

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R7-2024-0009



ORDER INFORMATION

Order Type(s): Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)
Status: ADOPTED
Program: Non-15 Discharges to Land
Discharger(s): City of Palm Springs
Facility: Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant
Address: 4375 East Mesquite Avenue,
Palm Springs, California 92264
County: Riverside County
APN(s): 680-020-052
GeoTracker ID: WDR100032535
WDID: 7A330114012
Prior Order(s): WDRs Order R7-2017-0013
WDRs Order 93-076

GeoTracker ID: WDR100032535
WDID: 7A330114012

CERTIFICATION

I, Paula Rasmussen, Executive Officer, hereby certify that the following is a full, true, and correct copy of the order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on February 13, 2024.

Original signed by

PAULA RASMUSSEN

Executive Officer

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY
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GLOSSARY

Antidegradation Policy	Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California, State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-16
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for Colorado River Basin Region (inclusive of all amendments)
bgs	Below Ground Surface
BOD5	Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand at 20°C
BPTC	Best Practicable Treatment and Control
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.)
CEQA Guidelines	Regulations for Implementation of CEQA (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.)
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
GPD	Gallons per Day
MCL[s]	Maximum Contaminant Level[s] for Drinking Water under Title 22
mg/L	Milligrams per Liter
MGD	Millions of Gallons per Day
MRP	Monitoring and Reporting Program
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
ROWD	Report of Waste Discharge
Title 22	California Code of Regulations, Title 22

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CITY OF PALM SPRINGS
PALM SPRINGS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
GLOSSARY

- Title 23**.....California Code of Regulations, Title 23
Title 27.....California Code of Regulations, Title 27
USEPA.....United States Environmental Protection Agency
WDRs.....Waste Discharge Requirements
WQO[s].....Water Quality Objective[s]

(findings begin on next page)

FINDINGS

The Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Colorado River Basin Water Board) hereby finds as follows:

Introduction

1. This Order prescribes waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for the City of Palm Springs (Discharger), which owns the Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) in Riverside County. The Discharger has contracted Veolia Water North America – West, LLC (Veolia) to operate the Facility.
2. The Facility is located approximately 1.25 miles west of Cathedral City in Riverside County, Section 19, Township 4 South, Range 5 East, Mount San Bernardino Base and Meridian. The Facility's location is also depicted on the maps in **Attachment B**.
3. Regulatory coverage under this Order is strictly limited in scope to those waste discharges, activities and processes described and expressly authorized herein.
4. Pursuant to Water Code section 13264, subdivision (a), the Discharger is prohibited from initiating the discharge of new wastes (i.e., other than those described herein), or making material changes to the character, volume and timing of waste discharges authorized herein, without filing a new Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) per Water Code section 13260. Failure to file a new ROWD before initiating material changes to the character, volume or timing of discharges authorized herein, shall constitute an independent violation of these WDRs.
5. This Order is also strictly limited in applicability to those individuals and/or entities specifically designated above as "Discharger," subject only to the discretion to designate or substitute new parties in accordance with this Order.

Facility

6. The Facility is a wastewater treatment plant that provides sewerage service to the City residents and businesses. The Facility is operated under contract by Veolia.

7. The Discharger also owns a wastewater collection system regulated under State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order 2022-0103-DWQ (Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems).
8. Key Facility features and design elements include preliminary treatment, primary treatment, secondary treatment, effluent disposal, solids handling, a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, and backup power.
9. The Facility is located at the end of Vella Road, south of East Mesquite Avenue, in Palm Springs. The Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) is 680-020-052.
10. The Facility is currently designed to treat and discharge up to 10.9 million gallons per day (MGD) of municipal wastewater. The process flow is shown in Figure 2, made part of this Order by reference. The treatment system consists of the following processes:
 - a. Preliminary Treatment: Preliminary treatment includes two automatic bar screens. Large materials, such as rags and sticks, are removed by the bar screen. The removed material is collected and disposed of at an approved solid waste management facility.
 - b. Primary Treatment: Effluent from the influent pump station enters one of two primary clarifiers, where solids settle to the bottom of the tank and are removed. One clarifier is kept on standby full of water and ready for use if the online clarifier fails. Grease and oils, which float to the surface, are skimmed off and removed into a scum pit. Sludge, solids, and grit that have settled to the bottom of the primary tank are then pumped to four hydro gritters for grit removal and the sludge continues to gravity thickeners for further concentration. The hydro gritters remove most of the influent grit and inorganic matter.
 - c. Secondary Treatment: Secondary treatment includes four trickling filters and six secondary clarifiers with both systems operating in parallel. Effluent from the primary clarifiers is combined with recycled trickling filter effluent or secondary effluent for dilution. The combined flow is then pumped over the trickling filters where most of the soluble organic matter is removed through absorption and utilization by the biological organisms growing on the trickling filter media. Trickling filter effluent, along with biological organisms that periodically slough off the media, flows to the secondary clarifiers where suspended solids are removed before discharge. Solids collected at the secondary clarifiers are pumped to a

gravity thickener. The solids are then transferred to anaerobic digesters for further treatment.

- d. Solids Handling: All solids collected in the primary treatment and secondary treatment processes are pumped to two gravity thickeners where the solids are settled to increase the total solids concentration prior to pumping to two anaerobic digesters. In the anaerobic digesters, organic solids in the sludge are reduced through the biochemical reactions of biological organisms. Methane and carbon dioxide are produced as a result of the process. The methane is disposed of via a gas burner. The digestion process is comprised of primary and secondary stages. In the primary stage, most of the organic solids destruction takes place. In the secondary stage, destruction continues, and the solids are stored and concentrated. The solids are then drawn off into one of 26 sludge drying beds where the solids are dried for several weeks. The dry solids concentration of the sludge in the drying beds can be increased from about 2.5 percent total solids to over 90 percent total solids. Although solids can be dried to more than 90 percent total solids, the Facility transports solids between 70 percent and 80 percent total solids to mitigate dust. A belt filter press was installed in 2002 to allow for increased solids dewatering capabilities during the cooler winter months, when drying times are longer and the drying beds can reach capacity. Water that is removed from the sludge in the solids handling processes is collected and returned to the plant headworks for treatment. Dewatered solids are stored in a concrete-lined impoundment area for eventual removal by a biosolids hauling contractor for legally permitted composting or land application.
 - e. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition SCADA System: A Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system provides monitoring of plant equipment and processes. The system utilizes a central computer station, as well as remote Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) and panel view units that allow key equipment and processes to be viewed from various locations throughout the Facility. Operational trends are monitored, and all flow and pond level data are saved to a permanent archive. The system monitors equipment and sends alarms to operators if problems are detected.
 - f. Backup Power: Back-up power is available for all treatment processes.
11. A large portion of the Facility's effluent is conveyed offsite to the Desert Water Agency (DWA) Wastewater Reclamation Plant (WRP), where it is subjected to

filtration and disinfection (i.e., tertiary treatment) and ultimately applied as recycled water for landscape and golf course greens. The WRP is separately regulated under Order R7-2014-0008, which also proscribes Water Recycling Requirements (WRRs) for offsite applications. This Order does not apply to, or otherwise address, WRP-related operations, discharges or water recycling applications.

12. The effluent that is not conveyed offsite for tertiary treatment (discussed below) is discharged to six unlined evaporation/percolation ponds, totaling 23.3 acres, as depicted in Figure 3 of **Attachment B**. For the purposes of this Order, these six onsite ponds are collectively referred to as the “**Designated Disposal Area.**”
13. The effluent discharged to the evaporation/percolation ponds is rotated from pond to pond on a frequency that does not exceed seven days for each pond. Following the use of an evaporation/percolation pond for disposal of treated wastewater, the Discharger performs maintenance for sludge control and soil scarification to maximize percolation and minimize evaporation, which reduces the increase in salinity of the ponded treated wastewater. Measuring depth indicators were installed to indicate the freeboard of the ponds. The ponds are monitored for dissolved oxygen and pH when the pond level is one foot deep or higher.
14. Water conservation measures in the community have significantly reduced influent flow to the Facility. The quantity of wastewater treated has declined from about 8.8 MGD in 1993 to about 4.7 MGD in 2022.
15. The Discharger’s Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) from July 2018 through August 2023 characterize the Facility influent as summarized in Table 1:

Table 1. Influent Characterization.

Constituent	Units	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Flow	MGD	4.80	6.07	3.88
BOD5	mg/L	237	452	122
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	302	772	127

Constituent	Units	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	646.2	796	578.8

16. The Facility has been regulated by the Colorado River Basin Water Board since its construction in 1960. The previous WDRs Order required that the Discharger investigate salinity control and develop/implement a source control program for mineralized waste discharges into the collection system. After completion of the investigation, the Discharger submitted a technical report recommending a final annual average TDS effluent limit of 687 mg/L and a monthly average TDS effluent limit of 703 mg/L. In addition, the previous order required the Discharger to conduct a nitrogen fate and transport study and prepare a technical report to investigate the sources of nitrogen in the discharge and determine the relationship between the discharge and the levels of nitrogen found in the groundwater monitoring network.

