



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

April 24, 2009

TO: ATTACHED MAILING LIST

WDID NO. 6B159501001

TENTATIVE RESCISSION OF BOARD ORDER NOS. 6-95-31 AND 6-95-31A1 FOR TEST AREA 1-46 EVAPORATION PONDS AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, KERN COUNTY

Enclosed are tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the above subject.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board requests that you review the enclosed documents and provide us with your written comments no later than **May 13, 2009**. Comments received after that date cannot be given full consideration in preparation of the recommended Board Order to be presented to the Regional Board for adoption at the meeting scheduled for June 10 and 11, 2009.

If you need further information regarding the WDRs, please contact John Morales at (760) 241-7366.

Sincerely,

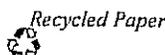
for 

Rebecca Phillips
Office Technician

Enclosures: Tentative Board Order
Comment form

cc: Mailing List

California Environmental Protection Agency



Notice
Submittal of Written Material for Regional Board Consideration

In order to ensure that the State of California Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board has the opportunity to fully study and consider written material, it is necessary to submit it at least ten (10) days before the Regional Board Meeting. Pursuant to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 648.2, the Regional Board may refuse to admit written testimony into evidence unless the proponent can demonstrate why he or she was unable to submit the material on time or that compliance with the deadline would otherwise create a hardship. If any other party demonstrates prejudice resulting from admission of the written testimony, the Regional Board may refuse to admit it.

COMPLETE FORM AND RETURN

To: CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region
 14440 Civic Drive, Suite 200
 Victorville, CA 92392
 ATTN: John Morales

**COMMENTS RESCISSION OF BOARD ORDER NOS. 6-95-31 AND 6-95-31A1
 FOR TEST AREA 1-46 EVAPORATION PONDS AIR FORCE RESEARCH
 LABORATORY EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, KERN COUNTY**

_____ We concur with proposed requirements

_____ We concur; comments attached

_____ We do not concur; comments attached

_____ (Sign)

_____ (Type or print name)

_____ (Organization)

_____ (Address)

_____ (City and State)

_____ (Telephone)

TEST AREA 1-46 EVAPORATION PONDS, AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY
EAFB

Nash Saleh
Edwards Air Force Base

BOB PIEROTTI
STATE DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES

DAVE RICHARDS
KERN COUNTY PLANNING DEPT

LESLIE GRAVES, LAND DISPOSAL
SWRCB
DIVISION OF CLEAN WATER
SACRAMENTO

GEORGE NOKES, Regional Manager
STATE DEPT OF FISH AND GAME

LYLE TALBOT
HICAP

ED WOSIKA
SWRCB - CWP

ZONA MYERS

JOHN MORALES, WRC ENGINEER
CRWQCB REGION 6

CINDI MITTON, SENIOR ENGINEER
CRWQCB REGION 6

DAVID COUPE
SWRCB
OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION

BOARD ORDER NO. R6V-2009-(TENTATIVE)
WDID NO. 6B159501001

RESCISSION OF BOARD ORDER NOS. 6-95-31 AND 6-95-31A1

FOR

TEST AREA 1-46 EVAPORATION PONDS
AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY
EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

Kern County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) finds that:

1. Discharger

The U.S. Department of the Air Force, Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB) owns and operated wastewater disposal ponds located at the Phillips Laboratory area of the Base. For the purposes of this Water Board Order (Order), EAFB is referred to as the "Discharger."

2. Facility

The facility consists of two evaporation ponds (surface impoundments) located at Test Area 1-46 at the Phillips Laboratory (north and south ponds). Each pond measures 160 feet by 140 feet (22,400 square feet) and is four feet deep. Combined, the two ponds cover approximately one acre. The ponds were lined with a concrete and synthetic material double liner system with a leachate collection and recovery system (LCRS) between the two liners. The Facility was used to dispose saline wastewater from operations in test area 1-110, a research and development complex. The quantity of waste to the evaporation ponds varied but did not exceed 135,000 gallons per month.

For the purposes of this Order, the north and south ponds are referred to as the "Facility."

3. Order History

On March 9, 1995, the Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Facility under Board Order No. 6-95-31. The Water Board adopted amended waste discharge requirements under Board Order No. 6-95-31A1 on September 14, 2001.

4. Reason for the Action

The Facility is no longer in use and wastewater has not been discharged to the ponds since June 2004, such that both north and south evaporation ponds have been dry, other than from rain water. Groundwater monitoring has been conducted quarterly while the ponds were active and to the present.

The synthetic liners have been removed and disposed of at an approved facility. A drainage system has been installed to prevent the accumulation of rainwater in the pond bottoms. A fence and locked gate currently secure the area.

The Discharger has closed the surface impoundments and completed confirmation sampling of soil beneath the former surface impoundments. The sampling results for volatile and semi-volatile organics, metals and inorganics concentrations did not indicate waste has leaked from the ponds.

Based on reports submitted by the Discharger, monitoring of the leachate collection sump showed that only minor amounts of water was ever detected in the sump. The small amounts are believed to be from condensate and were within the 10 gallons per day maximum allowable rate.

Water Board staff has reviewed the Final Closure and Post Closure Report and monitoring data for completion of the closure activities. Closure activities are complete and data demonstrate that site conditions are protective of water quality. As such, it is appropriate to rescind Board Orders No. 6-95-31 and 6-95-31A1.

5. California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

This action is being taken by this regulatory agency, to rescind Board Order Nos. 6-95-31 and 6-95-31A1, pursuant to the California Water Code and as such is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.), in accordance with, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15321(a)(2).

6. Public Notification

The Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested parties of its intent to rescind Board Order Nos. 6-95-31 and 6-95-31A1. The Water Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this Board Order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Board Order Nos. 6-95-31 and 6-95-31A1 be rescinded.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on June 10, 2009.

HAROLD J. SINGER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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TENTATIVE