

Analyses performed for parameters without screening levels shall also be submitted to the Regional Water Board with the completed NOI. The certification statement and statement of perjury are applicable to all attachments of the NOI, and are applicable to the monitoring results and analysis reported within this form. Dischargers shall analyze all applicable pollutants in this Attachment in accordance with the analytical methods and other requirements specified in Part 136 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

Detection, for the purposes of the priority pollutants with applicable water quality criteria, means a sample result that is greater than or equal to the detection limit. Sample results less than the ML, but greater than or equal to the detection limit, shall be reported as “Detected, but Not Quantified,” or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported, and shall be used to compare to the applicable screening level for purposes of determining whether effluent limitations are necessary.

Detection, for the purposes of the priority pollutants without applicable water quality criteria, means a sample result that is greater than or equal to the applicable screening level (i.e., the lowest ML specified in the SIP or 40 CFR Part 136).

II. ANALYSES REQUIRED OF ALL DISCHARGERS

A. Conventional and Non-Conventional Pollutants. All Dischargers seeking authorization to discharge under this General Order shall sample and analyze the proposed effluent for the pollutants contained in Table B-1. The results of the analyses shall be compared to the corresponding screening levels and shall be submitted as part of the NOI.

Table B-1. Screening Levels for Conventional and Non-Conventional Pollutants

Parameter	Units	Sample Result	Screening Level	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)[1]	mg/L		95	
BOD_5 @ 20° C or	mg/L		55 for BOD_5 or	

Parameter	Units	Sample Result	Screening Level	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
$CBOD_5$ @ 20° C			50 for $CBOD_5$	
Oil and Grease[1]	mg/L		25	
pH[1]	standard units		Range 6.0 - 9.0	
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons[1,2]	mg/L		0.1	

[1] Not applicable to discharges from established water supply systems where parameter is not expected to exceed screening level.

[2] Applies only to dewatering/discharge operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering/discharge operations.

B. Priority Pollutants. All Dischargers seeking authorization to discharge under this General Order shall sample and analyze the proposed effluent for the priority pollutants contained in Tables B-2 and B-3. The results of the analyses shall be compared to the corresponding screening levels and shall be submitted as part of the NOI.

Table B-2. Screening Levels for Priority Pollutants

Parameter	Sample Result (µg/L)	Screening Levels[1]		Minimum Levels (MLs) (µg/L)	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
		Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]	Non-Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]		
Volatile Organics					
1,1-Dichloroethane		5	5	1	
1,1-Dichloroethylene		0.057	3.2	0.5	
1,1,1-Trichloroethane		200	200	2	
1,1,2-Trichloroethane		0.6	42	0.5	
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane		0.17	1	0.5	
1,2-Dichlorobenzene		600	600	0.5	
1,2-Dichloroethane		0.38	99	0.5	
1,2-Dichloropropane		0.52	39	0.5	
1,2-Cis-Dichloroethylene		6	10	N/A	
1,2-Trans-Dichloroethylene		10	10	1	
1,3-Dichlorobenzene		400	2,600	2	
1,3-Dichloropropylene		0.5	0.5	0.5	
1,4-Dichlorobenzene		5	0.5	0.5	
2-Chloroethyl-vinyl-ether		1[3]	1[3]	1	
Acetone		700	700	N/A	
Acrolein		320	780	5	
Acrylonitrile		0.059	0.66	2	

Parameter	Sample Result (µg/L)	Screening Levels[1]		Minimum Levels (MLs) (µg/L)	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
		Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]	Non-Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]		
Benzene		1.0	1.0	0.5	
Bromoform		4.3	360	0.5	
Carbon Tetrachloride		0.25	0.5	0.5	
Chlorobenzene		680	21,000	2	
Chlorodibromomethane		0.41	34	0.5	
Chloroethane		300	300	2	
Chloroform		100	100	2	
Dichlorobromomethane		0.56	46	0.5	
Di-isopropyl Ether		5	5	N/A	
Ethanol		760,000	760,000	N/A	
Ethylbenzene		700	700	2	
Ethylene Dibromide		0.05	0.05	N/A	
Hydrocarbons, Total Petroleum		100	100	N/A	
Methanol		3,500	740,000	N/A	
Methyl Bromide		10	4,000	2	
Methyl Chloride		3	3	0.5	
Methyl ethyl ketone		700	700	N/A	
Methyl tertiary-butyl ether		13	13	N/A	
Methylene Chloride		4.7	1,600	0.5	
Tertiary-amyl-methyl ether		5	5	N/A	
Tertiary Butyl Alcohol		12	12	N/A	
Tetrachloroethylene		0.8	8.85	0.5	
Toluene		150	150	2	
Trichloroethylene		2.7	5	0.5	
Trichlorofluoroethane		1,200	4,000	N/A	
Vinyl Chloride		0.5	0.5	0.5	
Xylenes		20	1,750	N/A	
Semi-Volatile Organics					
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine		0.04	0.54	1	
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene		70	--	5	
2-Chlorophenol		120	400	5	
2,4-Dichlorophenol		93	790	5	
2,4-Dimethylphenol		540	2,300	2	
2,4-Dinitrophenol		70	14,000	5	
2,4-Dinitrotoluene		0.11	9.1	5	
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol		2.1	6.5	10	
2,6-Dinitrotoluene		5[3]	5[3]	5	

Parameter	Sample Result (µg/L)	Screening Levels[1]		Minimum Levels (MLs) (µg/L)	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
		Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]	Non-Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]		
2-Nitrophenol		10[3]	10[3]	10	
2-Chloronaphthalene		1,700	4,300	10	
3,3'-Dichlorobenzene		0.04	0.077	5	
3-Methyl-4-Chlorophenol		1[3]	1[3]	1	
2-Methyl-4,6-Dinitrophenol		13	765	5	
4-Nitrophenol		5[3]	5[3]	5	
4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether		5[3]	5[3]	5	
4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether		5[3]	5[3]	5	
Acenaphthene		1,200	2,700	1	
Acenaphthylene		10[3]	10[3]	10	
Anthracene		9,600	110,000	5	
Benzidine		0.00012	0.00054	5	
Benzo(a)Anthracene		0.0044	0.049	5	
Benzo(a)Pyrene		0.0044	0.049	2	
Benzo(b)Fluoranthene		0.0044	0.049	10	
Benzo(g,h,i)Perylene		5[3]	5[3]	5	
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene		0.0044	0.049	2	
Bis(2-Chloroethoxyl)Methane		5[3]	5[3]	5	
Bis(2-Chloroethyl)Ether		0.031	1.4	1	
Bis(2-Chloroisopropyl)Ether		1,400	170,000	10	
Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate		1.8	5.9	5	
Butylbenzyl Phthalate		3,000	5,200	10	
Chrysene		0.0044	0.049	5	
Dibenzo(a,h)Anthracene		0.0044	0.049	1	
Diethyl Phthalate		23,000	120,000	10	
Dimethyl Phthalate		313,000	2,900,000	10	
di-n-Butyl Phthalate		2,700	12,000	10	
di-n-Octyl Phthalate		10[3]	10[3]	10	
Fluoranthene		300	370	10	
Fluorene		1,300	14,000	10	
Hexachlorobenzene		0.00075	0.00077	1	
Hexachlorobutadiene		0.44	50	1	
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene		50	17,000	5	
Hexachloroethane		1.9	8.9	1	
Indeno(12,3-cd)Pyrene		0.0044	0.049	0.05	

Parameter	Sample Result (µg/L)	Screening Levels[1]		Minimum Levels (MLs) (µg/L)	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
		Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]	Non-Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]		
Isophorone		8.4	600	1	
N-Nitrosodimethyl amine		0.00069	8.1	5	
N-Nitroso-di-n-propyl amine		0.005	1.4	5	
N-Nitrosodiphenyl amine		5.0	16	1	
Naphthalene		10[3]	10[3]	10	
Nitrobenzene		17	1,900	10	
Pentachlorophenol		0.28	7.9	1	
Phenanthrene		5[3]	5[3]	5	
Phenol		21,000	4,600,000	50	
Pyrene		960	11,000	10	
Metals and Other Compounds					
Antimony, Total Recoverable		14	4,300	5	
Arsenic, Total Recoverable		50	36	10	
Beryllium, Total Recoverable		4	--	0.5	
Cadmium, Total Recoverable		Refer to Table B-3			
Chromium (III)		Refer to Table B-3			
Chromium (VI)		11	50	5	
Copper, Total Recoverable		Refer to Table B-3			
Cyanide, Free		5.2	--	5	
Lead, Total Recoverable		Refer to Table B-3			
Mercury, Total Recoverable		0.050	0.051	0.2	
Nickel, Total Recoverable		Refer to Table B-3			
Selenium, Total Recoverable		5.0	71	2	
Silver, Total Recoverable		Refer to Table B-3			
Thallium, Total Recoverable		1.7	6.3	1	
Zinc, Total Recoverable		Refer to Table B-3			
Asbestos		7 MFL[4]	7 MFL[5]	--	
2,3,7,8-TCDD		1.3×10^{-8}	1.4×10^{-8}	--	
Pesticides and PCBs					
4,4'-DDD		0.00083	0.00084	0.05	
4,4'-DDE		0.00059	0.00059	0.05	
4,4'-DDT		0.00059	0.00059	0.01	
alpha-Endosulfan		0.056	0.0087	0.02	
alpha-BHC		0.0039	0.013	0.01	

Parameter	Sample Result (µg/L)	Screening Levels[1]		Minimum Levels (MLs) (µg/L)	Above Screening Level (yes/no)
		Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]	Non-Municipal Designated Waters (µg/L)[2]		
Aldrin		0.00013	0.00014	0.005	
beta-Endosulfan		0.056	0.0087	0.01	
beta-BHC		0.014	0.046	0.005	
Chlordane		0.00057	0.00059	0.1	
delta-BHC		--	--	0.005	
Dieldrin		0.00014	0.00014	0.01	
Endosulfan Sulfate		110	240	0.05	
Endrin		0.036	0.0023	0.01	
Endrin Aldehyde		0.76	0.81	0.01	
Heptachlor		0.00021	0.00021	0.01	
Heptachlor Epoxide		0.0001	0.00011	0.01	
gamma-BHC		0.019	0.063	0.02	
PCBs, sum of [6]		0.00017	0.00017	0.5	
Toxaphene		0.00073	0.00075	0.5	

1 The screening levels for MUN designated waters were established based on the maximum contaminant level (MCL) and California Toxics Rule (CTR) criteria for the protection of aquatic life or for the protection of human health for consumption of water and organisms, whichever was the more stringent. The screening levels for Non-MUN designated waters were established based on CTR criteria for the protection of aquatic life or human health for the consumption of organisms only, whichever was the more stringent.

2 µg/L = micrograms per liter

3 Priority pollutants for which no applicable MCLs or CTR criteria for the protection of human health or aquatic life exist include beryllium, chloroethane, 2-chloroethylvinyl ether, chloroform, 1,1-dichloroethane, methyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 2-nitrophenol, 4-nitrophenol, 3-methyl-4-chlorophenol, acenaphthylene, benzo(ghi)perylene, bis(2-chloroethoxy)methane, 4-bromophenyl phenyl ether, 4-chlorophenyl phenyl ether, 2,6-dinitrotoluene, di-n-octyl phthalate, naphthalene, phenanthrene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, delta-BHC, and asbestos (non-MUN only). The screening level for these parameters is based on the lowest minimum level (ML) contained in the SIP.