Proposed Changes at Facility

17. Over the last eight years, the City has installed a new Parshall Flume, two new barscreens, a screenings washer/classifier, four new headworks effluent pumps that feed the new primary clarifiers, and influent and effluent gates for the two new barscreens. The screenings collection bin is covered and connected to a new foul air scrubber. Two new circular primary clarifiers were also installed with covered weirs connected to the new foul air scrubber. Four new hydro gritters were installed with a covered grit collection bin to reduce odors. The SCADA system was also updated to provide more extensive monitoring of plant equipment and processes.
18. The original treatment facility was constructed in 1960. A major expansion of the Facility to its current 10.9 MGD capacity was completed in 1983. In consultation with Veolia, the Discharger's staff prepared a comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the Facility, which addressed on-going maintenance issues at the Facility that have resulted from aged mechanical equipment. Many of the Facility's treatment units are past their useful life and need replacement. The CIP identified the need to focus on major capital projects to replace aging equipment and improve inefficient wastewater treatment processes at the Facility over a period of 20 years. The CIP, approved by the Discharger's City Council in 2010, was estimated at \$67,000,000. The CIP assessed all of the major unit

processes at the Facility and recommended a 20-year program consisting of over 30 projects, some of which may be combined into single projects for better cost efficiencies.

19. Beginning in 2020, as part of its CIP, plant upgrades have been undertaken to improve the reliability and longevity of the existing plant processes. The upgrades include water system and monitored fire protection upgrades. A new concrete lined sludge holding area was built to store dried sludge; the holding area is equipped with drains to capture liquids. By 2024, the #2 Digester will be replaced with a new digester of equal size with a fixed lid. The new Digester will have a membrane storage sphere for gas storage. Additionally, a new waste gas burner will be installed. Planned CIP within the next five years include the East Tahquitz Canyon Way sewer upsizing, the addition of a third pump to #1 Lift Station, a new lift station on Bogart Trail, realignment of the Mesquite Avenue sewer main, fixed cover inspection and possible interior coating of Digester #1, and a new upgraded sludge bed filtrate pump station. The second priority CIP includes secondary clarifier upgrades, general site work and pavement replacement, and the construction of a new access road with signalized access from Gene Autry Road. The third priority CIP includes installation of a new third digester, a fats, oils, and grease receiving station, a digester gas treatment system, and a fuel cell. Fourth priority projects include the construction of a new administration building and upsizing for the Crossley Road, Indian Canyon Drive, and Palm Canyon Drive collection systems.
20. Water conservation measures in the community have significantly reduced influent flow to the Facility. The quantity of wastewater treated may continue to decline.
21. Changes in the influent waste character are not currently anticipated. The Discharger's ROWD does not identify discharges from industrial users subject to federal categorical Pretreatment Standards into its collection system. The Discharger will be required to provide a routine assessment of its industrial dischargers in the annual Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) to determine whether a pretreatment program becomes necessary.
22. The Discharger's Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) from July 2018 through August 2023 characterize the Facility effluent as summarized in Table 2:

Table 2. Effluent Characterization.

Constituent	Units	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Flow to Desert Water Agency	MGD	2.56	5.17	0.02
Flow to Ponds	MGD	2.25	4.56	0.10
pH	s.u.	7.3	7.4	7.2
BOD5	mg/L	11.6	26.9	5.2
TSS	mg/L	10.4	16.8	4.7
Settleable Solids	ml/L	ND	ND	ND
TDS	mg/L	611	720	529
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	4.7	7.3	2.3
Sulfate	mg/L	132.5	179	92.4
Chloride	mg/L	117.4	168	91.9
Fluoride	mg/L	0.5	0.8	0.3
Nitrate as N	mg/L	9.3	14.5	3.9
Nitrite as N	mg/L	0.2	0.8	ND
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	15.8	27.7	10.1

General Site Conditions

23. The site elevation is approximately 360 feet above sea level. The site slopes are relatively flat and are generally sloped to the south with an average slope of approximately 2.4 percent.

24. An ephemeral stream identified as the Tahquitz Creek, a Water of the United States, is adjacent to the Facility immediately to the south of a flood control levee maintained by the Riverside County Flood Control District.
25. Area soils include 55 percent Myoma fine sand (0-5% slopes), 28 percent riverwash, 10 percent carsitas gravelly sand (0-9% slopes), 6 percent myoma fine sand (5-15% slopes), and 1 percent carsitas gravelly sand (0-5% slopes).
26. The site is located in a seismically active desert region.
27. Based on data from the nearest weather station (PALM SPRINGS 04-6635), the Facility has an annual average precipitation of about 4.61 inches and a mean pan evaporation of 66 inches per year.
28. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Precipitation Frequency Atlas 14, Vol. 6 (rev. 2014), 100-year and 1,000-year, 24-hour rainfall events are estimated to result in 5.85 and 8.97 inches of precipitation, respectively.¹
29. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) [Flood Insurance Rate Map](https://msc.fema.gov/portal) (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal>), the Facility is not located within a 100-year floodplain.
30. Land uses in the vicinity include residential, industrial, and recreational uses.
31. A series of groundwater wells supply domestic water to the City of Palm Springs. The average TDS concentration of the municipal water supply is approximately 349 mg/L.

Groundwater and Subsurface Conditions

32. The Facility is within the Indio Subbasin of the Coachella Valley Basin. Groundwater is unconfined under the Facility. Lithologic logs for the monitoring wells within the vicinity of the Facility show that subsurface conditions are generally comprised of silty sands and sand silt mixtures at depths of 10 feet below ground surface (bgs). Subsurface conditions are comprised of a variation of well-graded and gravelly sands with little or no fines and poorly graded and

¹ Source: [NOAA Precipitation Frequency Data Server](https://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds)
(<https://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds>)

gravelly sands with little or no fines from approximately 20 feet bgs to approximately 260 feet bgs.

33. The depth to groundwater at the Facility is approximately 190 feet below ground surface. Regional groundwater flow in the area is to the southeast.
34. The Discharger's SMRs provide groundwater monitoring data for five wells in the vicinity of the discharge. Figure 3, incorporated herein and made part of this Order by reference, shows the location of the monitoring wells. Groundwater monitoring samples are collected from the five wells on a quarterly basis. MW-1 and MW-6 are located downgradient of the evaporation/percolation ponds, MW-4 and MW-5 are located cross-gradient of the two eastern evaporation/percolation ponds and downgradient of the western evaporation/percolation ponds. MW-3 is located upgradient of the Facility and evaporation/percolation ponds. Several monitoring wells are located in golf courses in the vicinity of, or in grass areas irrigated with recycled water that contains elevated nitrogen levels. In addition, the golf courses are enriched with nitrogen-based fertilizers. The Discharger has also reported finding grasshoppers and insects inside the monitoring wells. The Discharger has reported that the monitoring wells located in these areas have been sealed to address the probability of exposure to contamination of groundwater samples.
35. There are two shallow groundwater production wells downgradient of the evaporation/percolation ponds. The wells are operated by DWA for the purpose of supplementing recycled water when demand is high.
36. Shallow groundwater flow in the area is generally to the southeast. Neighboring recharge is from the Mission Creek Groundwater Replenishment Facility in Desert Hot Springs and the Whitewater River Groundwater Replenishment Facility in Whitewater. Both replenishment facilities are operated by the Coachella Valley Water District.
37. The Facility's groundwater monitoring network currently consists of the monitoring wells identified in Table 3.

Table 3. Groundwater Monitoring Network

Monitoring Well	Depth / Location
MW-1	220 ft bgs / 33° 48' 11.16" N, -116° 29' 8.8794" W

Monitoring Well	Depth / Location
MW-3	215 ft bgs / 33° 48' 34.8006" N, -116° 30' 28.497" W
MW-4	250 ft bgs / 33° 48' 20.8799" N, -116° 29' 35.16" W
MW-5	250 ft bgs / 33° 47' 59.99999" N, -116° 29' 26.52" W
MW-6	250 ft bgs / 33° 48' 4.44" N, -116° 29' 4.56" W

38. Previously, the groundwater monitoring network consisted of three groundwater monitoring wells. The previous WDRs order required the Discharger to prepare a technical report on the adequacy of the existing groundwater monitoring network. The technical report concluded that the decommissioning of MW-2 and addition of three monitoring wells (MW-4, MW-5, and MW-6) would enable the monitoring well network to adequately characterize the impact of the effluent on groundwater level and groundwater quality around the evaporation/percolation ponds. Specifically, the technical report concluded that the close proximity of MW-2 to MW-1 decreased the accuracy and reliability in calculating shallow groundwater flow direction. The technical report also stated that MW-2 appeared to capture impairments to groundwater quality that cannot be clearly linked exclusively to discharge from the disposal ponds. Installation of the new wells, modifications to existing wells, and decommissioning of MW-2 were completed on June 1, 2020.
39. A review of the groundwater monitoring data for the upgradient well, MW-3, indicates that Total Nitrogen is below the MCL of 10 mg/L and the average TDS is 697 mg/L. Upgradient (background) groundwater quality monitored at MW-3 is summarized in Table 4.

Table 4. Upgradient Groundwater Quality

Constituent	Units	Average
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100mL	10.29
E. Coli	MPN/100mL	0.22
TDS	mg/L	697
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	8.13

Constituent	Units	Average
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	ND
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	9.71
Sulfate	mg/L	132.9
Chloride	mg/L	115.6
Fluoride	mg/L	0.004

40. Groundwater monitoring data is collected from MW-1 and MW-6 (located downgradient) and MW-4 and MW-5 (located cross-gradient of the two eastern evaporation/percolation ponds and downgradient of the western evaporation/percolation ponds). Average downgradient groundwater quality is summarized in Table 5.

