

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

Office
73-720 Fred Waring Dr. #100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

WaterBoards.ca.gov/Coloradoriver/

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin



May 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM.....	2
2. WATER QUALITY/NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAMS	4
3. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AND SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM	5
4. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM	8

The Executive Officer (EO) of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board) hereby provides the following report on recent staff activities for March 2023 in the region:

1. LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM

Notices of Violation/Noncompliance: Two Notices of Violation (NOV) were issued to Dischargers for violations of Waste Discharge Requirements and the California Water Code.

- The Salton Community Services District was issued a NOV on March 8, 2023 for the Salton Community Services District Thomas R. Cannell Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility), Board Order R7-2018-0013. The Facility is located in Salton City, CA and receives and treats wastewater from the surrounding community. The facility had twelve Biological Oxygen Demand violations, five flow violations, three pH violations, and five late report violations for January 2021 through January 2023. The Discharger is required to immediately implement corrective and preventative actions to bring the discharge into full compliance with all requirements in Order R7-2018-0013. Imperial County [*Adriana Godinez*]
- The Salton Community Services District was issued a NOV on March 14, 2023 for the Salton Community Services District, Lansing Avenue Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility), regulated Board Order R7-2012-0035. The Facility is located in Salton City, CA and receives and treats wastewater from the surrounding community. The NOV states the facility had nineteen Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) violations, one flow violation, and six late report violations for January 2021 through January 2023. The Discharger is required to immediately implement corrective and preventative actions to bring the discharge into full compliance with all requirements of Order R7-2012-0035. Imperial County [*Adriana Godinez*]

Approvals and Notifications: Three Approval/Notifications were issued to Dischargers:

- On March 8, 2023, Western Mesquite Mine Inc. (Discharger) and Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Land Owner) were issued a response letter to their October 27, 2022 request to increase the height of the Heap Leach Pads that are regulated by Board Order R7-2014-0032 from 300 feet to 400 feet. The Heap Leach Pads are used to leach precious metals from the mined ore that is stacked within their lined footprint. The Land Owner submitted a letter to the Water Board on February 23, 2023 supporting the requested increase in height. The Discharger is required to submit updated financial assurances at least 30 days prior to stacking ore over the current limit of 300 feet. Imperial County [*Zakary Owens*]
- On March 15, 2023, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Management Division (Discharger) was issued a response letter to their February 8, 2023 work plan. The work plan was submitted in response to a Notice

of Violation (NOV) issued by the Regional Water Board for the Landers Sanitary Landfill (Facility) on January 9, 2023 for periodically exceeding the Allowable Leakage Rate (ALR) of 13 gallons per day (gpd), with leakage rates ranging from 10 to 35 gpd. The Discharger's workplan proposed to evaluate options for installing an automated pump into the Leachate Collection and Removal System (LCRS) sump, with the goal of using engineering controls to prevent water levels in the eastern sump from rising beyond acceptable levels in lieu of finding and repairing the leak source(s). The Discharger must submit a report evaluating pump options by April 14, 2023. The target water level to be maintained in the sump shall be 3 feet unless the Discharger conducts an investigation to demonstrate that a deeper water level will not encounter a leak in the secondary liner. If such an investigation is proposed, then a work plan shall be due on April 14, 2023, in lieu of the pump evaluation report. That work plan shall include a description of the proposed methods and a timetable for performing and reporting on the secondary liner leak investigation. San Bernardino County [*Scot Stormo*]

- A Notice of Applicability was issued on March 23, 2023 for Sundance RV Resort LLC to enroll in General Waste Discharge Requirements for on-site subsurface wastewater disposal systems for mobile home and recreational vehicle parks and other similar in facilities, Order 97-500(185). The Facility is located at 1201 Parker Dam Road, Earp. The Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) consists of an onsite collection system, four septic tanks, three package pump stations, a lift station, and three leach fields. The OWTS is designed to support operational requirements at the Facility for 127 RV spaces. The septic tank system can treat an estimated maximum daily flow of sewage discharge of 14,400 gallons per day (gpd) with a peak daily flow of 28,800 gpd. San Bernardino County [*Adrianna Godinez*]