4 MFL = million fibers per liter

5 There are no applicable MCLs or CTR criteria for the protection of human health (consumption of organisms only) or aquatic life for asbestos for non-MUN designated waters. There is also no applicable ML for asbestos in the SIP. Therefore, the screening level for asbestos for non-MUN designated waters is equivalent to the CTR criterion for the protection of human health (consumption of water and organisms). If the discharge exceeds this screening level, effluent limitations will not be required, but the Discharger will be required to conduct additional monitoring as specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

6 The screening level applies to the sum of Aroclors 1242, 1254, 1221, 1232, 1248, 1280, and 1016.

Table B-3. Screening Levels for Hardness-Dependent Priority Pollutant Metals

Receiving Water Hardness (mg/L as $CaCO_3$)	Most Stringent CTR Water Quality Criterion (µg/L)						
	Cadmium	Chromium (III)	Copper	Lead	Nickel	Silver	Zinc
1 – 10	0.07	4.8	0.18	0.01	1.1	0.01	2.4
11 – 20	0.44	34	1.4	0.19	8.1	0.09	18

Receiving Water Hardness (mg/L as $CaCO_3$)	Most Stringent CTR Water Quality Criterion (µg/L)						
	Cadmium	Chromium (III)	Copper	Lead	Nickel	Silver	Zinc
21 – 30	0.72	58	2.5	0.44	14	0.28	32
31 – 40	0.98	79	3.4	0.72	19	0.54	44
41 – 50	1.2	100	4.4	1.0	25	0.88	56
51 – 60	1.5	120	5.2	1.4	30	1.3	68
61 – 70	1.7	140	6.1	1.7	34	1.7	79
71 – 80	1.9	160	7.0	2.1	39	2.3	90
81 – 90	2.1	170	7.8	2.4	44	2.8	100
91 – 100	2.3	190	8.6	2.8	48	3.5	110
101 – 110	2.5	210	9.4	3.2	53	4.1	120
111 – 120	2.7	230	10	3.6	57	4.9	130
121 – 130	2.9	240	11	4.1	61	5.6	140
131 – 140	3.0	260	12	4.5	66	6.5	150
141 – 150	3.2	270	13	4.9	70	7.3	160
151 – 160	3.4	290	13	5.4	74	8.2	170
161 – 170	3.6	310	14	5.8	78	9.2	180
171 – 180	3.8	320	15	6.3	82	10	190
181 – 190	3.9	340	15	6.8	86	11	200
191 – 200	4.1	350	16	7.3	90	12	210
201 – 210	4.3	370	17	7.7	94	13	220
211 – 220	4.4	380	18	8.2	98	15	230
221 – 230	4.6	400	18	8.7	100	16	230
231 – 240	4.8	410	19	9.2	110	17	240
241 – 250	4.9	430	20	9.7	110	18	250
251 – 260	5.1	440	20	10	110	20	260
261 – 270	5.2	450	21	11	120	21	270
271 – 280	5.4	470	22	11	120	23	280
281 – 290	5.5	480	23	12	130	24	290
291 – 300	5.7	500	23	12	130	25	300
301 – 310	5.8	510	24	13	130	27	300
311 – 320	6.0	520	25	13	140	29	310
321 – 330	6.2	540	25	14	140	30	320
331 – 340	6.3	550	26	15	140	32	330
341 – 350	6.5	570	27	15	150	33	340
351 – 360	6.6	580	27	16	150	35	350
361 – 370	6.7	590	28	16	150	37	360
371 – 380	6.9	610	29	17	160	39	360
381 – 390	7.0	620	29	17	160	41	370

Receiving Water Hardness (mg/L as $CaCO_3$)	Most Stringent CTR Water Quality Criterion (µg/L)						
	Cadmium	Chromium (III)	Copper	Lead	Nickel	Silver	Zinc
391 – 400	7.2	630	30	18	170	42	380
> 400	7.3	650	31	19	170	44	390

C. Section 303(d) Parameters. If the proposed receiving water is listed as impaired on the latest 303(d) list, the Discharger shall analyze a representative sample of the discharge for the affected parameter(s) and submit the results with the completed NOI. The latest 303(d) List may be found at: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml

III. Waterbody or Designated Use Specific Analyses Required

The Basin Plan establishes limitations for the discharge of certain pollutants to specific waterbodies. Dischargers proposing to discharge under this General Order to the New River, Alamo River, Imperial Valley Drains, Coachella Valley Drains, Palo Verde Valley Drains, and to tributaries to the Salton Sea shall analyze a representative sample of the discharge for the parameters indicated in Tables B-4 through B-6 below, as applicable, and compare the results to the screening levels noted. The Discharger shall submit the results of all analyses performed with the completed NOI.

Table B4. Analysis Requirements for Discharges to the New River, Alamo River, and the Imperial Valley Drains

Parameter	Units	Sample Result	Screening Level	Reasonable Potential (yes/no)
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L		4,000	

Table B-5. Analysis Requirements for Discharges to the Coachella Valley Drains and the Palo Verde Valley Drains

Parameter	Units	Sample Result	Screening Level	Reasonable Potential (yes/no)
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L		2,000	

Table B-6. Analysis Requirements for Discharges to the Tributaries to the Salton Sea.

Parameter	Units	Sample Result	Screening Level	Reasonable Potential (yes/no)
Selenium	mg/L		0.005	

ATTACHMENT C – NOTICE OF INTENT

NOTICE OF INTENT
TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF
GENERAL ORDER R7-2015-0006
FOR
DISCHARGES OF LOW THREAT WASTEWATERS TO SURFACE WATERS

To obtain coverage under this Order, which also serves as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, the Discharger must submit a complete application, including the following requirements. Additional information may be requested by the Regional Water Board for specific sites / projects.

I. REASON FOR FILING

New Discharge or New Facility	NPDES Permit Reissuance/Renewal	Change from Individual Permit to General Permit
☐	☐	☐

II. EXISTING PERMITS/REQUIREMENTS (IF APPLICABLE):

List any active Board Orders or Permits adopted by this Regional Water Board for this facility.
1. Board Order No. _____ _____ _____
2. NPDES Permit(s) _____ _____ _____

III. PROJECT/FACILITY NAME AND SITE ADDRESS INFORMATION

Project/Facility Name			
Site Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
1. Assessor's Parcel Numbers: Facility:	2. Latitude: Facility:	3. Longitude: Facility:	
Contact Person			

IV. CONTRACTOR/OPERATOR (If additional contractors/operators are involved, provide information in a supplemental letter)

Name					
Mailing Address					
City			State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person		Contractor ☐	Operator ☐	Contractor/Operator ☐	
Owner Type (check one)	1. Individual ☐	2. Corporation ☐	3. Government Agency ☐	4. Partnership ☐	5. Other ☐

V. PROPERTY OWNER (If additional property owners are involved, provide information in a supplemental letter)

Name					
Mailing Address					
City			State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person					
Owner Type (check one)	1. Individual ☐	2. Corporation ☐	3. Government Agency ☐	4. Partnership ☐	5. Other ☐

VI. Address Where Legal Notice May Be Served:

Name			
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person			

VII. BILLING ADDRESS (Where Annual Fee Invoices should be sent):

Name			
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
Contact Person			

VIII. DISCHARGE LOCATION (If more than one discharge is proposed, provide information in a supplemental letter):

Street (including address, if any):

_____

City/County:

_____

Nearest Cross Street(s):

_____

Township/Range/Section T_____, R_____, Section_____, SBB&M
Attach a map of at least 1:24000 (1"=2000') showing the discharge site (e.g., USGS 7.5' topographic map). The map should also show the treatment system, discharge point, and surface waters. Wells and residences within 1,500 feet shall be identified.

1. Assessor's Parcel Numbers Discharge Point:	2. Latitude Discharge Point:	3. Longitude Discharge Point:

IX. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND TREATMENT PROCESS DESCRIPTION

Provide a description of the project and the discharge requiring coverage under this General Order. If additives are added to your process, briefly describe their composition if the information is available. If treatment is necessary prior to discharge, attach a schematic flow diagram and provide description of all treatment processes. In addition, include the proposed discharge rate in million gallons per day (MGD), the approximate project start date, and the projected discharge duration. (Attach additional sheets, if necessary)

_____

_____

Start Date_____ Estimated Stop Date_____ Discharge or Design Flow Rate_____ MGD

Is the discharge continuous or intermittent? _____

X. RECEIVING WATER INFORMATION

1. Name of closest Receiving Water.

_____

2. Receiving Water is tributary to (name major downstream water body):

_____

Receiving Water Designation (check one)	1. Municipal Designated Receiving Water ☐	2. Non-Municipal Designated Receiving Water ☐

XI. POLLUTANTS/PARAMETERS LIKELY TO BE IN THE DISCHARGE

Please identify (mark all that apply). Discharger to submit report on analysis of constituents identified below:

☐ Nitrates ☐ Color ☐ Suspended material ☐ Turbidity

☐ pH ☐ Oil and grease ☐ Chlorine ☐ Metals

☐ Total Dissolved Solids

☐ Other (e.g., E. Coli, nutrients, BOD, etc.) (please describe): _____

_____

Priority Pollutant Monitoring – Required of ALL applicants:

Have samples been collected: ☐ Yes (attach results) ☐ No

Do any priority pollutants results exceed the Water Quality Screening Criteria contained in General Order No. R7-2015-0006, Attachment B? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If your answer is yes, a facility-specific individual permit may be required from this Regional Water Board rather than this General Order.

Are additives in the discharge? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please specify the additive and/or sample results:_____

_____

XII. BMP OR CONTROL STRATEGY PLAN

☐ Do you have a BMP or Control Strategy Plan in place for your proposed discharge(s)?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

☐ If yes, is the BMP Plan consistent with the general guidance contained in the U.S. EPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004)?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Check applicable item below.

☐ If you exceeded a screening level in Attachment B for any parameter, you must submit a BMP or Control Strategy Plan with your completed NOI. The BMP Plan must be consistent with the general guidance contained in the U.S. EPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004).

☐ ***Check here if a BMP or Control Strategy Plan is included In the NOI package.***

☐ If you did not exceed a screening level in Attachment B for any parameter, you must develop and implement a BMP Plan within 3 months of receiving the NOA and have it available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. The BMP Plan must be consistent with the general guidance contained in the U.S. EPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004).

XIII. ABILITY TO COMPLY

Do you believe the discharge may have acute or chronic toxicity, chemical, or organic constituents, bacteria, pesticides, oil and grease, radioactivity, salinity, or temperature that may adversely impact beneficial uses of the Receiving Water?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If your answer is yes, a facility-specific individual permit may be required from this Regional Water Board rather than this General Order.

XIV. EVALUATION OF RECLAMATION OPTIONS

To obtain coverage under this Order, the Discharger is required to evaluate reclamation options.

- ☐ Provide proof that discharge to the local municipal wastewater treatment plant is not viable or explain why it is infeasible to connect to the wastewater treatment plant. The Discharger may submit any denial or restrictive flow letter from the wastewater treatment plant as proof that this is not a viable option.
- ☐ Provide an explanation why land disposal is not a viable option.
- ☐ Provide an explanation why underground injection is not a viable option.

XV. FEES

Low threat discharges regulated by this NPDES permit shall pay a fee in accordance with CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 23. Division 3. Chapter 9. Waste Discharge Reports and Requirements, Article 1. (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/docs/fy1415_npdes_fees.pdf)
A check payable to the State Water Resources Control Board in the correct amount of the must be submitted for a New Discharge. (Please mark the appropriate box)

☐ Check Enclosed with NOI ☐ Renewal – Annual Fee is Billed Automatically

XVI. CERTIFICATION

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

The Regional Water Board will be immediately notified of any violation, or threatened violation, of this General Permit.