Table 5. Downgradient Groundwater Quality

Constituent	Units	MW-1	MW-4	MW-5	MW-6
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100mL	188.4	<1.80	0.47	11.53
E. Coli	MPN/100mL	<1.80	<1.80	<1.80	4.08
TDS	mg/L	666.5	630	606.5	699.6
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	14.38	9.84	14.23	17.11
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	0.061	0.015	0.045	ND
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	14.48	9.78	14.37	17.31
Sulfate	mg/L	124.5	121.9	131.9	127.7
Chloride	mg/L	111.2	98.65	119.23	131.53
Fluoride	mg/L	ND	0.208	0.007	0.107

41. A review of the groundwater monitoring data, contained in Table 4 and Table 5, indicates that nitrate, nitrite, total nitrogen, chloride, fluoride and total coliforms generally show increased concentrations in the downgradient monitoring wells. A review of the groundwater monitoring data for MW-6, the furthest downgradient well, shows increased concentrations of TDS and E. Coli. Total nitrate from the wells data indicates that discharge of treated wastewater may have impacted groundwater at a rate and in concentrations causing groundwater to exceed the Primary MCL prescribed in California Code of Regulations, title 22 (Title 22), section 64431. Nitrate, nitrite, and total nitrogen data from the upstream well (MW-3) are all below the Primary MCLs. TDS of the groundwater in the vicinity of the Facility ponds, ranges from an average of 697 mg/L at MW-3 (upgradient) to 699.6 mg/L at MW-6 (downgradient). TDS data from all groundwater wells as well as the effluent exceed the Secondary MCL recommended lower limit of 500 mg/L.
42. The monitoring wells may be impacted from surface sources, especially involving indicator bacteria and nitrogen. Monitoring wells MW-1, MW-3, MW-5, and MW-6 are located in golf courses or parks and in the vicinity of grass irrigated with recycled water and enriched with nitrogen-based fertilizers. The Discharger has also reported finding grasshoppers and insects inside the monitoring wells, which may have resulted in elevated total coliform and E. Coli results.
43. Without the implementation of additional methods of treatment or source reduction strategies, total nitrogen and TDS are expected to continue exceeding MCLs.

Regulatory Considerations

Waste Discharge Permitting Authority

44. This Order is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13263, subdivision (a), which provides that “[t]he regional board, after any necessary hearing, shall prescribe requirements as to the nature of any proposed discharge, existing discharge, or material change in an existing discharge..., with relation to the conditions existing in the disposal area or receiving waters upon, or into which, the discharge is made or proposed.”
45. The statute further provides that WDRs “shall implement ... water quality control plans, and shall take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected, the water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose, other waste

discharges, the need to prevent nuisance,² and the provisions of Section 13241.” (Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (a).)

46. The ability to discharge wastewater is a privilege, not a right. The adoption of this Order shall not be construed as establishing a vested right in the continuance of discharge activities. (Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (g).)
47. For the purposes waste discharge fees under California Code of Regulations, title 23 (Title 23), section 2200, the Facility has a threat-complexity rating of **1-B**.
 - a. Threat Category “1” reflects waste discharges that can cause long-term loss of receiving water beneficial uses (e.g., drinking water supply loss, water-contact recreation area closures, or posting of areas used for spawning/growth of shellfish or migratory fish).
 - b. Complexity Category “B” reflects any discharger not included in Category A, with either (1) physical, chemical or biological treatment systems (except for septic systems with subsurface disposal), or (2) any Class II or Class III WMUs.

Basin Plan Implementation

48. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses of groundwater and surface water within the region, establishes numeric and narrative water quality objectives (WQOs) protective of such uses, and incorporates applicable State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) plans and policies.
49. This Order prescribes WDRs for discharges to groundwater within the Coachella Valley Planning Area, Whitewater Hydrologic Unit, Coachella Subunit (719.40), for which the designated beneficial uses of groundwater are as follows:
 - a. Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN);

² “Nuisance” is defined by statute as a condition that: “(1) Is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property[;] [¶] (2) Affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons...[;] [and] [¶] (3) Occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes.” (Wat. Code, § 13050, subd. (m).)

- b. Agricultural Supply (AGR); and
 - c. Industrial Supply (IND).
50. The Basin Plan establishes the following WQOs for MUN-designated groundwater:
- a. Tastes and Odors (Narrative): Groundwater shall not contain taste or odor-producing substances that adversely affect beneficial uses as a result of human activity (Ch. 3, § IV.A);
 - b. Coliform Bacteria (Numeric): Groundwater shall not contain coliform organisms in exceedance of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, title 22 (Title 22), section 64426.1 (Ch. 3, § IV.B); and
 - c. Chemical Constituents (Numeric): Groundwater shall not contain organic and inorganic chemical constituents in concentrations exceeding the Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) established for drinking water per Title 22, sections 64431, 64444 and 64678 (Ch. 3, § IV.C).
51. Although they are not universally incorporated into the Basin Plan as numeric WQOs for MUN-designated groundwater, the Secondary MCLs, established for drinking water per Title 22, section 64449, are appropriate in most cases for use as site-specific effluent limits supporting the narrative WQO for groundwater tastes and odors.
52. With respect to the narrative WQO for chemical constituents, specifically the objective for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), the Title 22 Secondary MCL specifies a recommended limit of 500 mg/L, and an upper limit of 1,000 mg/L.³ Generally, the numeric limit should be within this range, with a preference towards the lower recommended limit. Further, the numeric limit should be somewhat reflective of existing background groundwater conditions and municipal/domestic beneficial uses in the area.

³ Salinity may alternatively be expressed in terms of microsiemens per centimeter ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) of Electrical Conductivity (EC). As a Secondary MCL, Title 22 specifies a recommended limit of 900 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, and an upper limit of 1,600 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$.

Antidegradation Policy

53. The Basin Plan incorporates the State Water Board's *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California*, Resolution 68-16 (Antidegradation Policy), which prohibits the Colorado River Basin Water Board from authorizing discharges that will result in the degradation of "high quality waters," unless it is demonstrated that any such degradation in water quality:
- Will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses,⁴ or otherwise result in water quality less than that prescribed in applicable plans and policies (e.g., violation of WQOs);
 - Will be mitigated through best practicable treatment and control (BPTC);
 - Is consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state of California.
54. Based on experiences with similar facilities, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff have identified the following constituents with the potential to degrade groundwater in the Facility's effluent:
- Total Nitrogen (Nitrate plus Nitrite),
 - TDS (Salinity), and
 - Coliform Organisms.
55. Constituents in the effluent that have the potential to degrade groundwater include nitrogen, chloride, sulfate, TDS, and coliform organisms. Each of these constituents is discussed below:
- Nitrogen:** The Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen is 10 mg/L. The Discharger's SMRs from July 2018 through August 2023 show a range of 10.1 to 27.7 mg/L with an average of 15.8 mg/L for total nitrogen in the effluent. Upgradient monitoring well MW-3 shows nitrate as nitrogen concentrations averaging 8.13 mg/L and total nitrogen averaging 9.7 mg/L. Cross-gradient monitoring wells show total nitrogen concentrations averaging 9.8 mg/L in well MW-4 and 14.4 mg/L in

⁴ The Water Code defines "Pollution" in relevant part as the "alteration of the quality of the waters of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects ... [¶] [t]he waters for beneficial uses." (Wat. Code, § 13050, subd. (l)(1)(A).)

well MW-5. Downgradient monitoring wells show total nitrogen concentrations averaging 14.48 mg/L in well MW-1 and 17.3 mg/L in well MW-6. The difference between the upgradient and downgradient water quality indicates potential degradation of groundwater by nitrogen due to discharges from the evaporation/percolation ponds, in excess of the Primary MCL prescribed in Title 22, section 64431. This degradation is further supported by the fact that the average Total Nitrogen in the Facility's effluent is 15.8 mg/L. To ensure that the Facility's discharges do not result in groundwater less than the WQO of 10 mg/L (over time), the Discharger will be required to comply with a 10 mg/L effluent for Total Nitrogen within 10 years.

Using recycled water for golf course and landscape irrigation has mitigated the rate of increase and extent of the elevated nitrogen concentrations in groundwater around the evaporation/percolation ponds. The Discharger currently conveys approximately 60 to 70 percent of the secondary treated wastewater to DWA for further treatment and distribution as recycled water. Additionally, DWA has installed two shallow groundwater wells downgradient of the evaporation/percolation ponds to supplement reclaim water supplies. The wells were installed to capture groundwater in the mound resulting from the discharge of treated wastewater to the evaporation/percolation ponds.

Nevertheless, monitoring data of the groundwater wells in the vicinity of the Facility indicate that the effluent may be causing or contributing to nitrogen/nitrate impairment in the groundwater around the evaporation/percolation ponds. Even with reductions in nitrogen loading due to increased water recycling, continuation of the existing treatment and evaporation/percolation pond disposal practices may pose a threat to the beneficial use of groundwater. The Colorado River Basin Water Board recognizes that immediate compliance with groundwater objectives for nitrogen may not be achievable due to historic land use practices and the Facility's existing capacity. To allow the Discharger to make Facility upgrades that will allow it to comply with the MCL/WQO, Section G.2 requires the Discharger to submit a Time Schedule of actions necessary to achieve compliance with the WQO within 10 years of the adoption of this Order.⁵

⁵ The previous order required that the Discharger conduct a comprehensive investigation of the sources of nitrogen and the fate of transport in the groundwater. The

- b. **TDS (Salinity):** As discussed in Finding 52, this Order incorporates an effluent limit of 650 mg/L that is intended to be protective of the narrative WQO for tastes and odors. Between July 2018 through August 2023, the Facility effluent had TDS concentrations ranging from 529 mg/L to 720 mg/L, with an average of 611 mg/L. To ensure that downgradient groundwater remains within the Secondary MCL range, and at least as high quality as upgradient groundwater, this Order imposes an effluent limit of 650 mg/L (as determined per a rolling 12-month average). This effluent limit was selected using a 300 mg/L increase in salinity (TDS) over the existing source water. The limit is also proximate to the limit proposed by the Discharger in a feasibility study. To further ensure the best practicable treatment and control (BPTC) of the Facility's effluent, Section G.1.a of this Order requires the Discharger to conduct a feasibility study for Facility upgrades to comply with a 500 mg/L effluent limitation.⁶

Discharger submitted a Nitrogen Control Strategy Technical Report on December 27, 2021. The technical report suggested that groundwater nitrogen concentrations in the downgradient region of the Facility are impacted by additional sources of nitrogen separate from the Facility's effluent such as domestic septic tank/leachfield systems, water recycling, widespread application of fertilizers, and wastewater disposal through percolation. The report also noted that most monitoring wells are located in golf courses or in the vicinity of grass irrigated with recycled water and enriched with nitrogen-based fertilizers. Mixing model estimates completed as part of the technical report suggest that if the Facility achieved a 10 mg/L total nitrogen effluent concentration, groundwater concentrations downgradient of the Facility would still exceed the total nitrogen MCL of 10 mg/L because of contributions from other sources. A feasibility study conducted as part of the technical report suggested that the least expensive form of treatment that can achieve a total nitrogen concentration of 10 mg/L would have cost implications (sewer rate increase of \$7.44/month per EDU over a 20-year period). Instead, the Discharger is considering approaches to compliance based on the collaborative efforts of the Coachella Valley – Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP). Regardless, the Antidegradation Policy mandates a strict effluent limit that is at least equivalent to the WQO. Further, the SNMP is not a substitute for compliance with the WQO.

