California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R8-2003-0122

for
Western Municipal Water District
March Wastewater Reclamation Facility
Riverside County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter, Board), finds that:

1. On November 21, 2003, the Board adopted Order No. R8-2003-0113, prescribing Waste Discharge and Producer/User Reclamation Requirements to Western Municipal Water District (hereinafter, Western MWD or discharger) for the discharge of wastewater and the production of recycled water at the March Wastewater Reclamation Facility.

2. The treatment plant provides recycled water for the irrigation of the March Joint Powers Authority Golf Course and the Riverside National Cemetery. Treated effluent is also discharged to an unlined holding pond located at the facility. Order No. R8-2003-0113 prohibits the discharge of waste from the holding pond in excess of 10 mg/l total inorganic nitrogen.

3. Treatment currently consists of screening, primary sedimentation, trickling filters, secondary clarification, chlorine disinfection, anaerobic digestion and sludge drying beds. The facility was not designed to remove significant amounts of nitrogen from the waste stream. Current total inorganic nitrogen concentrations in the effluent range between 12 and 25 mg/l.

4. Western MWD proposes to either significantly modify the treatment process to provide the necessary nitrogen removal, or line the holding pond to prevent further discharges. These projects are anticipated to be completed by either September 2007 or March 2008, respectively.

5. The Board has notified the discharger and interested parties of its intent to adopt this cease and desist order.

6. The Board, at a public hearing held on November 21, 2003, received evidence and considered all relevant information pertaining to this order.

7. This enforcement action is being taken for the protection of the environment and, as such, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21100 et. seq.) in accordance with Section 15321, Chapter 3, Title 14, California Code of Regulations.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, in accordance with Section 13301 of the California Water Code:

1. Western MWD shall comply with the following time schedule to achieve compliance with the total inorganic nitrogen waste discharge prohibition contained in Order No. R8-2003-0113:

Task	Plant Upgrades	Holding Pond Lining[1]
Complete Preliminary Design, including Site Investigations	Completed	August 1, 2005
Complete Plans and Specifications	August 1, 2004	December 1, 2006
Award Construction Contract	August 1, 2005	April 1, 2007
Complete Construction and Startup	September 1, 2007	March 1, 2008
Achieve Full Compliance/Eliminate Discharge from Pond	September 1, 2008[2]	April 1, 2008

2. Western MWD shall submit status reports to the Board within 15 days of each of the above milestones. Status reports regarding treatment plant upgrade construction shall also be submitted on February 15, 2006, August 15, 2006, and February 15, 2007. Should the option of lining the holding pond be undertaken, a construction status report shall also be submitted on October 15, 2007.

I, Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing ia a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on November 21, 2003.

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer

[1] Compliance with these milestones shall be required if the treatment plant upgrade project fails to proceed beyond August 2005

[2] It is necessary to establish the compliance date one year beyond the startup date because compliance with the total inorganic nitrogen limit is based on the average of the last 12 monthly averages.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

November 21, 2003

ITEM: *8

SUBJECT: Cease and Desist Order No. R8-2003-0122 for Western Municipal Water District, March Wastewater Reclamation Facility

DISCUSSION:

On November 21, 2003, the Board adopted Order No. R8-2003-0113, prescribing Waste Discharge and Producer/User Reclamation Requirements to Western Municipal Water District (Western MWD) for the discharge of wastewater and the production of recycled water at the March Wastewater Reclamation Facility.

The treatment plant provides recycled water for the irrigation of the March Joint Powers Authority Golf Course and the Riverside National Cemetery. Treated effluent is also discharged to an unlined holding pond located at the facility. Order No. R8-2003-0113 prohibits the discharge of waste from the holding pond in excess of 10 mg/l total nitrogen. The facility was not designed to remove significant amounts of nitrogen from the waste stream. Current total nitrogen concentrations in the effluent range between 12 and 25 mg/l.

Western MWD proposes to upgrade the treatment process to provide the necessary nitrogen removal capabilities by September 2007, or if necessary funding for this project is not available, to line the holding pond to prevent further discharges in violation of the waste discharge requirements. The pond lining project, if undertaken, is anticipated to be completed by March 2008. The proposed cease and desist order establishes time schedules for Western MWD to achieve compliance with the total nitrogen limit in Order No. R8-2003-0113 based on the above construction completion dates.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Cease and Desist Order No. R8-2003-0122, as proposed.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

Terry Tamminen
Secretary for Environmental Protection

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Arnold Schwarzenegg
Governor

December 8, 2003

Norm L. Thomas, Deputy General Manager
Western Municipal Water District
P.O. Box 5286
Riverside, CA 92517

TRANSMITTAL OF ADOPTED ORDER NO. R8-2003-0113 AND CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R8-2003-0122

Dear Mr. Thomas:

At the regular Board Meeting held on November 21, 2003, the Regional Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R8-2003-0113 and Cease and Desist Order No. R8-2003-0122. A certified copy of each order is enclosed for your records.

Sincerely,

BARBARA LAFFOON
Executive Assistant

Enclosure: Adopted Order No. R8-2003-0113
Adopted Cease and Desist Order No. R8-2003-0122

c. State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality, James Maughan
United States Environmental Protection Agency, WTR 5, Permits Section, Doug Everhardt

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