Signature of Contractor/Operator		Signature of Property Owner	
Print or Type Name		Print or Type Name	
Title	Date	Title	Date

XVIII. OTHER

Attach additional sheets to explain any responses which need clarification. List attachments with titles and dates below:

A representative of the Regional Water Board will notify you within 30 days of receipt of your Notice of Intent. The notice will state if your discharge meets the criteria for this General Order, whether the Notice of Intent is complete or if additional information must be submitted to complete your application for this General Order, pursuant to division 7, section 13260 of the California Water Code.

The completion date of your application is normally the date when all required information, including the correct fee, is received by the Regional Water Board.

FOR REGIONAL WATER BOARD OFFICE USE ONLY

Date NOI Received:	Letter to Discharger Sent:	Fee Amount Received:	Check #:

ATTACHMENT C-1 – BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES/ POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN

Permittees that are required shall submit a Best Management Practices/Pollution Prevention (BMP/PP) Plan with the Notice of Intent (NOI). In its determination of suitability for authorization/coverage under the General Order, the Regional Water Board will assess the BMP/PP Plan for its consideration of site-specific conditions and its effectiveness at pollution prevention, control, and treatment, as well as its effectiveness at preventing erosion, hydromodification, stream scouring, nuisance conditions, and other potential adverse impacts to the receiving waters. The BMP/PP Plan must include sufficient detail to allow the Regional Water Board to assess whether or not all reasonable measures will be implemented to ensure that the discharge poses a low threat to water quality.

The purpose of the BMP/PP Plan is to evaluate potential sources of pollutants from the discharge and at the project site and to identify controls that will be implemented to effectively prevent pollutant discharges to surface and ground waters. The BMP/PP Plan shall include the following elements, as applicable:

A. **Characterization of Discharges**. The BMP/PP Plan shall include a narrative assessment of all activities conducted at the site; potential pollutant sources associated with each activity; and the nature of the pollutants that could be discharged, including pollutants that could occur at the point of discharge due to stream bank erosion and stream scouring.

B. **Site Map** and drawing as specified in Section XIII of NOI.

The BMP/PP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in U.S. EPA's *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (EPA 833-B-93-004) and with the California Stormwater Quality Association's *Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbook for Commercial and Industrial Properties* (June 2003).

C. **Identification of BMPs**. The BMP/PP Plan shall include a narrative description of BMPs to be implemented at the site to control the discharge of pollutants and minimize impacts to water quality. The BMP/PP Plan shall also identify applicable mitigation measures from section X.C.3.b of the General Order to ensure that the BMPs do not cause environmental impacts. Permittees shall consider:

1. Preventative BMPs - measures to reduce or eliminate the generation of pollutants and waste and undesirable nuisance conditions. The Permittee shall include measures to prevent or reduce the generation of pollutants and minimize the volume, rate of discharge and duration of discharge from the proposed discharge source and to prevent the discharge of other pollutants associated with any construction activity at the site associated with the proposed discharge.

2. The Permittee shall demonstrate that the discharge will be conducted in a manner that will prevent the creation of nuisance conditions, including, but not limited to creation of mosquito breeding habitat, flooding, nuisance algae conditions, odors, etc. For proposed discharges to dry stream beds the demonstration shall include a plan to ensure that water soaks into the ground in a short period of time to preclude the creation of mosquito breeding habitat.

3. Control BMPs - measures to control or manage pollutants and waste after they are generated and before they come into contact with receiving water. The Plan shall include, if necessary, measures to retain soil and sediment on the site and to permanently stabilize any disturbed soils.

4. Response BMPs - measures to respond to leaks, spills, and other releases with containment, control, and cleanup measures to prevent or minimize the potential for the discharge of pollutants and to minimize the adverse effects of such discharges.

B. BMP Measures for Low Threat Discharge Control

1. **Discharge-Specific BMPs.** The BMP/PP shall include the following discharge-specific BMPs.

   a. **Chlorinated Water Discharges.** All chlorinated water shall be dechlorinated at the point of discharge directly into a surface water or the point of discharge into any storm water conveyance system. See section B.3, below, for additional information regarding BMPs for dechlorinating the discharge.

2. **Sediment, Salt, Minerals, and Erosion Control**

   Indicate in the BMP/PP Plan the sediment controls that will be used to stabilize the site, as needed, to ensure that sediment is not discharged. Sediment, salt, mineral, and erosion control practices shall be used to protect soil surfaces at discharge points and receiving waters.

   a. **Receiving Waters.** The Permittee shall identify methods for locating discharge points and receiving waters to determine appropriate sediment and erosion control measures.

   b. **Sediment, Salt, and Mineral Control.** Sediment, salt, and mineral control practices shall be used to filter and trap sediment particles, salts and minerals to prevent them from reaching storm drains or receiving waters. The following practices may be used to control sedimentation, salt and minerals buildup in receiving waters:

      i. Filter barriers, such as fiber rolls/logs, silt fencing, straw bales or waddles, gravel inlet filters/bags may be placed in a flow pathway and around storm drain inlets;

      ii. Plastic sheets may be used to line a trench and flow pathway to prevent water contact with soil;

      iii. Check dams may be constructed to dissipate flow energy and minimize the potential for discharges to dislodge soil;

      iv. Discharge to a vegetated filter strip or swale, if available nearby the discharge that has sufficient capacity for the discharge;

      v. Discharge to an open field or turf to remove sand and/or silt or larger particles prior to surface water discharge;

      vi. Discharge to retention structures, such as ponds, trenches, sediment traps, and settling basins for settling solids;

      vii. Stabilization of access points using crushed rock or mulch; and

      viii. Good housekeeping, such as frequent sweeping.

   c. **Erosion Controls.** Erosion control practices shall be used to protect soil surfaces at discharge points and receiving waters. Erosion control practices shall be used to prevent re-suspension of ambient sediment within a receiving water, and shoreline erosion and streambed scour. Such controls shall minimize the energy of discharges by managing flow velocities and volumes, and shall be appropriately designed so that the discharge does not exceed the hydraulic capacity of the

receiving water at the point of discharge and areas downstream of the discharge point. The following measures may be used to control erosion in receiving waters:

i. Vegetated filter strips or swales to slow water velocity;

ii. Stabilized conveyance systems;

iii. Energy dissipation (structures designed to prevent erosion and slow water velocity associated with conveyance systems)

iv. Diverting flows around disturbed areas or other pollutant sources using stabilized conveyances;

v. Flow controls to minimize discharge rate and to prevent erosion and flooding;

vi. Construct check dams to slow down the flow;

vii. Install flow diffusers at discharge point;

viii. Fashion discharge flow path with as little slope as possible; and

ix. Decrease discharge flow rates and duration.

3. Dechlorination. The following types of dechlorination methods, or equivalent, may be utilized as appropriate to achieve compliance with the applicable effluent limitation:

a. Dechlorinating Diffuser. The dechlorinating diffuser connects directly to a discharge nozzle (e.g., to a fire hydrant or fire hose using a standard 2 ½ inch to 4 ½ inch National Pipe Thread coupling) and contains a chamber that houses dechlorination agent. Some diffusers feature a siphon for dechlorinating agent tablets or a solution to dechlorinate the water.

b. Dechlorination Mats. These mats are used to facilitate effective contact between the flow and dechlorinating agent during dechlorination. For dechlorination of discharges from trenches during main breaks, the tablets are placed inside synthetic mesh fabric pockets sewn together in a grid or line. The dechlorinating mats are laid across the flow path or over the storm water conveyance system.

As the discharged water flows over and around the tablets, dechlorinating agent is released, which removes the chlorine.

c. Broadcast Dechlorination. Dechlorination granules are spread over an area, such as pavement, where chlorinated water is flowing toward a storm water conveyance system inlet.

d. Chemical Injection Metering Pump. Occasionally, a dechlorination agent is injected into a discharge pipe, such as a tank drain, to dechlorinate the water before entering the storm water system.

Addition of dechlorination chemicals must be managed to ensure the dechlorination agent does not adversely affect or impact beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

4. Management of Additives. A Permittee that applies additives or other chemicals must implement BMP measures to eliminate or reduce concentrations in its discharges to the extent feasible, including but not limited to the following

a. Recordkeeping of where, when, and how much additive is used to treat water that has the potential to be discharged to a surface water.

b. Implementation of BMPs that eliminate planned discharges and minimize emergency discharges to surface water bodies from occurring within 48 hours of applying additives.

c. Implementation of BMPs to eliminate or reduce to the extent feasible the use of additives by using less toxic agents or other methods in place of the additives.

5. Additional BMPs. Indicate in the BMP/PP Plan what additional measures will be used to treat the discharge and prevent pollutants from impacting water quality and the environment. BMP options may include, but are not limited to:

a. BMPs to remove pollutants from first flush water (e.g., alternate disposal method for first flush water that may have residual chlorine or volatile organic constituents (VOCs) from drilling, welding debris, etc.);

b. Ponds, trenches, or basins for cooling;

c. Timing of discharge to eliminate or minimize impacts to receiving waters.

C. Equipment and Supplies

The BMP/PP Plan shall identify procedures to ensure that equipment and sampling meters are inspected, maintained, and calibrated per manufacturer instructions and specifications.

D. Training

The BMP/PP Plan shall identify procedures to ensure that the Permittee's staff and/or contractors are properly trained for project site inspections and maintenance, and monitoring and reporting, and for the proper use and maintenance, and comprehension of permit compliance needs.

ATTACHMENT D – STANDARD PROVISIONS

I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE

A. Duty to Comply

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the terms, requirements, and conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action; permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; denial of a permit renewal application; or a combination thereof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a); Wat. Code §§ 13261, 13263, 13265, 13268, 13000, 13001, 13304, 13350, 13385.)

2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance

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 Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

E. Property Rights

1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)

2. The issuance of this Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. (40 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

F. Inspection and Entry

The Discharger shall allow the Colorado River Basin Water Board, State Water Board, U.S. EPA, and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B)(i); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383);
2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383);
3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383); and
4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383.)

G. Bypass

1. Definitions
   a. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).)
   b. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)
2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)
3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Colorado River Basin Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):
   a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A));
   b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and
   c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Colorado River Basin Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. §122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)
4. The Colorado River Basin Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Colorado River Basin Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)

5. Notice

   a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)

   b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

H. Upset

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Discharger. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.H.2 below are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).)

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):

   a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));

   b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));

   c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and

   d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)

3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION

A. General

This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Order condition. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(f).)

B. Duty to Reapply

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

C. Transfers

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Colorado River Basin Water Board. The Colorado River Basin Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. (40 C.F.R. § §122.41(l)(3); 122.61.)

III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING

A. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)

B. Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 for the analyses of pollutants unless another method is required under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O. In the case of pollutants for which there are no approved methods under 40 C.F.R. part 136 or otherwise required under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O, monitoring must be conducted according to a test procedure specified in this Order for such pollutants. (40 C.F.R. §§ 122.41(j)(4), 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS

A. Except for records of monitoring information required by this Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 C.F.R. part 503), the Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)

B. Records of monitoring information shall include:

4. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
5. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
6. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
7. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
8. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
9. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)

C. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):

1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING

A. Duty to Provide Information

The Discharger shall furnish to the Colorado River Basin Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Colorado River Basin Water

Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order or to determine compliance with this Order. Upon request, the Discharger shall also furnish to the Colorado River Basin Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA copies of records required to be kept by this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383.)