⁶ The 2017 WDRs Order established an "interim" TDS effluent limitation of 700 mg/L, reflecting the 99th percentile TDS concentrations over the previous three years. Rather than basing effluent limitations on the outer limits of the Discharger's effluent data, this Order incorporates an effluent limit of 650 mg/L. The 2017 WDRs Order also required that the Discharger conduct a comprehensive investigation of the sources of salinity to the collection system and to develop and implement a source control program for salts

- c. **Chloride and Sulfate:** The Discharger's monitoring data show an increase in chloride and sulfate concentrations in the effluent has occurred over the past 25 years. Recent effluent monitoring for chloride and sulfate show a maximum concentration of 168 mg/L and 179 mg/L, respectively. Chloride and sulfate are present in the water supply. The concentrations of these inorganic constituents increase from contributions of municipal wastewater and water softening brines. One of the causes for increased concentrations has likely been water conservation measures in the community that have significantly reduced influent flow to the Facility. Title 22, section 64449 lists a Recommended Secondary MCL of 250 mg/L for both chloride and sulfate, an Upper Recommended Level of 500 mg/L, and a Short-Term Level of 600 mg/L. The 2017 WDRs Order replaced the individual effluent limitations for chloride and sulfate with an interim TDS effluent limit. The TDS effluent limit is expected to provide the necessary protection to groundwater beneficial use, while giving the Discharger the flexibility to continue to expand water conservation efforts.
- d. **Coliform Organisms:** The most probable number (MPN) of coliform organisms in untreated domestic wastewater is typically 10^7 to 10^8 per 100 mL, and in secondary-treated wastewater, a MPN of 10^5 to 10^6 organisms per 100 mL (USEPA, Design Manual: Municipal Wastewater Disinfection, EPA/625/1-86/021, Oct. 1986.) The depth to groundwater ranges from an average of approximately 173 feet to 208 feet in the monitoring wells around the Facility; it is not likely that pathogen-indicator bacteria will reach groundwater in excess of that prescribed in Title 22, section 64426.1. Groundwater monitoring wells around the Facility have been monitored quarterly and analyzed for bacteria with results ranging from below the detection limit of 1.8 MPN/100 mL to >2,400 MPN/100 mL (measured at MW-1) for total coliforms. It is unknown if the downgradient bacteria are attributable to Facility discharges. Therefore, this Order includes a Special Provision for the Discharger to further evaluate the

and mineralized wastes. The Discharger identified the DWA's backwash as a significant source of the TDS loading, accounting for approximately 11 percent of the influent TDS load and 70 percent of the commercial industrial load. The Discharger will continue to evaluate the feasibility of implementing source reduction strategies for the DWA and for any new TDS source that may be identified. The Discharger presented recommendations for a final annual average TDS effluent limit of 687 mg/L and a monthly average TDS effluent limit of 703 mg/L as a result of the investigation.

adequacy of the groundwater monitoring network and investigate the source of the bacteria in groundwater.

56. A Time Schedule subjects the Discharger to nitrate effluent limitations and compliance activities including the evaluation of viable long-term treatment process changes or source control strategies to achieve full compliance with this Order.
57. Water Code section 13300 authorizes the Colorado River Basin Water Board to require dischargers to establish a time schedule, subject to Water Board approval, of specific actions a discharger shall take to correct or prevent actual or threatened discharges of waste in violation of requirements.
58. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23 (Title 23), section 2231, the time schedule shall not permit any unnecessary time lag, and periodic status reports should be required. The time schedule shall include dates for complete design, complete financial arrangements, start of construction, 50 percent completion of work, and full compliance with requirements.
59. Notwithstanding implementation of BPTC, a degree of groundwater quality degradation will occur as a result of the Facility's operation—specifically in terms of nitrate/nitrite and TDS (and possibly total coliform). However, such degradation nevertheless is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state of California. The technology, energy, water recycling, and waste management advantages of regional utility service exceed any benefits derived from reliance on numerous, concentrated individual wastewater systems, and the impact on water quality will be substantially less. The Facility has replaced a significant number of septic systems and as a result, protected groundwater throughout the basin from degradation by septic system discharges. These factors, when taken in conjunction with the associated increase in waste constituents, are consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State. The Facility supports the economic prosperity of the community by the employment of full-time and part-time personnel. The economic prosperity of surrounding communities and associated industries is of maximum benefit to the people of the state and provides sufficient justification for allowing the limited groundwater degradation that may occur under this Order.
60. Based on the foregoing considerations, the wastewater discharges authorized under this Order are consistent with the Antidegradation Policy.

Stormwater

61. On July 1, 2015, the State Water Board adopted Water Quality Order 2014-0057-DWQ (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CAS000001), *General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities* (Industrial General Permit). Facilities used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal or domestic sewage with a design flow of one million gallons per day or more, or that are required to have an approved pretreatment program under 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 403, must enroll under the Industrial General Permit, unless there is no discharge of industrial stormwater to waters of the United States (WOTUS).⁷ This Order makes no determination as to the Discharger's need for enrollment under the Industrial General Permit.
62. This Order does not authorize discharges of stormwater to the WOTUS.

Additional Water Quality Considerations

63. This Order, which prescribes WDRs in accordance with the Basin Plan, for wastewater that does not need to be managed as "hazardous waste," is exempt from the prescriptive requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 27 (Title 27), section 20005 et seq. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090.)
64. Water Code section 106.3, subdivision (a) provides that it is "the established policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes." Although subdivision (a) does not apply directly to the prescribing of WDRs (see Wat. Code, § 106.3, subd. (b)), this Order nevertheless furthers the stated policy by requiring that the receiving groundwater comply with WQOs protective of MUN beneficial uses.

⁷ USEPA regulations for stormwater discharges were promulgated on November 16, 1990 (40 C.F.R. parts 122, 123, and 124) to implement the Clean Water Act's stormwater program set forth in Clean Water Act section 402(p) (33 U.S.C. §1342(p)). In relevant part, the regulations require specific categories of facilities that discharge stormwater associated with industrial activity to WOTUS to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and to require control of such pollutant discharges using Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT) and Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT) to prevent and reduce pollutants and any more stringent controls necessary to meet water quality standards.

65. For purposes of Water Code section 13149.2, subdivision (d), although this Order incorporates a time schedule that allows the Discharger time to come into compliance with WQOs, the Facility's discharges are not anticipated to impact any disadvantaged^[8] or tribal communities.^[9] Accordingly, no additional findings are necessary under section 13149.2.

California Environmental Quality Act

66. The adoption of this Order is categorically exempt from the procedural requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.), as the Facility is "an existing facility" with negligible or no expansions in use. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, 15301.)

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

67. This Order is also issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267, subdivision (b)(1), which provides that the Colorado River Basin Water Board may require that persons discharging waste within the region "shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports....," provided that the discharger's burdens of compliance, including costs, is reasonable relative to the need for the submittals and the benefits to be obtained.
68. The various notifications, technical reports and monitoring program reports required under this Order, including those contained within the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in **Attachment A**, are necessary to ensure compliance with the WDRs.
69. Because the provisional effluent limit incorporated in this Order for TDS is less stringent than the recommended secondary MCL, Special Provisions of the Order also require that the Discharger conduct a feasibility study and continue to develop a source control program. The Discharger's SMRs from July 2018

⁸ For the purposes of this requirement, a "disadvantaged community" is defined as a "community in which the median household income is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income level." (Wat. Code, § 13149.2, subd. (f)(1).)

⁹ For the purposes of this requirement, a "tribal community" is defined as a "community within a federally recognized California Native American tribe or nonfederally recognized Native American tribe on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004." (Wat. Code, § 13149.2, subd. (f)(2).)

through August 2023 show an average 15.8 mg/L for total nitrogen in the effluent; the Discharger shall submit a time schedule to achieve a 10 mg/L Total Nitrogen effluent limit. Groundwater monitoring wells around the Facility have been monitored quarterly and analyzed for bacteria with results ranging from below the detection limit of 1.8 MPN/100 mL to >2,400 MPN/100 mL for total coliforms. The discharger shall conduct a Groundwater Monitoring Network Technical Report and Work Plan to assess the current condition of the groundwater monitoring network and evaluate whether this network adequately monitors the effects of the discharge from the disposal ponds on groundwater.

