



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region



PK

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February 26, 2008

Mr. Tom Rosales
General Manager
South Orange County Wastewater Authority
34156 Del Obispo Street
Dana Point, California 92629

In reply refer to:
NCR:01-541:jcofran

Dear Mr. Rosales:

Subject: Violation of Order No. 97-52; Review of Self Monitoring Reports

Facility: South Orange County Wastewater Authority (multiple facilities)

The Regional Board reviewed the following reports:

MONITORING REPORTS REVIEWED FOR ORDER NO. 97-52			
FREQUENCY	PERIOD	REPORT DATE	DATE RECEIVED
Monthly:	October 2007	November 28, 2007	November 29, 2007
	November 2007	December 20, 2007	December 20, 2007
	December 2007	January 18, 2008	January 18, 2008
Quarterly:	October - December 2007 (3rd Quarter)	January 18, 2008	January 18, 2008
Annual:	2007	January 29, 2008	January 30, 2008

The Regional Board has completed review of the referenced reports for the subject facility. Please note the following violation on the reports received:

Effluent Violations: Chiquita Water Reclamation Plant

1. October 2007 Monthly Monitoring Report: Addendum No. 1 of Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Table A-1) requires that the 12-month average effluent concentration for iron shall not exceed 0.3 mg/L. The effluent concentration for iron exceeded the 12-month average limit with a reported value of 0.367 mg/L for October 2007.

RK

2. December 2007 Monthly Monitoring Report: Addendum No. 1 of Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Table A-1) requires that the daily maximum concentration for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) shall not exceed 45 mg/L. The effluent BOD concentration exceeded the daily maximum limit, with a reported value of greater than 48 mg/L, on December 28, 2007.

Effluent Violations: Regional Treatment Plant

3. October, November, and December 2007 Monthly Monitoring Reports: Addendum No. 1 of Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Table A-1) requires that the daily maximum concentration for manganese shall not exceed 0.06 mg/L. Effluent manganese exceeded the daily maximum limitation with reported concentrations of 0.07, 0.10, and 0.089 mg/L on October 10, November 7, and December 4, 2007, respectively.
4. October, November, and December 2007 Monthly Monitoring Report: Addendum No. 1 of Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Table A-1) requires that the 12-month average concentration for manganese shall not exceed 0.05 mg/L. Effluent manganese concentrations exceeded the 12-month average limitation with reported concentrations of 0.07 mg/L in October, November, and December 2007.

Effluent Violations: Coastal Treatment Plant

5. October, November, and December 2007 Monthly Monitoring Report: Addendum No. 1 of Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Table A-1) requires that the 12-month average concentration for manganese shall not exceed 0.05 mg/L. Effluent manganese concentrations exceeded the 12-month average limitation with reported concentrations of 0.07, 0.06, and 0.06 mg/L in October, November, and December 2007.

Effluent Violations: Los Alisos Water Reclamation Plant

6. November Monthly Monitoring Report: Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Section A.6) requires that the CT value not fall below 450 mg-min/L. Effluent CT did not meet the minimum requirement on November 13, 2007 with a reported value of 436 mg-min/L.

Effluent Violations: Robinson Ranch Water Reclamation Plant

7. November Monthly Monitoring Report: Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Section A.6) requires that the CT value not fall below 450 mg-min/L. Effluent CT did not meet the minimum requirement on November 30, 2007 with a reported value of 122 mg-min/L.

RF

8. December Monthly Monitoring Report: Addendum No. 1 of Order No. 97-52 (Discharge Specifications, Table A-1) requires that the daily maximum concentration for sulfate shall not exceed 450 mg/L. The effluent sulfate concentration exceeded the daily maximum limitation with a reported concentration of 567 mg/L on October 29, 2007.

Please take steps to ensure that the violations noted above do not occur in the future. Pursuant to the California Water Code (CWC), the violations noted above are subject to additional enforcement action(s) by the Regional Board including issuance of a time schedule order, cease and desist order, cleanup and abatement order, imposition of administrative civil liability, referral to the district attorney for criminal prosecution, or referral to the attorney general. Administrative civil liability amounts that may be imposed by the Regional Board under authority of CWC Section 13350 include up to \$5,000 per day, or up to \$10 per gallon for each gallon of waste discharged.

In addition, the Regional Board has the following comments regarding the information presented in the December monthly monitoring report.

9. The report noted one reclaimed water spill at Oso Creek Barrier Pump Station on November 5, 2007 and three in-plant spills at Chiquita Water Reclamation Plant.
10. The reported groundwater concentrations of the following constituents exceeded the applicable water quality objective in the San Diego Basin Plan:

Waste Constituent	Observation
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	Groundwater concentrations exceed applicable water quality objectives in Upper, Lower and Nichols wells.
Chloride	Groundwater concentrations exceed applicable water quality objectives in Upper well.
Sulfate	Groundwater concentrations exceed applicable water quality objectives in Upper and Lower wells.
Iron	Groundwater concentrations exceed applicable water quality objectives in Upper, Lower, Nichols, and Chiquita wells.
Manganese	Groundwater concentrations exceed applicable water quality objectives in Upper, Lower, and Chiquita wells.

Please provide a written evaluation and explanation of these groundwater exceedences (cited above) as an appendix to your quarterly report due on April 15, 2008.

Mr. Tom Rosales, General Manager
SOCWA

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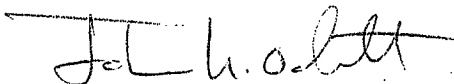
February 26, 2008

Please take steps to ensure that the violations noted above do not occur in the future. Pursuant to the CWC, the violations noted are subject to additional enforcement action(s) by the Regional Board including time schedule orders, cease and desist orders, cleanup and abatement orders, administrative civil liability, referral to the district attorney for criminal prosecution, or referral to the attorney general. Administrative civil liability amounts imposed by the Regional Board under CWC Section 13350 could be up to \$5,000 per day per violation, or up to \$10 per gallon for each gallon of waste discharged.

The heading portion of this letter includes a Regional Board code number noted after "In reply refer to." In order to assist us in the processing of your correspondence please include this code number in the heading or subject line portion of all correspondence and reports to the Regional Board pertaining to this matter.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Ms. Joann Cofrancesco at (858) 637-5589 or jcofrancesco@waterboards.ca.gov.

Respectfully,



JOHN R. ODERMATT, Senior Engineering Geologist
Northern Core Regulatory Unit

JRO:jlc

Violations: (1) 698149; (2) 718445; (3) 698150, 708097, and 718447; (4) 698151, 708099, and 718449; (5) 698152, 708100, and 718450; (6) 708117, (7) 708119, (8) 718452


Enforcement (NOV): 337765

cc: Wade Specht, Santa Margarita Water District, P.O. Box 7005, Mission Viejo,
CA 92690-7005

Kris Hanberg, Trabuco Canyon Water District, 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco
Canyon, CA 92679

Noah Sanchez, Irvine Ranch Water District, P.O. Box 57000, Irvine, CA 92619

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