B. Signatory and Certification Requirements

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Colorado River Basin Water Board, State Water Board, and/or U.S. EPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, and V.B.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)

2. All permit applications shall be signed by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means: (i) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision-making functions for the corporation, or (ii) the manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(1).)

3. All reports required by this General Order and other information requested by the Colorado River Basin Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

   a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(1));

   b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and

   c. The written authorization is submitted to the Colorado River Basin Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)

4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Colorado River Basin Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c).)

5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.3 above shall make the following certification:

   "I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations." (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

C. Monitoring Reports

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4).)
2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Colorado River Basin Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)
3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this General Order using test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Colorado River Basin Water Board (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)
4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

D. Compliance Schedules

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this Order, shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting

1. The Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
   a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
   b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)

3. The Colorado River Basin Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

F. Planned Changes

The Discharger shall give notice to the Colorado River Basin Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in section 122.29(b) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or
2. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

G. Anticipated Noncompliance

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Colorado River Basin Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this Order's requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

H. Other Noncompliance

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

I. Other Information

When the Discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Colorado River Basin Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT

A. The Colorado River Basin Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13268, 13385, 13386, and 13387.

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS

A. Non-Municipal Facilities

Existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural Dischargers shall notify the Colorado River Basin Water Board as soon as they know or have reason to believe (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)):

1. That any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in this Order, if that

discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels" (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)):

a. 100 micrograms per liter (µg/L) (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(i));

b. 200 µg/L for acrolein and acrylonitrile; 500 µg/L for 2,4-dinitrophenol and 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and 1 milligram per liter (mg/L) for antimony (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(ii));

c. Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the Report of Waste Discharge (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(iii)); or

d. The level established by the Colorado River Basin Water Board in accordance with section 122.44(f). (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(1)(iv).)

2. That any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in the discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in this Order, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following “notification levels" (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)):

a. 500 micrograms per liter (µg/L) (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(i));

b. 1 milligram per liter (mg/L) for antimony (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(ii));

c. Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the Report of Waste Discharge (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(iii)); or

d. The level established by the Colorado River Basin Water Board in accordance with section 122.44(f). (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(a)(2)(iv).)

ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

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ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)

Section 308 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and sections 122.41(h), (j)-(*l*), 122.44(i), and 122.48 of title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R.) require that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Colorado River Basin Water Board to establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements. This MRP establishes monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements that implement the Federal and California laws and/or regulations.

I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS

A. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring locations specified below and, unless otherwise specified, before the monitored flow joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. Monitoring locations shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of the Colorado River Basin Water Board.

B. Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated and maintained to ensure that the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. Devices selected shall be capable of measuring flows with a maximum deviation of less than ±10 percent from true discharge rates throughout the range of expected discharge volumes.

C. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year or more frequently, to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.

D. All analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Water Resources Control Board, unless otherwise specified by this Order or Monitoring and Reporting Program. Laboratories analyzing monitoring samples shall be certified by the State Water Resources Control Board, in accordance with the provision of Water Code section 13176, and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports.

E. The collection, preservation and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with the test procedures under 40 C.F.R. part 136 (revised as of August 19, 2014) "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants," promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), unless otherwise specified in this MRP. In addition, the Colorado River Basin Water Board and/or EPA, at their discretion, may specify test methods that are more sensitive than those specified in 40 C.F.R part 136.

F. The permittee must utilize analytical methods as follows:

1. A test procedure listed in 40 C.F.R. part 136.3; or
2. An alternative test procedure approved by EPA as provided in 40 C.F.R. parts 136.4 or 136.5; or;
3. A test procedure listed in 40 C.F.R. part 136, with modifications allowed by EPA as provided in 40 C.F.R. section 136.6.

Guidance on procedures for approval of alternative and new test procedures can be obtained from the following references: Protocol for EPA Approval of Alternative Test Procedures for Organic and Inorganic Analytes in Wastewater and Drinking Water (EPA 821-B-98-002, March 1999); and Protocol for EPA Approval of New Methods for Organic and Inorganic Analytes in Wastewater and Drinking Water (EPA 821-B-98-003, March 1999).

G. For priority pollutants, the Discharger shall require its testing laboratory to calibrate the analytical system down to the minimum levels (MLs) specified in 40 C.F.R. part 136, unless an alternative minimum level is approved by the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Executive Officer. For priority pollutants with water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) established in this Order, when there is more than one ML value listed in 40 C.F.R. part 136 for that substance, the Discharger shall select any one of the ML values and its associated analytical method that is below the calculated effluent limitation. If no ML is below the effluent limitation, then the lowest ML value and its associated analytical method shall be used. For priority pollutants without effluent limitations established in this Order, the Discharger shall select any one of the cited analytical methods for monitoring and reporting purposes. Any internal quality control data associated with the sample shall be reported when requested by the Executive Officer. The Colorado River Basin Water Board will reject the quantified laboratory data if quality control data is unacceptable.

H. In conformance with Federal regulations 40 C.F.R. section 122.45(c), analyses to determine compliance with the effluent limitations for metals shall be conducted using the total recoverable method. For Chromium (VI), the dissolved method in conformance with 40 C.F.R. part 136 shall be used to measure compliance with a Chromium (VI) effluent limitation.

For Cyanide[1], analytical test methods in conformance with 40 C.F.R. part 136 shall be used as acceptable methods to measure Cyanide[2].

I. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy. In the event that continuous monitoring equipment is out of service for period greater than 24-hours, the Discharger shall obtain representative grab samples each day the equipment is out of service. The Discharger shall correct the cause(s) of failure of the continuous monitoring equipment as soon as practicable. The Discharger shall report the period(s) during which the equipment was out of service and if the problem has not been corrected, shall identify the steps which the Discharger is taking or proposes to take to bring the equipment back into service and the schedule for these actions.

J. Monitoring results, including noncompliance, shall be reported at intervals and in a manner specified in this MRP.

K. Whenever the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than is required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the discharge monitoring report specified by the Executive Officer.

L. If the facility is not in operation, or there is no discharge during a required reporting period, the Discharger shall indicate that there has been no activity during the required reporting period in CIWQS.

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[1] The sample for cyanide measurement shall be collected as a grab sample. Various sample preservation and sample stabilizations procedures are available that may resolve analytical interferences associated with cyanide analysis of treated wastewater effluent, ASTM Standard Practice D7365-09a. Furthermore, any technique for removal or suppression of interferences may be employed, provided the laboratory demonstrates that it more accurately measures cyanide through quality control measures described in the analytical test method. Any removal or suppression technique not described in D7365-09a or the analytical test method must be documented with supporting data.

[2] Federal Register, Vol. 77, No. 97, May 18, 2012. Cyanide exists in a variety of forms. It can be free or part of strong or weak complexes with other species. The analytical method employed determines what type of cyanide is measured. Types of cyanide measured include: Total, Available, Amenable to Chlorination, Weak Acid Dissociable, Free and others.

M. The Discharger shall submit values in eSMR as required to determine compliance with the permit effluent limit requirements (i.e., AMEL, MDEL, Geomeans, mass loadings, etc.).

N. Unless otherwise specified in the NOA, the discharger shall sample at the frequency specified in the section below.

II. MONITORING LOCATIONS

If monitoring locations are not specified in the Discharger's NOA, the Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
Discharge Point 001	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected.
Receiving Water – Upstream	RSW-001	Receiving water immediately upstream of the point of discharge so that samples are representative of upstream, background conditions within the receiving stream.
Receiving Water – Downstream	RSW-002	Receiving water at an appropriate monitoring location, downstream of the point of discharge, that adequately represents downstream water quality.

III. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location EFF-001 (as specified in NOA)

1. **Non-Continuous Discharges.** The Discharger shall monitor low threat wastewater for all Non-Continuous Discharges according to Table E-2 below. On the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-2, after which the frequencies of analysis given in Table E-3 shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the Table E-3.

Table E-2. Effluent Monitoring for All Discharges – Non-Continuous Discharge

Parameter	Units[1]	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	gpd	Calculate	1x/Day	See Section I.E of the MRP
TSS	mg/L	Grab	1x/Discharge	"
BOD_5 or $CBOD_5$	mg/L	Grab	1x/Discharge	"
Oil and Grease	mg/L	Grab	1x/Discharge	"
pH[2]	standard units	Grab	1x/Discharge	"
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons[3]	mg/L	Grab	1x/Discharge	"
Total Dissolved Solids[4]	mg/L	Grab	1x/Discharge	"

[1] gpd = gallons per day; mg/L= milligrams per liter; µg/L = micrograms per liter
[2] A handheld field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this MRP shall be maintained by the Discharger.
[3] Applies only to dewatering/discharge operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering/discharge operation.
[4] Electrical conductivity data (µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter) can be used for total dissolved solids if the discharger can produce a correlation between the two parameters.

2. **Continuous Discharges**. The Discharger shall monitor low threat wastewater for All Continuous Discharges according to Table E-3 below.

Table E-3. Effluent Monitoring for All Discharges – Continuous Discharge

Parameter	Units[1]	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	gpd	Calculate	1x/Day	See Section I.E of the MRP
TSS	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	"
BOD_5 or $CBOD_5$	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	"
Oil and Grease	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	"
pH[2]	standard units	Grab	1x/Year	"
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons[3]	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	"
Total Dissolved Solids[4]	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	"

[1] gpd = gallons per day; mg/L= milligrams per liter; µg/L = micrograms per liter
[2] A handheld field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this MRP shall be maintained by the Discharger.
[3] Applies only to dewatering/discharge operations near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in dewatering/discharge operation.
[4] Electrical conductivity data (µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter) can be used for total dissolved solids if the discharger can produce a correlation between the two parameters.

3. **Discharges to Specific Waterbodies.** The Discharger shall monitor low threat wastewater discharging low to Specific Waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II including segments of the Colorado River and the New River.

a. The Discharger shall monitor low threat wastewater for all Non-Continuous Discharges to Specific Waterbodies according to Table E-4 below. On the first day of each intermittent discharge, the Discharger shall monitor and record data for all of the constituents in Table E-5 below, after which the frequencies of analysis given in the schedule shall apply for the duration of each such intermittent discharge. The Discharger shall not be required to monitor and record data more often than twice the frequencies listed in the table.

Table E-4. Effluent Monitoring to Specific Waterbodies[1]

Parameter	Units[2]	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Eschericia coli (E. coli)	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1x/Discharge	[3]

Parameter	Units[2]	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Enterococci	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1x/Discharge	See Section I.E of the MRP
Fecal Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1x/Discharge	‘’

[1] See Section VI.A. of the Order for a list of specific waterbodies.
[2] MPN/100 mL = most probable number per 100 milliliters
[3] The Discharger may monitor for E. coli using analytical methods, Standard Method 9221.F or 9223 (APHA. 1998, 1995, 1992. Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater. American Public Health Association, 20th, 19th, and 18th Editions. Amer. Publ. Health Assoc., Washington D.C)

IV. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Upstream Location RSW-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor the upstream receiving water at RSW-001 according to Table E-6. In the event that no receiving water is present at RSW-001, no receiving water monitoring data are required for station RSW-001.

Table E-5. Upstream Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements – RSW-001

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	See Section I.E of the MRP
pH	standard units	Grab	1x/Year	‘’
Hardness as $CaCO_3$	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	‘’
Temperature	ºF	Grab	1x/Year	‘’
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	‘’

[1] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in Part 136. Where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the methods must be approved by this Regional Water Board or the State Water Board. Priority Pollutants as defined by the California Toxics Rule (CTR).

B. Monitoring Downstream Location RSW-002

1. The Discharger shall monitor the downstream receiving water at RSW-002 according to Table E-7. In the event that no receiving water is present at RSW-002, no receiving water monitoring data are required for station RSW-002.