70. In accordance with section 13267, the burdens of monitoring and reporting imposed on the Discharger under this Order and the separately adopted MRP, are reasonable relative to the need for compliance described above.
71. The Executive Officer may issue a Revised MRP as a standalone order, pursuant to her delegated authority under Water Code section 13223 and Colorado River Basin Water Board Resolution R7-2022-0036. Upon issuance, the Revised MRP shall supersede the provisions of Attachment A.

Scope of Order

72. This Order applies only to the discharge and/or disposal to land of inert wastes, as defined and limited herein, at the Facility. Wastes and materials discharged at the Facility shall be limited to "inert waste" as defined in Title 27, section 20230, subdivision (a), and as otherwise limited by the contents of this Order. The Dischargers are responsible for accurate characterization of all wastes under consideration for disposal or deposition within the Facility. (Title 27, § 20200.)
73. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as preempting or superseding otherwise applicable regulatory requirements issued by local, state, or federal agencies.

Public Participation

74. In developing these WDRs, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff have complied with Water Code section 189.7, subdivision (a)(1), which requires "equitable, culturally relevant community outreach to promote meaningful civil engagement from potentially impacted communities of proposed discharges of waste that may have disproportionate impacts on water quality in disadvantaged communities or tribal communities...."

75. The Dischargers and other interested public agencies and persons were notified of the Board's intent to prescribe the WDRs in this Order, and provided an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations at a public hearing. (Wat. Code, § 13167.5.)
76. The Colorado River Basin Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all timely comments pertaining to this discharge.

REQUIREMENTS

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Water Code sections 13263 and 13267, that Order R7-2017-0013 is rescinded (except for enforcement purposes), and that the Discharger shall comply with the following requirements.

A. Prohibitions

1. Waste classified as "hazardous," as defined in Title 27, section 20164, or constituting "designated waste," as defined in Water Code section 13173, shall not be discharged at the Facility.
2. The storage, treatment, or disposal of waste at the Facility shall not cause conditions constituting a "contamination," "pollution," or "nuisance," as defined per subdivisions (k), (l), and (m) of Water Code section 13050.
3. Wastewater shall not be permitted to bypass the treatment units relied upon for compliance with this Order, or otherwise be permitted to overflow from its designated containment structures.
4. Waste shall not be discharged at a location other than the Designated Disposal Area specified in Finding 12, or in a manner other than as described in the findings generally.¹⁰
5. Wastewater shall not be discharged from the Facility into surface waters or surface drainage courses.

¹⁰ For purposes of this prohibition, conveyance of effluent to the DWA WRP, as described in Finding 11, does not constitute a "discharge."

6. The discharge of wastewater to land not controlled by the Discharger, or not authorized for such use, is prohibited.
7. Objectionable odors, originating from the Facility and associated with the generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of waste, shall not be perceivable beyond the boundaries of the Facility or areas not owned/controlled by the Discharger.

B. Discharge Specifications

1. Wastewater shall be discharged to the Designated Disposal Area, as described in Finding 12.
2. All Facility systems and equipment shall be operated to optimize the quality of the effluent.
3. All conveyance, treatment, storage, and disposal systems shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.
4. Public contact with wastewater at the Facility shall be prevented through such means as fences, signs, or acceptable alternatives.
5. As a means of ensuring compliance with Section A.7, the dissolved oxygen (DO) content in the upper one foot of all wastewater impoundments at the Facility (including the Disposal Area) shall not be less than 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive sampling events. Notwithstanding the DO monitoring frequency specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, if the DO in any single impoundment is below 1.0 mg/L for any single sampling event, the Discharger shall implement daily DO monitoring of that impoundment until the minimum DO concentration is achieved for at least three consecutive days. If the DO in any single impoundment is below 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive days, the Discharger shall report the findings to the Colorado River Basin Water Board. The written notification shall include a specific plan to resolve the low DO results within 30 days of the first date of violation.
6. The Discharger shall design, construct, operate, and maintain all Facility impoundments sufficiently to protect the integrity of containment dams and berms and prevent overtopping and/or structural failure. The operating freeboard in any impoundments shall never be less than two feet (measured vertically from the lowest possible point of overflow). As a

means of management and to discern compliance with this requirement, the Discharger shall maintain in each impoundment a permanent staff gauge with calibration marks that clearly show the water level at design capacity and enable determination of available operational freeboard.

7. Wastewater treatment, storage, and disposal ponds or structures shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow, design seasonal precipitation, and ancillary inflow and infiltration during the winter while ensuring compliance with all requirements of this Order. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.
8. On or about 1 October of each year, available capacity shall at least equal the volume necessary to comply with Sections B.6 and B.7.
9. All ponds and open containment structures shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. Specifically:
 - a. An erosion control program shall be implemented to ensure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
 - b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, or herbicides.
 - c. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.
 - d. The Discharger shall consult and coordinate with the local Mosquito Abatement District to minimize the potential for mosquito breeding as needed to supplement the above measures.
10. Newly constructed or rehabilitated berms or levees (excluding internal berms that separate ponds or control the flow of water within a pond) shall be designed and constructed under the supervision of a California Registered Civil Engineer.
11. Wastewater within any unlined impoundment (including the Designated Disposal Area) shall not have a pH less than 6.0 or greater than 9.0.
12. Beginning in 2024, the Discharger shall monitor sludge accumulation in each Facility impoundment at least every five years, and periodically

remove sludge as necessary to maintain adequate storage capacity. Specifically, if the estimated volume of sludge in the reservoir exceeds five percent of the permitted reservoir capacity, the Discharger shall complete sludge cleanout within 12 months after the date of the estimate.

13. The 30-day average removal of the pollutant parameters BOD5 and TSS shall not be less than 80 percent.
14. The evaporation/percolation ponds shall be maintained so that they continuously operate in aerobic conditions. The dissolved oxygen content in the upper zone (one foot) of the evaporation/percolation ponds shall be equal to or greater than 1.0 mg/L. If there is little or no water in the ponds, the monitoring report shall state “No standing water in ponds and/or not sufficient water in the ponds to sample safely” in place of reporting dissolved oxygen concentration.

C. Effluent Limitations

The Facility’s wastewater (effluent), following treatment, shall comply with the Effluent Limitations below in Table 6, as determined at the point of discharge into the Designated Disposal Area.

Table 6. Effluent Limitations.

Parameter	Units	Limitation	Determination
Average Daily Flow	MGD	10.9	--
pH	Std. Units	≥ 6.00 ≤ 9.00	--
TSS	mg/L	45 30	7-Day Average 30-Day Average
BOD5	mg/L	45 30	7-Day Average 30-Day Average
TDS	mg/L	650	12-Month Rolling Average

Parameter	Units	Limitation	Determination
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.5	7-Day Average
		0.3	30-Day Average
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	10 ¹¹	12-Month Rolling Average

D. Groundwater Limitations

Discharge of wastewater from the Facility shall not cause groundwater to:

1. Exceed applicable WQOs;
2. Acquire taste, odor, toxicity, or color that create nuisance conditions;
3. Impair beneficial uses; or
4. Contain constituents or organisms in excess of applicable Title 22 MCLs (see, e.g., Title 22, § 64426.1 [bacteriological constituents], § 64431 [inorganics], § 64444 [organics], § 64678 [lead, copper]).

E. Solids Disposal Requirements¹²

1. Sludge and Solid Waste shall be removed from screens, sumps, ponds, and clarifiers as needed to ensure optimal plant operation.
2. Onsite handling and storage of Residual Sludge, Solid Waste, and Biosolids shall be temporary (6 months or less); and controlled and

¹¹ Except as provided in a Time Schedule approved by the Executive Officer (see § G.2.d), this effluent limit shall be effective within five years of the adoption of this Order, and in no case later than 10 years from the adoption date.

¹² For the purposes of this section: “sludge” means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes; “solid waste” includes grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment at the Facility; “residual sludge” means sludge that will not be subject to further treatment at the Facility; and “biosolids” refers to sludge that has been treated and tested and shown to be capable of being beneficially used as a soil amendment for

contained in a manner that minimizes leachate formation and precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate the Groundwater Limitations of this Order.

3. Residual sludge, biosolids, and solid waste shall be permanently disposed offsite at a landfill permitted under Title 27, section 20000 et seq.

F. Monitoring, Reporting and Notification Requirements

1. **Compliance with Monitoring and Reporting Program.** The Discharger shall comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in Attachment A, or in the event of a subsequently issued Revised MRP, the provisions of that Revised MRP, which shall supersede the provisions of Attachment A as the operative MRP.
2. **Noncompliance Notifications.** Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment. Information shall be provided orally to the Colorado River Basin Water Board office and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) within 24 hours of when the Discharger becomes aware of the incident. If noncompliance occurs outside of business hours, the Discharger shall leave a message on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's office voicemail.

A written report shall also be provided within five business days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the incident. The written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause, the period of noncompliance, the anticipated time to achieve full compliance, and the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. A final certified report must be submitted through GeoTracker. Additional information may be added to the certified report, in the form of an attachment, at any time.

All other forms of noncompliance shall be reported in the next scheduled Self-Monitoring Report (SMR), or earlier if requested by the Executive Officer.

agriculture, silviculture, horticulture, and land reclamation activities pursuant to federal and state regulations.