Notice of Terminations: Eight Notifications were issued to Dischargers:

- Garnet Properties 2014 LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 7, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 550 West Garnet Avenue, Palm Springs. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 24, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. The Discharger also submitted a Site Closure Report, dated February 24, 2023. Riverside County [*Cannabis Unit*]
- A1 Canyon LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 15, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 67575 East Palm Canyon Drive A, Cathedral City. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 14, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. Riverside County [*Cannabis Unit*]
- B1 Canyon LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 15, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 67575 East Palm Canyon Drive B, Cathedral City. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 15, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. Riverside County

[Cannabis Unit]

- C1 Canyon LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 15, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 67575 East Palm Canyon Drive C, Cathedral City. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 15, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. Riverside County *[Cannabis Unit]*
- D1 Canyon LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 15, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 67575 East Palm Canyon Drive D, Cathedral City. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 15, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. Riverside County *[Cannabis Unit]*
- E1 Canyon LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 15, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 67575 East Palm Canyon Drive E, Cathedral City. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 15, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. Riverside County *[Cannabis Unit]*
- F1 Canyon LLC was issued a Notice of Termination on March 15, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 67575 East Palm Canyon Drive F, Cathedral City. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on February 15, 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site never started. Riverside County *[Cannabis Unit]*
- Joy Industries Inc. was issued a Notice of Termination on March 29, 2023 for cannabis cultivation activities at 370 West San Raphael Drive #6 Palm Springs. The Discharger submitted a request for termination on March 14 2023, that stated the cultivation activities at the site ceased. The Discharger also submitted a Site Closure Report, dated March 14, 2023. Riverside County *[Cannabis Unit]*

2. WATER QUALITY/NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAMS

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Imperial Streams and Salton Sea Planning Charrette

On March 28, 2023, staff attended a planning charrette for Imperial Streams and the Salton Sea. This virtual meeting was held for the US Army Corps of Engineers to discuss the Imperial Streams and Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study that they are conducting in cooperation with the Salton Sea Authority and the California Department of Water Resources. The planning charrette focused on laying the foundation for the Corps' planning process, and held discussions to better understand the underpinnings of the problems and solutions. *[Hajer Dawoody, EG]*

Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan Community Workshop

On March 22, 2023, staff attended a kickoff meeting of the Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (CV-SNMP). The meeting was held virtually on Zoom and in-person at the Coachella Valley Water District. The meeting went over the background and need for the CV-SNMP as well as the projected timeline of the project. Attendee questions were addressed at the end by the organizers.

Additional meetings of the various committees and community workshops will continue throughout the project. [*Jeff Fitzsimmons, EG; Emma McCorkle, SES*]

3. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AND SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM

Regional Water Board staff continues to work with staff from the Department of Defense (DoD) to expedite ongoing activities at cleanup sites located at military facilities within the Colorado River Basin Region. The Underground Storage Tank (UST) and Site Cleanup Program (SCP) staff issued correspondence reviewing technical reports, requesting site access, providing direction for site assessment, and approving remedial action plans for sites currently in the assessment and cleanup process. The following table lists the correspondence regarding DoD, UST and SCP projects issued in March 2023.