Table E-6. Downstream Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements- RSW-002

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	See Section I.E of the MRP
pH	standard units	Grab	1x/Year	‘’
Temperature	ºF	Grab	1x/Year	‘’
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1x/Year	‘’

C. Visual Monitoring.

1. In conducting the receiving water sampling, a log shall be kept of the receiving water conditions at upstream and downstream Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002, respectively. Notes on receiving water conditions shall be summarized and reported in the "Attachment" section to the monitoring report submitted electronically via the SMR module in the CIWQS Program. Attention shall be given to the presence or absence of:
   a. Floating or suspended matter;
   b. Discoloration;
   c. Aquatic life (including plants, fish, shellfish, birds);
   d. Visible film, sheen, or coating;
   e. Fungi, slime, or objectionable growths; and
   f. Potential nuisance conditions.

V. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.

1. The results of any analysis taken more frequently than required using analytical methods, monitoring procedures and performed at the locations specified in this MRP shall be reported to the Colorado River Basin Water Board.
2. The Discharger shall ensure laboratory analytical results are consistent with the requirements contained in 40 C.F.R. part 136 with regard to significant figures. 40 C.F.R. part 136 specifies for some analytical methods, the number of significant figures to which measurements are made.

B. Electronic Self-Monitoring Reports (eSMRs)

1. The Discharger shall electronically submit SMRs using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program Web site (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html). The CIWQS Web site will provide additional information for eSMR submittal in the event there will be a planned service interruption for electronic submittal.
2. The Discharger shall maintain sufficient staffing and resources to ensure it submits eSMRs for the duration of the term of this permit including any administrative extensions. This includes provision of training and supervision of individuals (e.g., Discharger personnel or consultant) on how to prepare and submit eSMRs.
3. The Discharger shall report in the eSMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections III through IX. The Discharger shall submit eSMRs including the results of all required monitoring using U.S. EPA-approved test methods or other test methods specified in this General Order. eSMRs are to include all new monitoring results obtained since the last eSMR was submitted. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this General Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the eSMR.
4. Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

Table E-7. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On…	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
1x / Discharge Event	NOA effective date	All	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
1x / Day	NOA effective date	Midnight through 11:59 pm or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for the purposes of sampling	May 1 August 1 November 1 February 1
1x / Year	January 1 following *(or on)* NOA effective date	January 1 through December 31	February 1

5. Reporting Protocols. The Discharger shall follow the procedure in 40 C.F.R. part 136 when reporting the results of analytical determinations of chemical constituents in a sample. Further, the Discharger shall use the following reporting protocol:

   a. Sample results greater than or equal to the RL shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample). For reporting concentration and calculated values in the pet tool follow these instructions:

      Reporting Concentration - Under the “Qualifier” column select “=” and under the “Result” column report the result (concentration).

      Reporting Calculated Values - Under the “Qualifier” column select “=” and under the “Result” column report the result (calculated value).

   b. Sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory’s MDL, shall be reported under the “Qualifier” column as “DNQ” (Detected, but Not Quantified). For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration under the “Result” column next to DNQ. The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy (± a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory. For reporting concentration and calculated values in the pet tool follow these instructions:

      Reporting Concentration – Under the “Qualifier” column select “DNQ”, under the “Result” column report the estimated chemical concentration. In addition, the MDL shall be reported under the “MDL” column and the ML shall be reported under the “ML” column.

   c. Sample results less than the laboratory’s MDL shall be reported as “ND” (Not Detected). For reporting concentration and calculated values in the pet tool follow these instructions:

      Reporting Concentration – Under the “Qualifier” column select “ND” and report the MDL under the “MDL” column.

   d. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.

6. Compliance Determination. Compliance with effluent limitations for pollutants shall be determined using sample reporting protocols defined above, Attachment E and section VIII. Compliance Determination. For purposes of reporting and administrative enforcement by the Colorado River Basin Water Board and State Water Board, the Discharger shall be deemed out of compliance with effluent limitations if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reporting level (RL).

7. Multiple Sample Data. When determining compliance with a MDEL for priority pollutants and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

    a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.

    b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

8. The Discharger shall submit eSMRs in accordance with the following requirements:

    a. The Discharger shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with final effluent limitations. The Discharger is not required to duplicate the submittal of data that is entered in a tabular format within CIWQS. When CIWQS does not provide for entry into a tabular format within the system, the Discharger shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.

    b. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the eSMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the WDRs; discuss corrective actions taken or planned; and the proposed time schedule for corrective actions. Identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation. In addition, the Discharger shall add these violations into CIWQS.

    c. The Discharger shall upload the laboratory reports for the analysis of the priority pollutant for the reporting period under the attachment tab for the reporting period. The Discharger shall evaluate the results with the criteria and notify the Colorado River Basin Regional Board of any exceedance of the criteria.

C. Other Reports

1. **Annual Report.** By February 1 of each year, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer containing the following:

    a. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the facility/project for emergency and routine situations.

b. A statement certifying whether the current Best Management Practices (BMP) or Control Strategy Plan, reflect the Discharger's operations as currently constructed and operated, and the date when the BMP or Control Strategy Plan was last revised and last reviewed for adequacy.

c. Dischargers shall provide a summary report that includes the number, frequency, rate, and types of discharges to the receiving water(s).

d. For those dischargers with a project specific NOA, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were in compliance with this General Order.

e. For those dischargers granted a categorical exception under 5.3 of the SIP, a statement certifying that the discharges conducted in the previous year were necessary to implement control measures regarding drinking water conducted to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code and were in compliance with this General Order.

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ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

As described in section II.D of this Order, the Colorado River Basin Water Board incorporates this Fact Sheet as findings of the Colorado River Basin Water Board supporting the issuance of this Order. This Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this General Order.

This General Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this General Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this Discharger. Sections or subsections of this General Order not specifically identified as “not applicable” are fully applicable to this Discharger.

I. PERMIT INFORMATION

For the purposes of this General Order, references to the “discharger” or “permittee” in applicable Federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Individuals, public agencies, private business, and other legal entities occasionally need to discharge treated or untreated wastewaters directly into surface waters of the United States that pose an insignificant or minimal (i.e., low threat) to water quality. The activities that generate these low threat wastewaters are similar in that they generate wastewater flows that are similar in volume and quality. Therefore, the Regional Water Board considers it appropriate to issue General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and a General NPDES Permit for Dischargers of such flows.

On September 22, 1998, USEPA Region IX authorized the State of California to issue general NPDES permits in accordance with section 122.28. Section 122.28 allows for the issuance of general permits to regulate categories of discharges if the sources within each category:

1. Involve the same or substantially similar types of operations;
2. Discharge the same types of waste;
3. Require the same effluent limitations or operating conditions;
4. Require the same or similar monitoring; and
5. Are more appropriately controlled under a general permit than under individual permits.

B. General Permit Application and Coverage

1. Individuals or entities proposing to discharge treated or untreated wastewaters containing little or no pollutants to waters of the United States must apply for coverage under this General Order except those whose discharges that are covered under other Regional Board or Statewide General Permit or individual permit. This General Order is designed to cover low threat wastewater discharges to surface waters of the United States in the following activity categories:

   <u>Dewatering Activities.</u> This category includes discharges from entities undertaking dewatering activities.

a. Treated or untreated groundwater from permanent or temporary dewatering operations to construct or protect pipelines and structures from groundwater infiltration or flotation;

b. Subterranean seepage dewatering, such as water extracted from crawl space pumps;

Groundwater Extraction Activities. This category includes discharges from entities that extract groundwater as a result of drilling, constructing, developing, and purging wells. Entities discharging VOC contaminated groundwater **are not eligible** for coverage under this General Order.

a. Groundwater generated from well drilling, construction and development purging of wells;

b. Groundwater extracted during aquifer tests;

c. Equipment wash water;

d. Geothermal well testing;

e. Groundwater infiltration (e.g. seepage, foundation, or footage drainage, seawater infiltration);

Other Low Threat Discharge Activities. This category includes discharges from public and private entities that engage in other miscellaneous activities that result in low threat discharges.

a. Pilot treatment discharges (less than 2 years in duration and where water is removed, treated, and discharged into the same water body at points having similar water characteristics);

b. Evaporate condensate (e.g., discharges associated with atmospheric condensates including refrigeration, air conditioners, compressor condensate, and cooling towers);

c. Equipment washing and spill wash water not covered by applicable effluent limitations guidelines and standards;

d. Discharges from drainage of swimming or ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impoundment water.

2. This Order is intended to cover individuals or entities that discharge low threat wastewaters to surface waters of the United States. Dischargers of low threat wastewaters to surface waters that have been enrolled for coverage and whose discharge is allowed under an existing individual permit, or State Water Board-wide or Regional Water Board-wide General Permit contained in Table F-1 are not required to apply for coverage under this General Order and may continue to discharge pursuant to the existing permit.

Table F-1. Related State Water or Regional Water Board-Wide General Permits

General Permit	Water Quality Order No. (NPDES General Permit No.)
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity	2012-0006-DWQ (CAS000002)
WDRs for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities Excluding Construction Activities	2014-0057-DWQ (CAS000001)
WDRs for Storm Water Discharges from Small	2013-0001-DWQ

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)	(CAS000004)
WDRs for the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	2014-0077-DWQ Amending 2012-0011-DWQ (CAS000003)
Treated Groundwater from Cleanup of Petroleum-related and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Regional Water Board General Permit	R7-2015-0007 (CAG917001)
Statewide General NPDES Permit for Utility Vaults and Underground Structures	2014-0174-DWQ (CAG990002)
Statewide NPDES Permit for Drinking Water Discharges	2014-0194-DWQ (CAG140001)

C. General Permit Application Requirements. Dischargers seeking coverage under this General Order shall submit the following information to the Regional Water Board:

1. **Notice of Intent.** Dischargers eligible to seek coverage under this General Order shall submit to the Executive Officer a completed NOI, as detailed in Attachment C. The NOI requires the Discharger to submit the following information:

   a. General project or facility information;

   b. Indication of discharge type(s), discharge period(s) (duration), proposed rate of discharge(s), and whether the discharge(s) is/are continuous or intermittent;

   c. Indication that the wastewater discharges from drainage of ornamental pools, golf course lakes, and impounded water do not contain pesticides, insecticides, biocides, and/or other chemicals that may have been applied to the wastewater;

   d. Description of the discharge location;

   e. Information concerning the receiving water body(ies);

   f. Map (local and/or regional) showing project location(s), discharge points with latitude and longitude, the receiving waterbody with identifying information, and the location of any treatment or disposal systems;

   g. A copy of the letter of acceptance or permit from the agency (e.g., municipality, water district, or other special district) responsible for the discharge location to allow the discharge into their drainage system, if applicable;

   h. List of primary pollutants / parameters likely to be contained in the discharge(s);

   i. Indication that a representative sample of the proposed effluent was taken and whether screening level for any parameter analyzed was exceeded;

   j. Indication of ability to continuously comply with effluent limits and other requirements of the General Order;

   k. Description of treatment or disposal system, BMPs, or other control strategies;

   l. Categorical exception information (if applicable); and

   m. The appropriate filing fee, plus applicable surcharge(s).