3. **General Monitoring Requirements.**

- a. **Testing and Analytical Methods.** The collection, preservation, and holding times of all samples shall be performed in accordance with USEPA-approved procedures. Except as otherwise specified in the MRP or as approved in writing by the Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest editions of either of the USEPA's *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants Under the Clean Water Act* (40 C.F.R. part 136); or *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods Compendium* (SW-846).
- b. **Laboratory Certification.** Except as otherwise approved in writing by the Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP).
- c. **Representative Sampling.** All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The time, date, and location of each grab sample shall be recorded on the chain of custody form for the sample. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved in writing by Colorado River Basin Water Board staff.
- d. **Instrumentation and Calibration.** All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger shall be properly maintained and calibrated to ensure their continued accuracy. Any flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices. In the event that continuous monitoring equipment is out of service for a 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.

- e. **Field Test Instruments.** Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided:
 - i. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
 - ii. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
 - iii. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
 - iv. Field calibration reports are submitted.
- 4. **General Reporting Requirements.** The Discharger shall comply with the following General Reporting Requirements:
 - a. **Electronic Submittal.** All materials shall be submitted electronically via the [GeoTracker Database](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov) (<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>).¹³ After uploading, Dischargers shall notify Colorado River Basin Water Board staff via email to RB7_WDRs_paperless@waterboards.ca.gov, or another address specified by staff. The following information shall be included in the body of the email:

Attention:	Land Disposal Unit
Report Title:	[Report Title]
Upload ID:	[Number]
Facility:	Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant
County:	Riverside County
GeoTracker ID:	WDR100032535
 - b. **Qualified Professionals.** All technical reports¹⁴ submitted under this Order shall be prepared by, or under the direct supervision of, a

¹³ Large files must be split into appropriately labelled, manageable file sizes and uploaded into GeoTracker.

¹⁴ A “technical report” is a one incorporating the application of scientific or engineering principles.

competent licensed civil engineer or engineering geologist (Qualified Professional). The submittal shall be signed and stamped by the Qualified Professional, and contain a brief summary of the Qualified Professional's qualifications.

- c. **Data Presentation and Formatting.** In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange data in tabular form so that the date, the constituents, the concentrations, and the units are readily discernible. Additionally, data shall be summarized in a manner that clearly illustrates compliance/noncompliance.
- d. **Non-Detections / Reporting Limits.** Unless reporting limits (RL) are specified in the same table, non-detections and sub-RL concentrations shall be reported as "< [limit]" (e.g., "< 5 µg/L").
- e. **Units.** Absent specific justification, all monitoring data shall be reported in the units specified herein.
- f. **Certification.** All submittals under this Order shall be accompanied by a transmittal containing the following certification that is signed by either the Required Signatory or their Authorized Representative:

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

- i. The Required Signatory shall be the individual identified in Table 7 below.

- ii. To act as an Authorized Representative for a Required Signatory (Table 7), an individual must be identified¹⁵ and duly authorized in writing by the Required Signatory; this written authorization shall be provided to the Board beforehand, or concurrently with the first submittal signed by the Authorized Representative.

Table 7. Required Signatories for Submittals.

Category of Discharger	Required Signatory
Corporations	Senior Vice President or Equivalent Principal Executive
Limited Liability Companies (LLCs)	Manager
General Partnerships and Limited Partnerships (LPs)	General Partner
Sole Proprietorships	Sole Proprietor
Public Agencies	Principal Executive or Ranking Elected/Appointed Official

G. Special Provisions

1. TDS Control and Minimization

- a. **Effluent Limit Feasibility Study.** Within 12 months of adoption of this Order, the Discharger shall submit to the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Executive Officer for review and approval a technical report to determine the path to achieving a 500 mg/L TDS effluent limit. The feasibility study shall contain the following components:

¹⁵ This identification may be in reference to the Authorized Representative's title or position, provided it is one that customarily has the responsibility of supervising the Facility's overall operation (e.g., facility manager, superintendent).

- i. The facility or operational changes required to meet a 500 mg/L TDS effluent limit, including projected costs and sewer rate increases.
 - ii. An evaluation of alternative methods of treatment that are available and may be implemented to achieve a 500 mg/L TDS effluent limit. The alternative analysis should include the costs of the alternatives, expressed in dollars per ton, of TDS removed from the discharge.
 - b. **TDS Source Reduction Reports.** The Discharger shall continue to evaluate the feasibility of implementing source reduction strategies for the DWA, as provided in the previous WDRs Order. For any new TDS sources that are identified, the Discharger shall submit a final technical report that summarizes its findings and proposes any necessary actions.¹⁶
2. **Total Nitrogen Effluent Limit Compliance Time Schedule.** Within six months of adoption of this Order, the Discharger shall submit, for Executive Officer approval, a Time Schedule for compliance with a 10 mg/L effluent limit for Total Nitrogen, as specified in Table 6, within 10 years of the adoption of this Order.
 - a. The Time Schedule shall include proposed dates incorporating the following actions:
 - i. Submittal of a technical report identifying and assessing treatment options for compliance with the effluent limit within 10 years;
 - ii. Submittal of a technical report on the Discharger's selection of a treatment option, with designs included;

¹⁶ Under the previous WDRs Order, the Discharger was required to conduct a comprehensive investigation of the sources of salinity, measured as TDS, to the collection system and to develop and implement a source control program for salts and mineralized wastes. The Discharger identified the DWA's backwash as a significant source of the TDS loading, accounting for approximately 11 percent of the influent TDS load and 70 percent of the commercial industrial load.

- iii. Notification that construction/installation activities have commenced;
 - iv. Submittal of a technical report demonstrating that the Facility upgrades have been completed in accordance with the selected option (including the submitted designs);
 - v. Startup of any new components at the Facility; and
 - vi. Full compliance with the 10 mg/L effluent limitation.
- b. Upon Executive Officer written approval of the Time Schedule,¹⁷ the approved deadlines for required actions shall be incorporated and made enforceable as part of this Order.
 - c. Upon adoption of this Order, the Discharger shall submit quarterly progress reports to the Executive Officer until full compliance with the effluent limit is achieved.
 - d. Although the Executive Officer may grant extensions for required actions under the Time Schedule, in no case shall the full compliance date extend beyond 10 years from the date of this Order's adoption.
3. **Supplemental Groundwater Monitoring Network Assessment.** Within six months of the adoption of this Order, the Discharger shall submit, for Colorado River Basin Water Board staff concurrence, a technical report further evaluating the adequacy for monitoring of bacteria. The Discharger shall conduct a bacteria source investigation for a minimum duration of two years and shall evaluate and identify the sources of bacteria in groundwater samples using the existing monitoring network. The Discharger shall submit a final technical report within 60 days of completing the bacteria source investigation.
4. **Groundwater Monitoring Network Work Plan.** In the event that the Discharger's assessment identifies any deficiencies in its existing groundwater monitoring network, or as otherwise directed by the

¹⁷ The Executive Officer may approve the Discharger's time schedule with any changes that are deemed necessary and appropriate to achieve compliance with WQOs in the most expeditious manner possible. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 2231, subd. (d).)

Executive Officer in writing, the Discharger shall, within four months of submitting the assessment report, submit a technical work plan and proposed time schedule¹⁸ for any necessary changes to the existing network and monitoring and reporting program.¹⁹

The work plan shall include a description proposed changes to the groundwater monitoring network (e.g., monitoring locations, sampling protocol, or quality assurance/quality control) and a time schedule for the implementation of these changes. Within 30 days of Executive Officer written approval,²⁰ the Discharger shall begin implementation of the work plan in accordance with the time schedule.

H. Other Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with the Time Schedule in Table 8 below.

Table 8. Time Schedule.

Task	Deadline
1. Begin to Submit Quarterly progress reports for total nitrogen Time Schedule	Upon adoption of this Order
2. Submit Supplemental Groundwater Monitoring Network Assessment	Within 6 Months of adoption of this Order

¹⁸ The time schedule for proposed activities shall not exceed 18 months from Executive Officer approval of the time schedule.

¹⁹ Nothing in this Order supersedes the Executive Officer's delegated authority to require additional monitoring activities regardless of the Discharger's findings on the adequacy of its existing network.

²⁰ The Executive Officer may approve the work plan and time schedule with any revisions that are determined to be warranted under the circumstances.

Task	Deadline
3. Submit a Time Schedule to achieve the total nitrogen effluent limit for Board approval	Within 6 Months of Adoption
4. Submit Work Plan to correct groundwater monitoring well issues (if necessary)	Within 4 Months of submittal of Supplemental Groundwater Monitoring Network Assessment
5. Begin implementation of the Groundwater Monitoring Well Work Plan	Within 30 days of approval of the Work Plan by the Executive Officer
6. Submit TDS Effluent Limit Feasibility Study	Within 12 Months of adoption of this Order
7. Complete changes to Groundwater Monitoring Network (if necessary)	Within 18 Months of approval of the Work Plan by the Executive Officer
8. Submit final technical report for bacteria source investigation	TBD
9. Submit technical report identifying and assessing treatment options for compliance with the total nitrogen effluent limit	TBD
10. Submit technical report for selection of total nitrogen treatment option including design	TBD
11. Notification that the construction/installation activities for total nitrogen treatment option have commenced	TBD
12. Submit technical report demonstrating that the Facility upgrades have been completed	TBD
13. Startup any new components at the Facility	TBD

Task	Deadline
14. Achieve full compliance with final effluent limitation	TBD

2. **Facility Inspection.** Dischargers and their agents shall permit Board staff to inspect the Enrolled Facility during business to verify compliance with WDRs. Failure to consent to a reasonable request for inspection constitutes a violation of this Order.
3. **Facility Operation and Maintenance.** The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all systems and components of collection, treatment, and control installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with this Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes, but is not limited to, effective performance, adequate process controls, and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities/systems when necessary to achieve compliance with this Order. All systems in service or reserved shall be inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Records of inspections and maintenance shall be retained and made available to the Colorado River Basin Water Board on request.
4. **Duty to Mitigate.** The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.
5. **Material Changes.** Prior to any modifications which would result in any 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.
6. **Operational Personnel.** The Facility shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing the necessary expertise in the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment system.
7. Physical copies of this Order, as well as of the operative Monitoring and Reporting Program, shall be maintained onsite at the Facility, and shall be

identified to all operating personnel; the Discharger shall ensure that such personnel are familiarized with these materials.

