

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ATTACHMENT A

DEFINITION OF TERMS
FOR
ORDER R5-2017-00XX

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS GENERAL ORDER
FOR OIL FIELD DISCHARGES TO LAND
GENERAL ORDER NUMBER ONE

1. **Degradation** - Any measurable adverse change in water quality.
2. **Existing Operations** - The actual maximum monthly average produced wastewater discharged to land (e.g., pond) that occurred between 26 November 2004 to 26 November 2014 and does not exceed maximum design flow of the Facility approved during NOI process.
3. **Expansion** - Any activity that results in an increase in the volume of wastes or mass of wastes discharged to land (Also, see Attachment D, Standard Provisions A.3 and A.4).

“Expansion” does not include installation or modification of the Facility or equipment to achieve compliance with the requirements of this General Order so long as the modification or installation is sized to accommodate only the existing Facility flows.

4. **Field or Oil Field** - CCR title 14, section 1741(d) defines Field as “the same general surface area which is underlaid or reasonably appears to be underlaid by one or more pools.”

Also, CCR title 14, section 1760(f) defines Field as “the general surface area that is underlain or reasonably appears to be underlain by an underground accumulation of crude oil or natural gas, or both. The surface area is delineated by the administrative boundaries shown on maps maintained by the [State Oil and Gas] Supervisor.”

5. **Flowline** - CCR title 14, section 1760(g) defines as “any pipeline that connects a well with a gathering line or header.”

6. **Freeboard** - Elevation difference between the produced wastewater (liquid) level in a pond and the lowest point of the pond embankment before wastewater can overflow.
7. **Hazardous Waste** - See definition in CCR, title 22, section 66261.3.
8. **High Quality Water** – Waters where a constituent is found at concentrations lower than the applicable water quality objective are considered to be “high quality waters” under the antidegradation policy. It is important to note that water can still be considered a high quality water when other constituents are found at concentrations higher (of worse quality) than the applicable water quality objectives.
9. **Operator** - CCR title 14, section 1741(j) defines as “any person drilling, maintaining, operating, pumping, or in control of any well.”
10. **Overflow** - The intentional or unintentional discharge from the Production Facility that is not authorized by this General Order.
11. **Pond** - Also referred to as “Surface Impoundment,” is any earthen structure, which may be lined/or unlined, used for the separation, treatment, storage, and/or disposal of produced wastewater. Oil and Gas Production Facility components that are not required to obtain coverage under the General Order are those that meet all of the following requirements:
 - a. small in size,
 - b. properly engineered and constructed to eliminate percolation (e.g., re-enforced concrete or other appropriately engineered liner),
 - c. operated to contain liquid for short periods of time, and
 - d. subject to proper ongoing operation and maintenance.
12. **Produced Wastewater or Wastewater** – The General Order refers to the water that is produced with production fluid from a production well as “wastewater”, which is commonly referred to as “produced water” in the oil industry. The General Order also uses the term “effluent” (after treatment).

CCR title 14, section 1760(r) defines “waste water” as “produced water that after being separated from the produced oil may be of such quality that discharge requirements need to be set by a California Regional Water Quality Control Board.”

13. **Production Facility** - Also referred to as Facility. CCR title 14, section 1760(k) defines Production Facility as “any equipment attendant to oil and gas production or injection operations including, but not limited to, tanks, flowlines, headers, gathering lines, wellheads, heater treaters, pumps, valves, compressors, injection equipment, production safety systems, separators, manifolds, and pipelines that are not under the jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal pursuant to section 51010 of the Government Code, excluding fire suppressant equipment.” See above for definition of “flowline.”

In general, includes all the surface equipment used to transfer, process or treat, or store oil and dispose of produced wastewater originating from production wells.

The term “Facility” includes those operations that collect and dispose of oil field produced wastewater from one or more operators.

14. **Secondary Containment** - An engineered containment used only during operational upsets or failures that are beyond the control of the Facility operator.

CCR title 14, section 1760(n) defines Secondary Containment as “an engineered impoundment, such as a catch basin, which can include natural topographic features, that is designed to capture fluid released from a production facility.”

Section 1773.1 requires following conditions:

- (a) All production facilities storing and/or processing fluids, except valves, headers, manifolds, pumps, compressors, wellheads, pipelines, flowlines and gathering lines shall have secondary containment.
- (b) Secondary containment shall be capable of containing the equivalent volume of liquids from the single piece of equipment with the largest gross capacity within the secondary containment.
- (c) Secondary containment shall be capable of confining liquid for a minimum of 72 hours.
- (d) When not in use for rain water management, rain water valves on a secondary containment shall be closed and secured to prevent unauthorized use.
- (e) All damage to secondary containment shall be repaired immediately.
- (f) The requirements of this section are not applicable until six months after the effective date of this regulation.”

For the purposes of this General Order, secondary containment does not include structures used to manage produced wastewater or other wastes during periods of routine maintenance or used to address a lack of adequate facility maintenance or treatment capacity or storage.

ATTACHMENT A

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

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15. **Solid Wastes** - Viscous liquids, sludges, and solids collected from tank bottoms as oily sand and/or organic sludge waste collected from the surface of ponds are collectively referred to as "solid waste."
16. **Storm Water** - Storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, and surface runoff resulting from a storm or precipitation event.
17. **Waste** - Defined in Water Code section 13050(d) where it, "includes sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing, or processing operation, including waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal."

Tentative Draft