2. **Sampling Requirements.** All Dischargers are required to analyze the proposed discharge for the priority pollutants regulated under the California Toxics Rule (CTR), which are specified in Attachment B, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. Dischargers may also be required to analyze their

discharges for other pollutants the Regional Water Board believes are likely to be present in low threat discharges regulated by this General Order. These pollutants are also listed in Attachment B. Dischargers of wastewater from low threat discharge activities must also sample for total residual chlorine (or dechlorinating agent). If the surface waterbody to receive the proposed direct discharge is impaired, as identified in the latest CWA section 303(d) List,[1] the Discharger shall also analyze for those constituent(s) causing the impairment(s). Finally, applicants proposing to discharge low threat wastewaters to specific waterbodies and waterbodies with certain beneficial use designations must also sample the effluent, upstream receiving water, and downstream receiving water for those parameters specified in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin* (Basin Plan) and summarized in Attachment B.

Attachment B contains screening levels for priority pollutants with applicable water quality criteria. Dischargers who exceed a screening level for a priority pollutant, where they are provided in Attachment B, will not be eligible for coverage under this General Order and will need to apply for an individual NPDES permit.

Attachment B also contains screening levels for total residual chlorine for discharges from low threat discharge activities; pathogens for discharges to waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II, segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I or REC-II, and the New River; and TSS for dischargers to the New River. Dischargers who exceed applicable screening levels or whose discharge appears to the Regional Water Board to have the potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard will be subject to effluent limitations. The Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board will specify the effluent limitations as listed in section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of this permit to which the Discharger is subject in the Notice of Applicability (NOA).

If the results of analysis for a discharge to an impaired water body listed on the 303(d) List indicate that pollutant concentrations in the discharge have the reasonable potential to contribute to the impairment, the discharge will not be authorized by this General Order.

3. **Proposed Approach to Comply.** Dischargers who exceed an applicable screening level in Attachment B, are required to indicate how they will comply with section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications in the General Order for the applicable parameters, either through BMPs, or other control strategies.

4. **Best Management Practices Plan or Control Strategy Plan.** To ensure that all enrollees are implementing practices to protect water quality, all Dischargers are required to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan and have it available for inspection by the Regional Water Board. The elements of the Discharger's BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004). Dischargers may also consult the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/, and other documents for guidance on addressing site-specific discharge situations. Dischargers exceeding the applicable screening levels for discharges from water system-related activities, hydrostatic test water discharges and other low threat discharge activities and screening levels for pathogens and TSS for discharges to specific waterbodies contained in Attachment B are required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI.

[1] The list of water quality-limited segments may be found under the CWA section 303(d) List at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/303d_lists2006_epa.shtml.

5. **Application Period and Notice of Applicability.** Dischargers seeking coverage under this Order shall file a completed NOI (with appropriate attachments) at least 45 days prior to the proposed discharge. Upon receipt of the NOI, the Executive Officer shall determine the applicability of this Order to the discharge. If the discharge is deemed eligible for coverage, the Executive Officer shall issue a NOA to the Discharger specifying whether the discharge is authorized under the terms and conditions of this Order. Discharges shall not commence until after receiving the Executive Officer's written NOA or until the Regional Water Board has issued an individual NPDES permit for the discharge. The NOA will be written to apply to a project for those Dischargers that propose in their NOIs to have more than one discharge of the same type, rate, and duration to the same water body over an established time period.

6. **Filing Fee.** In addition to the material outlined above, dischargers shall submit the current State Water Board adopted permit fee, plus surcharges. Information concerning current permit fees may be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees.

Dischargers expecting to have multiple discharges over an established period need only submit one NOI but must specify in the NOI the project description, estimates of the number , frequency, rate and types of discharges expected to the receiving water body(ies). The Discharger's annual report as described in section X.E of the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) shall provide information on the actual discharges.

C. Discharge Description

Individuals and miscellaneous public and private entities often need to discharge clean or relatively pollutant-free wastewater. This wastewater poses an insignificant or minimal (i.e., *low threat*) to water quality. This Order is designed to cover low threat discharges to surface waters of the United States.

D. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

There may be multiple discharge points and receiving waters under this Order. Therefore, the Regional Water Board is requesting information regarding discharge points and receiving waters in the NOI. Agencies with multiple discharge points may submit a regional or service area map. Locations for discharges that are continuous for more than 24 hours will need to be provided in the NOI or in a supplemental letter. The Executive Officer will specify specific discharge points and receiving water information in each NOA.

E. Eligible Discharges

This Order covers discharges to surface waters within the Colorado River Basin Region of low threat wastewaters occurring in the following activity categories: (1) Dewatering, (2) Groundwater Extraction, and (3) Other. Section I.B of this Fact Sheet provides examples of specific activities within each of these categories.

To be authorized under this Order, a Discharger must demonstrate the following:

1. Pollutant concentrations in the discharge shall not (i) cause, (ii) have the reasonable potential to cause, or (iii) contribute to an excursion above any applicable water quality objective;

2. A representative sample of the discharge does not exceed the screening levels contained in Attachment B or that the Discharger can comply with the effluent limitations for constituents contained in section V, Effluent limitations and Discharge Specifications;

3. The discharge does not include water added for the purpose of diluting pollutant concentrations; and

4. The Discharger is able to comply with all the terms and provisions of this Order.

III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

The requirements contained in this Order are based on the requirements and authorities described in this section.

A. Legal Authorities

This General Order serves as WDRs pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260). This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this facility to surface waters.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA, (commencing with section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.

C. State and Federal Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Plans

1. **Water Quality Control Plan.** The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin (hereinafter Basin Plan), which was adopted on November 17, 1993, and amended on November 16, 2012, designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan (including amendments adopted by the Colorado River Basin Water Board to date). In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. Consistent with this state policy, effluent limitations specified in this General Order protect existing and potential beneficial uses of the receiving waters within the Colorado River Basin Region include one or more of the following:

   - Agricultural supply (AGR)
   - Aquaculture (AQUA)
   - Cold freshwater habitat (COLD)
   - Freshwater replenishment (FRSH)
   - Ground water recharge (GWR)
   - Hydropower generation (POW)
   - Industrial service supply (IND)
   - Municipal and domestic supply (MUN)
   - Non-contact water recreation (REC-II)
   - Preservation of rare, threatened, or endangered species (RARE)
   - Warm freshwater habitat (WARM)
   - Water contact recreation (REC-I)
   - Wildlife habitat (WILD)

   The Basin Plan establishes the following beneficial uses for ground waters throughout the Colorado River Basin Region:

   - Agricultural supply (AGR)
   - Industrial service supply (IND)

- Municipal and domestic supply (MUN)[2]

Requirements of this Order implement the Basin Plan.

2. **Thermal Plan.** The State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (Thermal Plan) on January 7, 1971, and amended this plan on September 18, 1975. The Regional Water Board does not consider the discharges of treated groundwater from the cleanup of VOCs regulated by this General Board Order to contain thermal or elevated temperature wastes. Therefore, requirements of this General Board Order do not implement the Thermal Plan.

3. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** U.S. EPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, U.S. EPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain Federal water quality criteria for priority pollutants.

4. **State Implementation Policy**. On March 2, 2000, the State Water Board adopted the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP became effective on April 28, 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the U.S. EPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Colorado River Basin Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on May 18, 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the U.S. EPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on February 24, 2005, that became effective on July 13, 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.

5. **Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.** Section 13263.6(a), CWC, requires that "the Colorado River Basin Water Board shall prescribe effluent limitations as part of the WDRs of a POTW for all substances that the most recent toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) (EPCRKA) indicate as discharged into the POTW, for which the State Water Board or the Colorado River Basin Water Board has established numeric water quality objectives, and has determined that the discharge is or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to, an excursion above any numeric water quality objective."

6. **Endangered Species Act Requirements.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered

[2] At such time as the need arises to know whether a particular aquifer which has no known existing MUN use should be considered a source of drinking water, the Regional Water Board will make that determination based on criteria listed in the "Sources of Drinking Water Policy" in Chapter 2 of the Basin Plan. As stated in footnote 2 for Table 2-5 of the Basin Plan, an "X" placed under the MUN column in Table 2-5 of the Basin Plan for a particular hydrologic unit indicates only that at least one of the aquifers in that unit currently supports a MUN beneficial use. The actual MUN usage of the Imperial hydrologic unit is limited only to a small portion of that ground water unit.

Species Act (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state. The discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

7. **Anti-degradation Policy.** Federal regulation 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an anti-degradation policy consistent with the Federal policy. The State Water Board established California's anti-degradation policy in State Water Board Resolution 68-16 ("Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California"). Resolution 68-16 is deemed to incorporate the Federal anti-degradation policy where the Federal policy applies under Federal law. Resolution 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Colorado River Basin Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and Federal anti-degradation policies. The permitted discharge must be consistent with the anti-degradation provision of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16.

8. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(l) restrict backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed.

D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List

Under section 303(d) of the CWA, states, territories, and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of water quality limited segments (WQLSs). The waters on these lists do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology. CWA section 303(d) further mandates that once waters are impaired by a particular constituent, the NPDES permitting authority is to develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for the impaired water body. A TMDL is the maximum amount of pollution that a waterbody can assimilate without violating state water quality standards.

Completed TMDLs in the Colorado River Basin Region, the receiving water and impairments, and requirements are located at the following site:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/water_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl_completed_projects.shtml

E. Other Plans, Policies and Regulations – Not Applicable

IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations in the Code of Federal Regulations: 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards; and 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d) requires that permits include water quality-based effluent limitations to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) may be established: (1) using USEPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant

information; (2) on an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) using a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

Effluent and receiving water limitations in this Order are based on the Federal CWA, Basin Plan, State Water Board's plans and policies, USEPA guidance and regulations, and best practicable waste treatment technology. While developing effluent limitations and receiving water limitations, monitoring requirements, and special conditions for the draft permit, the following information sources were used.

1. Code of Federal Regulations – Title 40.
2. Water Quality Control Plan (Colorado River Basin – Region 7) as amended to date.
3. General Order R7-2009-0300.

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. This Order prohibits the following:

a. The discharge of treated wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described by the Discharger in the NOI application or as authorized by the Executive Officer;

b. The bypass or overflow of low threat wastewaters to waters of the United States, except as allowed under the Standard Provisions for NPDES permits (hereinafter Standard Provisions), which are included as Attachment D to this Order;

c. The Discharger from extracting, accepting, or treating waste in excess of the BMPs or Control Strategy Plan or disposal capacity of the system as specified in the Discharger's NOA from the Executive Officer;

d. The discharge of wastes causing degradation of any water supply unless in compliance with Resolution No. 68-16;

e. The treatment or disposal of wastes from the facility or project site that cause pollution or nuisance as defined in section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), respectively, of the California Water Code;

f. The discharge of any substances in concentrations toxic to animal or plant life; and

g. The discharge of trash.

These prohibitions are based on the requirements of the CWA, Basin Plan, State Water Board plans and policies, and U.S. EPA guidance and regulations.

B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing U.S. EPA permit regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this General Order must meet minimum Federal technology-based requirements based on Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 125.3

The CWA requires that technology-based effluent limitations be established based on several levels of controls:

a. Best practicable treatment control technology (BPT) represents the average of the best existing performance by well-operated facilities within an industrial category or subcategory. BPT standards apply to toxic, conventional, and non-conventional pollutants.

b. Best available technology economically achievable (BAT) represents the best existing performance of treatment technologies that are economically achievable within an industrial point source category. BAT standards apply to toxic and non-conventional pollutants.

c. Best conventional pollutant control technology (BCT) represents the control from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including BOD, TSS, fecal coliform, pH, and oil and grease. The BCT standard is established after considering a two-part reasonableness test. The first test compares the relationship between the costs of attaining a reduction in effluent discharge and the resulting benefits. The second test examines the cost and level of reduction of pollutants from the discharge from publicly owned treatment works to the cost and level of reduction of such pollutants from a class or category of industrial sources. Effluent limitations must be reasonable under both tests.

d. New source performance standards (NSPS) represent the best available demonstrated control technology standards. The intent of NSPS guidelines is to set limitations that represent state-of-the-art treatment technology for new sources.