8. The Discharger shall retain copies of all reports required by this Order and the associated MRP. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of five years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. Records may be maintained electronically. This period may be extended in writing by the Executive Officer.
9. **Changes in Ownership.** Prior to any change in ownership of this operation, the Discharger shall notify the Executive Officer in writing at least 30 days in advance. The notice shall include a written transfer agreement between the existing owner and the new owner. At a minimum, the transfer agreement shall contain a specific date for transfer of responsibility for compliance with this Order, and an acknowledgment that the new owner or operator is liable for compliance with this Order from the date of transfer. The Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of this Order to formally substitute the permitted parties, and to incorporate other requirements as appropriate.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A—Monitoring and Reporting Program

Attachment B—Maps and Facility Diagrams

ENFORCEMENT

If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, the Dischargers fail to comply with the provisions of this Order, the Executive Officer may refer this matter to the Attorney General for judicial enforcement, may issue a complaint for administrative civil liability, or may take other enforcement actions. Failure to comply with this Order may result in the assessment of Administrative Civil Liability of up to \$10,000 per violation, per day, depending on the violation, pursuant to the Water Code, including sections 13268, 13350 and 13385. The Colorado River Basin Water Board reserves its right to take any enforcement actions authorized by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Any person aggrieved by this Colorado River Basin Water Board action may petition the State Water Board for review in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 et seq. To be timely, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the 30th day after the date of this Order; if the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or state holiday, the petition must

be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the next business day. The law and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available on the [State Water Board website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality). Copies will also be provided upon request.

ATTACHMENT A—MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

A. General Requirements

1. **Testing and Analytical Methods.** The collection, preservation, and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)-approved procedures. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of either the USEPA's Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants Under the Clean Water Act (40 C.F.R. part 136) or Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods Compendium (SW-846), unless otherwise specified in the MRP or approved by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer.
2. **Laboratory Certification.** All analyses shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP), unless otherwise approved by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer.
3. **Reporting Levels.** All analytical data shall be reported with method detection limits (MDLs) and with either the reporting level or limits of quantitation (LOQs) according to 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 136, Appendix B. The laboratory reporting limit for all reported monitoring data shall be no greater than the practical quantitation limit (PQL).
4. **Sampling Location(s).** Samples shall be collected at the location(s) specified in the WDRs. If no location is specified, sampling shall be conducted at the most representative sampling point available.
5. **Representative Sampling.** All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The time, date, and location of each grab sample shall be recorded on the chain of custody form for the sample. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Regional Water Board staff.
6. **Instrumentation and Calibration.** All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger shall be properly maintained and calibrated to ensure their continued accuracy. Any flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices. In the event that continuous monitoring equipment is out of service for a period greater than 24 hours, the Discharger shall obtain

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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.

7. **Field Test Instruments.** Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that:
 - a. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
 - b. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
 - c. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
 - d. Field calibration reports are submitted.
8. **Records Retention.** 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, for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of the sampling or measurement. This period may be extended by request of the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer at any time. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 - a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurement(s);
 - b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurement(s);
 - c. The date(s) analyses were performed;
 - d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 - e. The analytical techniques or method used; and
 - f. All sampling and analytical results, including:

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- i. units of measurement used;
 - ii. minimum reporting limit for the analyses;
 - iii. results less than the reporting limit but above the method detection limit (MDL);
 - iv. data qualifiers and a description of the qualifiers;
 - v. quality control test results (and a written copy of the laboratory quality assurance plan);
 - vi. dilution factors, if used; and
 - vii. sample matrix type.
9. **Inoperative Facility.** If the Facility is not in operation, or there is no discharge during a required reporting period, the Discharger shall forward a letter to the Regional Water Board indicating that there has been no activity during the required reporting period.

B. Monitoring Requirements

Influent to the Facility shall be monitoring according to the following schedule:

MRP Table 1. Influent Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Sample	Monitoring Freq.	Reporting Freq.
Flow	MGD	Measurement	Daily	Monthly
BOD5	mg/L	24 Hr. Composite	Weekly	Monthly
TSS	mg/L	24 Hr. Composite	Weekly	Monthly
TDS	mg/L	24 Hr. Composite	Weekly	Monthly

Evaporation/percolation ponds shall be monitored according to the following schedule:

MRP Table 2. Pond Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type	Monitoring Freq	Reporting Freq
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Freeboard	0.1 feet	Measurement	Weekly	Monthly
Berm Condition	---	Observation	Weekly	Monthly
Odors	---	Observation	Weekly	Monthly

Samples shall be collected from opposite the inlet at a depth of one foot and from each pond in use. If there is little or no water in the percolation/evaporation

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ponds, the monitoring report shall state: “No standing water in ponds” in place of reporting dissolved pH and dissolved oxygen concentration.

Effluent from the Facility shall be monitored according to the following schedule:

MRP Table 3. Effluent Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type	Monitoring Freq	Reporting Freq
Flow to Desert Water Agency	MGD	Estimated ²¹	Daily	Monthly
Flow to Ponds	MGD	Calculation	Daily	Monthly
BOD5	mg/L	24-hr Composite	Semi-Weekly ²²	Monthly
TSS	mg/L	24-hr Composite	Semi-Weekly	Monthly
Settleable Solids	ml/L	Grab at Peak Flow	Daily	Monthly
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Daily	Monthly
Sulfate	mg/L	24-hr Composite	Monthly	Monthly
Chloride	mg/L	24-hr Composite	Monthly	Monthly

²¹ The Facility does not currently have a method of metering effluent flow to DWA.

²² Twice Weekly.

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Constituent	Units	Type	Monitoring Freq	Reporting Freq
Fluoride	mg/L	24-hr Composite	Monthly	Monthly
TDS	mg/L	24-hr Composite	Weekly	Monthly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Nitrate as N	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Nitrite as N	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
VOCs	µg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

The domestic water supply shall be monitored at a location or in a manner that is representative of actual pH and TDS concentrations of domestic water distributed to the community according to the following schedule:

MRP Table 4. Source Water Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
TDS	mg/L	Composite	Monthly	Monthly

Groundwater monitoring constituents and schedule may be revised based on a request from the DDW, by the Colorado River Water Board’s Executive Officer for cause, including request by the Discharger. The approved groundwater

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monitoring network shall be monitored for the following constituents according to the following schedule:

MRP Table 5. Groundwater Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Depth to Groundwater	ft	Measurement	Quarterly	Quarterly
Groundwater elevation	ft	Calculated	Quarterly	Quarterly
Flow Gradient	feet/foot	Calculated	Quarterly	Quarterly
Flow Direction	degrees	Calculated	Quarterly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nitrate as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nitrite as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Fluoride	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
VOCs	µg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Coliform	MPN/100mL	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
E. Coli	MPN/100mL	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

The Discharger shall report annually on the quantity, location, and method of disposal of all sludge and similar solid materials being produced at the Facility. If no sludge is disposed of during the year being reported, the Discharger shall state “No Sludge Removed” in the annual monitoring report. Prior to disposal, sludge that is generated at the Facility shall be sampled and analyzed for the following:

MRP Table 6. Sludge Monitoring Schedule.

Constituent	Units	Type of Sample	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Arsenic	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Cadmium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Copper	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Chromium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Lead	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Mercury	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Molybdenum	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Nickel	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Selenium	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Zinc	mg/kg	Composite	Annually	Annually
Fecal Coliform	MPN/gram	Composite	Annually	Annually

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ATTACHMENT A—MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**C. Reporting Requirements**

1. Daily, weekly, and monthly monitoring shall be included in the Monthly Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs). Monthly SMRs shall be submitted by the **last day of the following month**. Quarterly SMRs shall be submitted by **January 31st, April 30th, July 31st, and October 31st**. Annual SMRs shall be submitted by **January 31st** of the following year.
2. Monthly and quarterly SMRs shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. **Cover Letter.** A transmittal letter summarizing the essential points in the report.
 - b. **Maps.** Maps depicting the Facility layout and the location of sampling points.
 - c. **Summary of Monitoring Data.** Tables of the data collected. Each row shall be a monitoring event and each column shall be a separate parameter at a single location (or a single average, as appropriate).
 - d. **Compliance Summary.** Identification of any violations found since the last report was submitted, and actions taken or planned for correcting each violation. If the Discharger previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. If no violations have occurred since the last submittal, this shall be stated.
3. Annual SMRs shall include, at a minimum the following:
 - a. **Cover Letter.** A transmittal letter summarizing the essential points in the report.
 - b. **Maps.** Maps depicting the Facility layout and the location of sampling points.
 - c. **Summary of Monitoring Data.** Tables of the data collected. The tables shall include all of the data collected to-date at each monitoring point, organized in chronological order, with the oldest data in the top row and progressively newer data in rows below the top row. Each row shall be a monitoring event and each column shall

be a separate parameter at a single location (or a single average, as appropriate).

