

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

MEETING OF APRIL 11 AND 12, 2001

Lancaster

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: **REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS – MOLYCORP INC, MOUNTAIN PASS MINE AND MILL SITE, DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**

CHRONOLOGY: June 13, 1991 Revised Waste Discharge Requirements -Adopted (Board Order No. 6-91-836)

ISSUES: None. The Proposed Order updates Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for domestic wastewater at the Molycorp Mine and Mill. Other waste disposal is regulated under separate Regional Board Orders.

DISCUSSION: Molycorp, Inc. (Discharger) owns and operates a mine and mill facility, which is located 15 miles southwest of Primm, Nevada (Stateline) along Interstate 15. Approximately 2,800 gallons per day (gpd) of domestic wastewater are currently generated at the facility. The sources of the wastewater are employee restrooms and clothing changing rooms. Effluent from 18 septic tanks flows by gravity sewers to the Effluent Percolation Pond (P-19) for disposal. Gravity sewers also convey an average of 1,900 gpd of once-through cooling water from the Analytical Laboratory to P-19 for disposal.

The WDRs are being updated as part of a statewide program to update waste discharge requirements. An updated Monitoring and Reporting Program is attached to the Proposed Order, which requires the Discharger to perform various monitoring tasks to comply with the WDRs. The attached Program has been updated to include additional testing of the discharge for hexavalent chromium, lanthanides and other constituents to ensure water quality objectives for ground water will be met.

Regional Board staff has solicited comments from interested parties. Verbal comments were received from the Discharger. A written comment requesting monitoring for lanthanides was received from a citizen that resides in the area. Board staff has incorporated the comments into the Proposed Order and attached Monitoring and Reporting Program. There were no other comments.

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of Order as proposed.

Enclosure: Proposed Board Order

CS/rp 4/2001 #2 Moly STPgS