The CWA requires U.S. EPA to develop effluent limitations, guidelines and standards (ELGs) representing application of BPT, BAT, BCT, and NSPS. Section 402(a)(1) of the CWA and 40 C.F.R. section 125.3 authorize the use of best professional judgment (BPJ) to derive technology-based effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis where ELGs are not available for certain industrial categories and/or pollutants of concern. Where BPJ is used, the Colorado River Basin Water Board must consider specific factors outlined in 40 C.F.R. section 125.3.

2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

a. The low threat discharges authorized by this Order are considered high-quality wastewaters that are relatively pollutant-free and pose a low threat to water quality. Because of the potential diversity of low threat discharges, this Order does not establish technology-based effluent limitations based on any specific treatment technologies. According to 40 CFR 122.44(k), BMPs can be required in lieu of technology-based effluent limitations when numeric effluent limitations are infeasible. Therefore, based on BPJ, BMPs will serve as the equivalent of technology-based effluent limitations in order to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA. All Dischargers under this Order shall develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan and have it available for review by the Regional Water Board. The elements of the Discharger's BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004). Dischargers may also consult the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/, and other documents for guidance on addressing site-specific discharge situations. Any Discharger that exceeds an applicable screening level in Attachment B is required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan to the Regional Water Board with the completed NOI.

C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

1. Scope and Authority

CWA Section 301(b) and 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable Federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards.

Section 122.44(d)(1)(i) of 40 C.F.R. requires that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) must be established using: (1) U.S. EPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in section 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBELs when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

Discharges of low threat wastewaters may potentially be discharged to all surface waters in the Colorado River Basin Region. The designated beneficial uses of surface waters throughout the Colorado River Basin Region include agricultural supply, aquaculture, cold freshwater habitat, freshwater replenishment, ground water recharge, hydropower generation, industrial service supply, municipal and domestic supply, non-contact water recreation, preservation of rare, threatened, or endangered species, warm freshwater habitat, water contact recreation, and wildlife habitat.

3. Determining the Need for WQBELs

a. This Order does not authorize discharges that have the reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives for priority pollutants. Therefore, screening levels must be set to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water for all discharge conditions. In the absence of the option of including condition-dependent, "floating" screening levels that are reflective of actual conditions at the time of discharge, effluent limitations must be set using a reasonable worst-case condition in order to protect beneficial uses for all discharge conditions. Dependent on receiving water conditions, use of either the lowest observed effluent hardness or the lowest observed receiving water hardness may be more protective of aquatic life beneficial uses. For example, under effluent dominated discharge conditions, use of the lowest observed effluent hardness is the most protective.

b. This Order includes screening levels for cadmium, chromium III, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc, each of which is dependent on water hardness. The CTR expresses the objectives for these metals through equations where the hardness of the receiving water is a variable. To aid in the screening process, criterion were expressed in tabular form in increments of 10 mg/L hardness values.

c. This Order requires the Discharger to analyze the proposed effluent and the receiving water for hardness. The Discharger shall submit the analytical results with the NOI and propose an appropriate hardness concentration based on the analytical results and site-specific receiving water conditions. Upon approval of the Executive Officer, this hardness value will be used to determine the appropriate screening levels contained in Attachment B.

d. CWA section 301(b)(1) requires NPDES permits to include WQBELs if technology-based effluent limitations are not sufficiently stringent to meet applicable water quality criteria. Water quality standards include Regional Water Board Basin Plan beneficial uses and narrative and numeric water quality objectives, State Water Board adopted standards, and Federal standards, including the CTR and NTR. The Basin Plan establishes narrative and numeric objectives for a variety of parameters or receiving water conditions for: (i) all waterbodies; (ii) specific beneficial uses; and (iii) specific waterbodies.

e. Federal regulations require effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at a level that will cause or have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above a narrative or numerical water quality standard.

f. **All Low Threat Discharges**

pH. The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for surface waters that "*Since the regional waters are somewhat alkaline, pH shall range from 6.0-9.0. Discharges shall not cause any changes in pH detrimental to beneficial uses.*" Effluent limitations for pH are included in this Order for all low threat discharges based on the Basin Plan objectives for pH.

Priority Pollutants. This Order is not intended to regulate discharges that have the reasonable potential to exceed water quality standards for priority pollutants, which would be more appropriately regulated by an individual board order. Since this is an Order for all low threat discharges to surface waters in the Colorado River Basin of California, this General Order establishes screening levels in Attachment B that are protective of beneficial uses under all discharge conditions and are based on the most protective water quality criteria for priority pollutants contained in the CTR. Dischargers enrolling under this Order are required to analyze the proposed discharge for constituents regulated under the CTR and submit the results as part of the NOI, except for those dischargers approved for a categorical exception authorized by section 5.3 of the SIP. If the analytical data demonstrate that any constituent concentrations in the discharge exceed the water quality screening levels listed in Attachment B, the discharge will not be allowed under this Order. If all constituent concentrations are below the screening levels listed in Attachment B, the discharge will be authorized for coverage under this Order.

Given the wide range of uses throughout the Colorado River Basin Region, this Order establishes screening levels for discharges based on the beneficial uses of the receiving waters: (1) those where the receiving waters are designated to support domestic and municipal supply (MUN) and (2) those where the receiving waters are designated for all other uses except domestic and municipal supply (non-MUN). The screening levels for discharges to receiving waters designated as MUN are based on the more stringent of (1) human health water quality criteria based on consumption of

water and organisms as contained in the CTR and (2) freshwater aquatic life water quality criteria as contained in the CTR. The screening levels for discharges to receiving waters designated as non-MUN are based on the more stringent of (1) human health water quality criteria based on consumption of organisms only as contained in the CTR and (2) freshwater aquatic life water quality criteria as contained in the CTR.

The Discharger is required to analyze a representative sample of the discharge. The Regional Water Board shall conduct a Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA) of the priority pollutants in accordance with section 1.3, step 7, of the SIP by comparing the analytical results to the screening levels contained in Attachment B. If the analytical data demonstrate that constituent concentrations in the discharge exceed the water quality screening levels listed in Attachment B, the Discharger will not be covered by this Order and will need to apply for an individual permit.

Several priority pollutants do not have CTR criteria. These pollutants include asbestos (non-MUN only), beryllium, chloroethane, 2-chloroethylvinyl ether, chloroform, 1,1-dichloroethane, methyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 2-nitrophenol, 4-nitrophenol, 3-methyl-4-chlorophenol, acenaphthlylene, benzo(ghi)perylene, bis(2-chloroethoxy)methane, 4-bromophenyl phenyl either, 4-chlorophenyl phenyl ether, 2,6-dinitrotoluene, di-n-octyl phthalate, naphthalene, phenanthrene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, and delta-BHC. Due to the generally short-term and low volume nature of the discharges covered by this Order and the lack of applicable criteria, screening levels for these pollutants are not established in this Order.

g. **Discharges from Other Low Threat Discharge Activities**

Chlorine, Total Residual. Discharges from low threat discharge activities may contain chlorine, which is extremely toxic to aquatic organisms. U.S. EPA's *National Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life (NAWQC)* recommend 4-day average (chronic) and 1-hour average (acute) criteria for chlorine of 0.019 mg/L and 0.011 mg/L, respectively. Table B-5 of Attachment B contains a screening level of 0.011 mg/L for discharges from low threat discharge activities. Discharges that exceed the screening level for chlorine will be subject to effluent limitations, as specified in the NOA from the Executive Officer.

The Regional Water Board calculates effluent limitations for CTR and non-CTR parameters using the procedures outlined in the SIP and the U.S. EPA *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control* (EPA/505/2-90-001), which contain statistical methods for converting chronic (4-day) and acute (1-hour) aquatic life criteria to average monthly and maximum daily effluent limitations based on the variability of the existing data and the expected frequency of monitoring. However, because projects likely to be granted coverage under this Order will typically be short in duration, reasonable potential exists for acute toxicity, and average 1-hour and 4-day limitations for chlorine are more appropriate than average monthly and maximum daily effluent limitation for such discharges. In order to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters throughout the Colorado River Basin Region, this Order establishes an average 1-hour effluent limitation of 0.019 mg/L and an average 4-day effluent limitation of 0.011 mg/L for chlorine for discharges from low threat discharge activities.

Regional Water Board General Order No. 98-300 established an effluent limitation for total residual chlorine of 0.1 mg/L as a maximum. Based on the rationale above, the Regional Water Board is revising the effluent limitation to be consistent with the NAWQC, resulting in more stringent effluent limitations.

The San Francisco Regional Water Board included a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L to determine compliance with the effluent limitations contained in the General Order for Discharges from Surface Water Treatment Facilities for Potable Supply (Order No. R2-2003-0062, NPDES No. CAG382001). The reporting level of 0.08 mg/L represents a level that handheld field meters are capable of achieving. Therefore, this Order requires Dischargers to use a method capable of achieving a reporting level of 0.08 mg/L. A reopener provision has been included in this Order that will allow the Regional Water Board to reopen and modify the permit if a statewide policy for total residual chlorine takes effect.

h. **Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges and Dewatering Activities**

This Order carries forward the effluent limitations set in the previous Order for hydrostatic test water discharges, including the effluent limitation for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons for activities where diesel or gasoline powered generators are used in dewatering activities.

i. **Low Threat Discharges to Specific Waterbodies**

The Basin Plan establishes water quality objectives for *E. coli* in waterbodies designated as REC-I or REC-II and segments of the Colorado River designated as REC-I or REC-II. The Basin Plan also contains waste load allocations (WLAs) for *E. coli*, enterococci, and fecal coliform organisms and TSS applicable to discharges to the New River based on the New River Pathogen TMDL and the New River Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL. All applicants proposing to discharge to one of the applicable receiving waters shall sample their effluent for the identified parameters as specified in Attachment B. If the analytical data demonstrate that constituent concentrations in the discharge exceed the water quality screening levels listed in Tables B-8 through B-20 of Attachment B, or appear to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard in the receiving water, the Discharger shall submit their plan for compliance and a BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI demonstrating how the Discharger will comply with the effluent limitations in this Order. The Executive Officer will specify the effluent limitations applicable to a Discharger in the NOA.

Discharges to Specific Waters

Receiving Water Designation	Parameters	Units	Limitations	
			Geometric Mean[1]	Maximum Allowable Bacterial Density
REC-I	*E.Coli*	Most Probable Number (MPN)/100 mL	126	400
REC-II	*E.Coli*	MPN/100 mL	630	2,000

Colorado River REC-I	*E.Coli*	MPN/100 mL	126	235
Colorado River REC-II	*E.Coli*	MPN/100 mL	630	1,175
New River TMDL	*E.Coli*	MPN/100 mL	126	400
New River TMDL	Enterococci	MPN/100 mL	33	100
New River TMDL	Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 mL	200	400[2]

[1]Based on a minimum of not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period.
[2]No more than 10 percent of the total samples during any 30-day period shall exceed 400 MPN/100 mL.

i. **Discharges to the New River.** The New River Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL contained in the Basin Plan specifies that the concentration of TSS in the New River shall not exceed 200 mg/L as an annual average. Since the TSS effluent limitation is 95 mg/L for the hydrostatic test water discharge, this TSS effluent limitation will also be in effect for the New River. Effluent limitations for *E. coli*, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, and TSS for discharges to the New River are included in this Order based on the TMDLs contained in the Basin Plan. Screening levels for *E. coli*, enterococci, fecal coliform organisms, and TSS are been included in Attachment B.