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
March 2, 2023	Response To Request For Extension-PFAS Sampling And Analysis Pursuant To California Water Code Section 13267 Order	Imperial County Airport Road, 1099 Airport Road, Imperial, Imperial County, GeoTracker ID No. T10000012781, Order No. WQ-2019-0005-DWQ	Angela Garcia, Senior Engineering Geologist
March 8, 2023	Approval Of Corrective Action Work Plan	Former Flying Inn Motel, Currently Magnuson Hotel Blythe, 9232 East Hobsonway (AKA) 1781 East Hobsonway, Blythe, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0606500754	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
March 9, 2023	Approval of Work Plan For On-Site Soil and Vapor Assessment, Confirmation Groundwater Monitoring And Sampling, Interim Liquid Phase Hydrocarbons Removal, and Well Destruction	USA Self Service/Douglas Station at 1147 West Hobsonway, Blythe, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0605500889, EAR Number R19-205	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
March 9, 2023	Response To Closure Request Modification To Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. R7-2011-0006	Former Unocal/Geothermal Energy and Mineral Corporation (GEMCOR) Facility, 950 West Lindsey Road, Calipatria, Imperial County; GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000006199	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
March 10, 2023	Response To Site Assessment And Well Installation Report, Pursuant To Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10; Corrective Action	Miller Property, 1291 East Hobsonway (Former 9680 East Hobson Way), Blythe, Riverside County, APN 851-071-020, Global ID No. T0606500766, Orphan Site Cleanup Fund (OSCF) B254	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
March 13, 2023	Comments On The Final Work Plan Long-Term Monitoring, Landfill Inspection, And Maintenance For Installation Restoration Sites 1 and 2	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, California, GeoTracker ID NOs: DOD100312800 And DOD100317400	Jessie Bagby, Engineering Geologist
March 23, 2023	Property Access Agreement- Property Work Conducted Under Emergency, Abandoned, Recalcitrant Account E0234- Everardo Duran	2106 Winterhaven Drive, Winterhaven, Imperial County, APN, 056-286-007-000, Global ID No. T10000013251	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
March 23, 2023	Property Access Agreement- Property Work Conducted Under Emergency, Abandoned, Recalcitrant Account E0234- Katy Cervantes	2106 Winterhaven Drive, Winterhaven, Imperial County, APN, 056-286-007-000, Global ID No. T10000013251	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
March 24, 2023	Approval of Workplan For Installation of Groundwater Plume Delineation Wells	USA Gasoline Station #294, 525 East Fifth Street, Holtville, Imperial County; Global ID No. T0602599293	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
March 28, 2023	Request For Access To Property Located at 244 N. Fairfield Drive, El Centro, Ca 92243, APN 053-072-006-000, For Groundwater Investigation Of The	Antunez Auto Body, 238 E. Main St., El Centro, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
	Leaking Underground Storage Tank Case Located at 238 Main Street, El Centro	No. T1000007153, 7T2 243 073	
March 29, 2023	Approval of Final Work Plan Long-Term Monitoring, Landfill Inspection, and Maintenance For Installation Restoration Site 1 And 2	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, GeoTracker ID Nos: DOD100312800 And DOD100317400	Jessie Bagby, Engineering Geologist
March 30, 2023	Approval of Soil and Groundwater Evaluation Work Plan, Pursuant To Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10, Corrective Action Requirements	Ten Four Corporation Property, 1621 N Street, Needles, San Bernardino County, Global ID No. T0607192343 (APN 0185-085-31-0000)	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist

4. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM

Table 1: Mandatory Minimum Penalty Status

Number	Facility	Violation Description	Assessed Penalty	Settlement Offer Date	Waiver Received Date	Public Notice Issuance Date	Comment Due Date	EO Execution Date	Number of MMPs
1	Calexico WWTP	Bacteria Indicator & Oil/Grease violations	\$6,000 *\$87,000	2/13/19 *11/06/19	3/12/19 *12/05/19	3/13/19 *7/14/22 *2/15/23	4/11/19 *12/05/19 *8/15/22 *3/15/23	3/21/2023	2 *29
2	Seeley CWD	Bacteria indicator & Free Cyanide	\$27,000 *\$39,000	8/11/2021 *9/2/21	9/8/21 *9/23/21		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		9 *13
3	Niland SD	Bacteria indicator, BOD, Chlorine Residual	\$45,000	7/29/2022	8/29/22		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		15
4	Valley SD	Total Cyanide	\$6,000	3/30/2023					2
	TOTAL:		\$84,000 *\$126,000						28 *42

*Revised

Unaddressed Violations Subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties (March 2023)

No. of Facilities	No. of Violations
6	45

[Maribel Schiavone, SEA, and Kai Dunn, Supervising WRCE]