- d. **Graphical Display.** Graphs depicting monitoring parameters through time, with the concentrations being the y-axis and time being the x-axis. Logarithmic scales can be used for values that vary by orders of magnitude. Individual graphs can combine multiple locations or multiple chemicals if that allows the data to be compared more easily.
 - e. **Pretreatment Report.** Information concerning significant industrial wastewater discharged to the treatment facility, and an affirmative statement concerning whether there is a need to establish an industrial pretreatment program.
 - f. **Operation and Maintenance Summary.** Information concerning operation and maintenance of the facility, including documentation showing the calibration of flow meters and equipment, modifications to the Operation and Maintenance Manual, and any modifications or updates to the Discharger's wastewater rules and/or regulations.
 - g. **Compliance Summary.** Identification of any violations found since the last report was submitted, and actions taken or planned for correcting each violation. If the Discharger previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. If no violations have occurred since the last submittal, this shall be stated.
4. SMRs shall be certified under penalty of perjury to be true and correct. Each SMR submitted to the Regional Water Board shall contain the following completed declaration:

"I declare under the penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is 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.

Executed on the _____ day of _____ at _____

_____(Signature)

_____(Title)”

5. The SMRs and any other information requested by the Regional Water Board shall be signed by a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. A duly authorized representative of the Discharger may sign the documents if:
 - a. The authorization is made in writing by the person described above;
 - b. The authorization specified an individual or person having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated disposal system; and
 - c. The written authorization is submitted to the Regional Water Board’s Executive Officer.
6. The results of any analysis taken more frequently than required at the locations specified in this MRP shall be reported to the Regional Water Board.
7. As specified in Monitoring Reporting and Notification Requirements of the WDR section F.4.b, technical reports shall be prepared by or under the direction of appropriately qualified professional(s). Each technical report submitted shall contain a statement of qualification of the responsible licensed professional(s) as well as the professional’s signature and/or stamp of the seal.
8. As specified in Monitoring Reporting and Notification Requirements of the WDR section F.4.a, the Discharger shall comply with Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) requirements by submitting all correspondence and reports required under MRP R7-2024-0009 and any future revision(s) hereto, including groundwater monitoring data and discharge location data (latitude and longitude), correspondence, and PDF monitoring reports to the State Water Board’s GeoTracker database. Documents too large to be uploaded into GeoTracker should be broken down into smaller electronic files and labelled properly prior to uploading into GeoTracker.

ATTACHMENT B—MAPS AND FACILITY DIAGRAMS

Figure 1. Map with Facility Location.

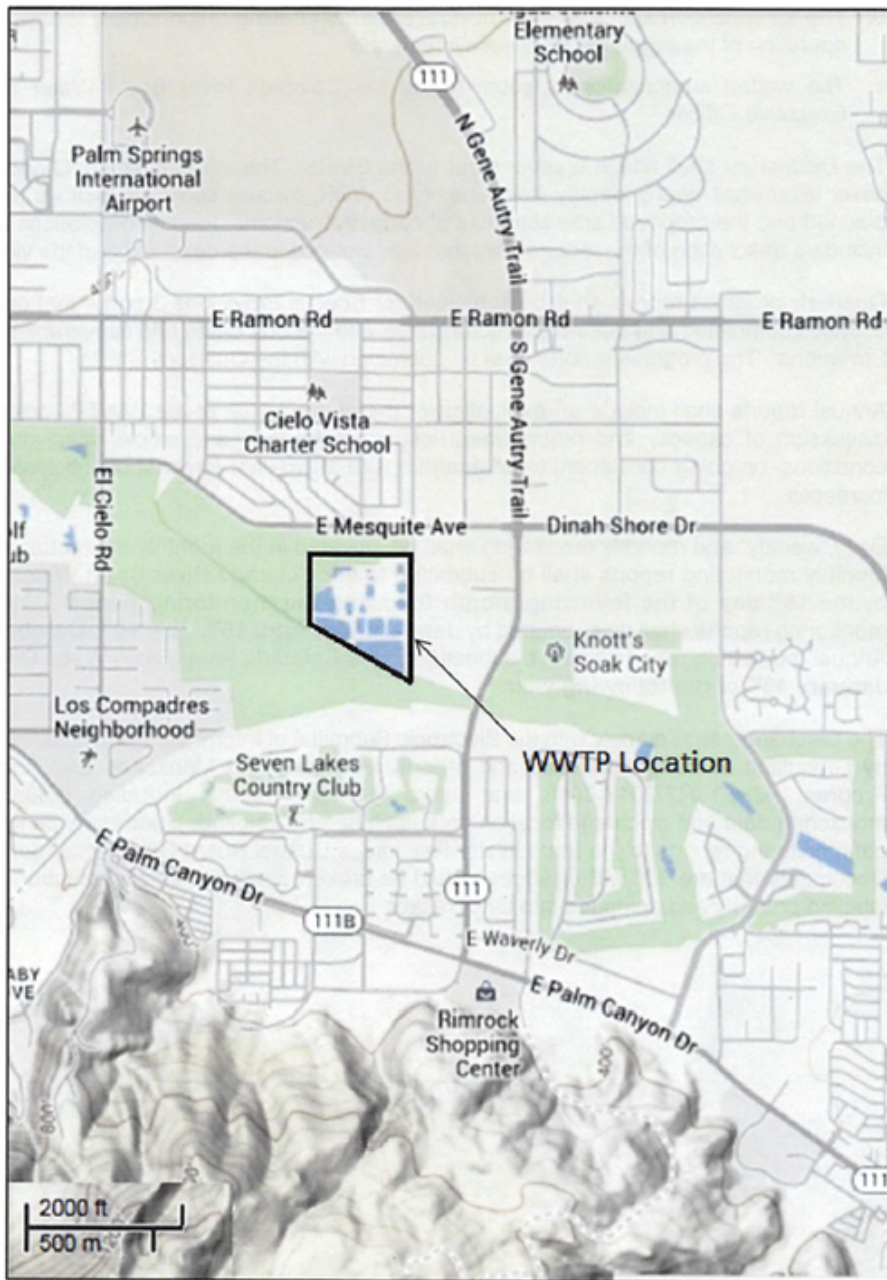


Figure 2. Process Flow Diagram.

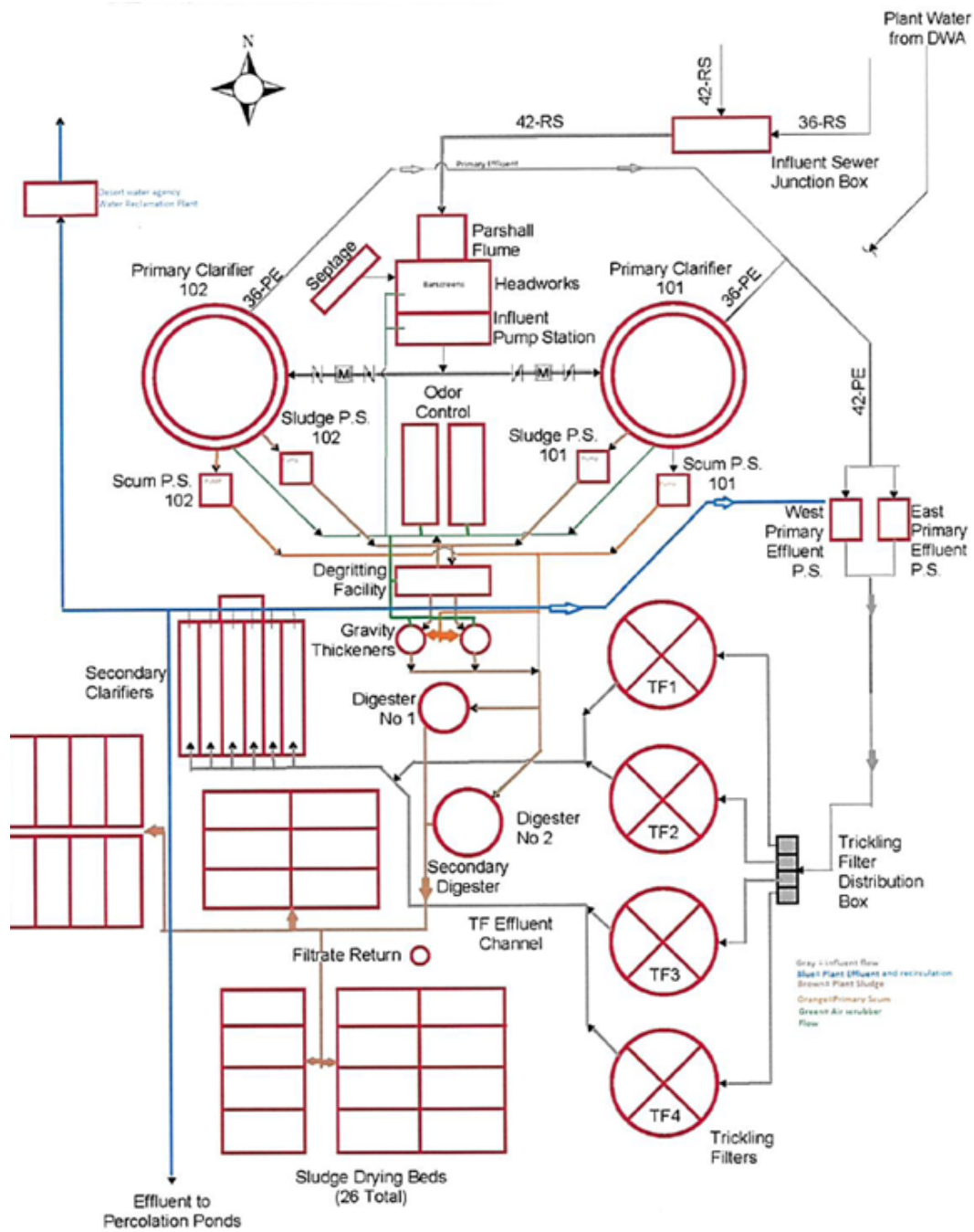


Figure 3. Monitoring Well Locations.