4. WQBEL Calculations

The effluent limitations for total chlorine residual are based on the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective and are applied directly as 4-day and 1-hour average effluent limitations, as discussed in section IV.C.3.g of this Fact Sheet. The effluent limitations for pH are based on the Basin Plan's specific objectives for pH and are applied in this Order as instantaneous effluent limitations.

The effluent limitations based on waterbody specific objectives and TMDLs in the Basin Plan, as presented in section IV.C.3.i above, are applied as specified in the Basin Plan.

5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

Whole effluent toxicity (WET) protects the receiving water quality from the aggregate toxic effect of a mixture of pollutants in the effluent. WET tests measure the degree of response of exposed aquatic test organisms to an effluent. The WET approach allows for protection of the narrative "no toxics in toxic amounts" criterion while implementing numeric criteria for toxicity. There are two types of WET tests: acute and chronic. An acute toxicity test is conducted over a shorter time period and measures mortality. A chronic toxicity test is conducted over a longer period of time and may measure mortality, reproduction, and growth.

The Basin Plan specifies a narrative objective for toxicity, requiring that all waters be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that are lethal to or produce other detrimental response on aquatic organisms. Detrimental response includes but is not limited to decreased growth rate, decreased reproductive success of resident or indicator species, and/or significant alterations in population, community ecology, or receiving water biota.

The discharges authorized by this Order pose a low threat to water quality. Because the discharges authorized by this Order are generally low volume and/or short-term in nature and are not expected to contribute to acute or chronic toxicity, effluent limitations for

acute and chronic toxicity and requirements for acute and chronic WET testing are not specified by this Order.

D. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations

1. Anti-Backsliding Requirements

Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions where limitations may be relaxed. The effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order, with the exception that this Order discontinues effluent limitations for turbidity, settleable solids, and 5-day biochemical oxygen demand or 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand. Currently there is one discharger covered under the previous Order. Analysis of the types of discharges eligible for coverage and the expected nature of pollutants in eligible discharges led to the determination that effluent limitations for turbidity, settleable solids, and 5-day biochemical oxygen demand or 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand were no longer necessary to protect water quality. This relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and Federal regulations.

2. Anti-degradation Policies

Section 131.12 of the code of Federal regulation requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the Federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 is deemed to incorporate the Federal antidegradation policy where the Federal policy applies under Federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires discharges to waters of the State be regulated to achieve the "highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the State." It also establishes the intent that where waters of the State are of higher quality than that required by state policies, including Water Quality Control Plans, such higher quality "shall be maintained to the maximum extent possible" unless it is demonstrated that any change in quality will be consistent with maximum benefit to people of the State, will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses, and will not result in water quality less than that described in plans and policies (e.g., violation of any water quality objective). The discharge is also required to meet waste discharge requirements that result in the best practicable treatment or control necessary to assure that pollution or nuisance will not occur, and that the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people will be maintained.

3. Averaging Periods for Concentration-based Effluent Limitations.

Section 122.45(d) [40 CFR 122.45(d)] requires maximum daily and average monthly discharge limitations for all dischargers other than publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) unless impracticable. The Basin Plan objectives for pH and pathogens and the waste load allocations in TMDLs for pathogens and TSS in the New River have been established directly as effluent limitations. The rationale for using alternative averaging periods for chlorine residual is discussed in section IV.C.3.g of this Fact Sheet.

E. Final Effluent Limitations

1. Final Effluent Limitations – Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

Discharges of wastewater from low threat discharge activities shall be subject to the effluent limitations in Table F-2 below.

Table F-2. Effluent Limitations for All Low Threat Discharges

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations		
		Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	95	---	---
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25	---	---
pH	standard units	---	6.0	9.0
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH)[1]	mg/L	0.1	---	---

[1] Applies only to operations for hydrostatic test water discharges, near suspected petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated sites, or when diesel or gasoline powered generator is used in discharge operation.

In addition to the effluent limitations found in IV.F.1 above, discharges of wastewater from low threat discharge activities shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitation:

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations	
		1-hour Average	4-Day Average
Chlorine, Total Residual (TRC)	mg/L	0.019	0.011

V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

The receiving water limitations in the proposed Order are based upon the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan. As such, they are a required part of the proposed Order.

A. Surface Water Limitations – Applicable to All Low Threat Discharges

Receiving water limitations are based on the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this Order. All low threat discharges to any receiving water of the Colorado River Basin Region shall not:

1. Result in the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the receiving water to fall below 5.0 mg/L. When dissolved oxygen in the receiving water is already below 5.0 mg/L, the discharge shall not cause any further depression.
2. Result in the presence of oil, grease, floating material (liquids, solids, foam, and scum) or suspended material in amounts that create a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
3. Result in the deposition of pesticides or combination of pesticides detectable in concentrations that adversely affects beneficial uses.
4. Result in discoloration in the receiving water that adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. Result in the discharge of biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growths to the extent that such growths cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
6. Result in an increase of turbidity that adversely affects beneficial uses.
7. Result in the normal ambient pH of the receiving water to fall below 6.0 or exceed 9.0 standard units.
8. Result in altering the natural receiving water temperature that adversely affects beneficial uses.

9. Result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
10. Result in the discharge of an individual chemical or combination of chemicals in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
11. Result in toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments, or biota in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
12. Result in an increase in taste or odor-producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses.
13. Result in the violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Water Board or the State Water Board as required by the Federal CWA and regulations adopted thereunder. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to CWA section 303 or amendments thereto, the Regional Water Board will revise and modify this Order in accordance with the stricter standards.

B. Surface Water Limitations – Applicable to Discharges to Specific Waterbodies

Receiving water limitations to specific waterbodies are based upon the water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan and are a required part of this Order. The waterbody-specific limitations are summarized below:

1. Discharges to the New River, Alamo River, and the Imperial Valley Drains shall not exceed an annual average of 4,000 mg/L and a daily maximum of 4,500 mg/L of TDS.
2. Discharges to the Coachella Valley and the Palo Verde Valley Drains shall not exceed an annual average of 2,000 mg/L and a daily maximum of 2,500 mg/L of TDS.

VI. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under 40 C.F.R. section 122.42.

Sections 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) of 40 C.F.R. establish conditions that apply to all state-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) of 40 C.F.R. allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 123.25, this Order omits Federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in 40 C.F.R. sections 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference Water Code section 13387(e).

B. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

This provision is based on 40 C.F.R. part 123. The Colorado River Basin Water Board may reopen the permit to modify permit conditions and requirements. Causes for modifications include the promulgation of new regulations, modification in sludge use or disposal practices,

or adoption of new regulations by the State Water Board or Colorado River Basin Water Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.

2. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. Because of the expected diversity of low threat discharges covered by this Order, specific technology-based effluent limitations for the universe of compounds that could be found in wastewater have not been established. As allowed under 40 CFR 122.44(k), BMPs or control strategies will serve in lieu of technology-based effluent limitations, in order to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA. Each Discharger authorized under the Order is required to develop and implement a BMP or Control Strategy Plan to control or abate the discharge of pollutants. The Discharger shall develop a BMP Plan if the Discharger does not already have one in place. The BMP Plan shall be consistent with the general guidance contained in the U.S. EPA *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices* (BMPs) (EPA 833-B-93-004). The Discharger may consult other handbooks for guidance, such as the California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association, available at http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/, to address the site-specific discharge situation. Dischargers exceeding the applicable screening levels for total residual chlorine, pathogens, and/or TSS contained in Attachment B are required to submit the BMP or Control Strategy Plan with the NOI.

VII. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

CWA section 308 and 40 C.F.R. sections 122.41(h), (j)-(*l*), 122.44(i), and 122.48 require that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Colorado River Basin Water Board to establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E of this Order establishes monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements that implement Federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this facility.

B. Effluent Monitoring

The Discharger is required to conduct monitoring of the permitted discharges in order to evaluate compliance with permit conditions. Monitoring requirements are given in the proposed MRP. This provision requires compliance with the MRP, and is based on 40 C.F.R. sections 122.44(i), 122.62, 122.63 and 124.5. The MRP is a standard requirement in almost all NPDES permits (including the proposed General Order) issued by the Colorado River Basin Water Board. In addition to containing definitions of terms, it specifies general sampling/analytical protocols and the requirements of reporting of spills, violations, and routine monitoring data in accordance with NPDES regulations, the CWC, and Colorado River Basin Water Board's policies. It defines the sampling stations and frequency, pollutants to be monitored, and additional reporting requirements. Pollutants to be monitored include all pollutants for which effluent limitations are specified.

Monitoring for those pollutants expected to be present in the discharge from low threat dischargers will be required as shown in the proposed MRP and as required by the SIP. Effluent monitoring requirements are largely unchanged from the previous Order with some exceptions. More frequent monitoring is required for continuous discharges. Regular monitoring is no longer required for turbidity, settleable solids, and 5-day biochemical oxygen demand or 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand since effluent limitations for those parameters have been removed.

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

The discharges authorized by this Order have a low threat to water quality. They are low volume and/or short-term in nature and are not expected to contribute to acute or chronic toxicity; therefore, effluent limitations for acute and chronic toxicity and requirements for acute and chronic WET testing are not required by this Order.

D. Receiving Water Monitoring

1. Surface Water

Surface water monitoring is required to determine compliance with receiving water limitations and to characterize the water quality of the receiving water pursuant to the Basin Plan. Monitoring requirements for the receiving water are largely unchanged from the previous General Order.

E. Other Monitoring Requirements

1. Annual Report

Dischargers enrolled under this Order are required to submit an annual report including current contact information and the status of updates to the Discharger's BMP or Control Strategy Plan. Dischargers having multiple discharges of the same type, rate, and duration, and into the same receiving water must report on the number, frequency, rate, types of discharges, and date/time of actual discharges in the annual report.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Colorado River Basin Water Board has considered the issuance of WDRs that will serve as an NPDES permit for the discharge of low threat wastewaters to surface water. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Colorado River Basin Water Board staff has developed tentative WDRs and has encouraged public participation in the WDR adoption process.

A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Colorado River Basin Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for the discharge and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided through the following the Desert Sun, Imperial Valley Press, Press Enterprise, San Bernardino Sun, and Palo Verde Times newspapers.

The public had access to the agenda and any changes in dates and locations through the Colorado River Basin Water Board's website at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver>.

B. Written Comments

Interested persons were invited to submit written comments concerning tentative WDRs as provided through the notification process. Comments were due either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Colorado River Basin Water Board at 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Colorado River Basin Water Board, the written comments were due at the Colorado River Basin Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on September 8, 2015.

C. Public Hearing

The Colorado River Basin Water Board held a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date:	September 17, 2015
Time:	9:00 AM
Location:	California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region Board Room 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100 Palm Desert, CA 92260

Interested persons were invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Colorado River Basin Water Board heard testimony pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and permit. For accuracy of the record, important testimony was requested in writing.

D. Reconsideration of Waste Discharge Requirements

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Colorado River Basin Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and the California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality

or will be provided upon request.

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

For instructions on how to file a petition for review, see
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml

E. Information and Copying

The Report of Waste Discharge, other supporting documents, and comments received are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through Colorado River Basin Water Board by calling (760) 346-7491.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDRs and NPDES permit should contact the Colorado River Basin Water Board, reference this facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Anders Wistrom at (760) 776-8964.