

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

ORDER NO. R7-2002-0005

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
RIVERSIDE COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT, OWNER/OPERATOR
BLYTHE WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY
CLASS III SANITARY LANDFILL
CLASS II SURFACE IMPOUNDMENT
North of Blythe - Riverside County**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. Riverside County Waste Management Department (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), 1995 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501-1719, owns and operates the Blythe Waste Management Facility (WMF).
2. The WMF encompasses 335 acres and consists of a Class III Solid Waste Sanitary Landfill (hereinafter referred to as the Landfill) and two (2) adjacent Class II Surface Impoundments (hereinafter referred to as the Surface Impoundments). The Landfill occupies approximately 78 acres of the western half of the property.
3. On April 8, 1963, the United States Bureau of Land Management transferred ownership of the Landfill property to the County of Riverside via a land patent. On November 6, 1996, the property was conveyed via a quit-claim deed from the County of Riverside to the Riverside County Waste Management Department.
4. Definition of terms used in this Board Order:
 - a. Waste Management Facility (WMF) – The entire parcel of property where waste discharge operations are conducted.
 - b. Waste Management Unit (WMU) – An area of land, or a portion of a waste management facility, where waste is or was discharged. The term includes containment and ancillary features for precipitation and drainage control and monitoring.
 - c. Landfill – A waste management unit where waste is discharged to land. It does not include surface impoundments, waste piles, or land and soil treatment.
 - d. Discharger – Discharger means any person who discharges waste that could affect the quality of the waters to the state, and include any person who owns a waste management unit or who is responsible for the operation of a waste management unit (Title 27, California Code of Regulations).
5. The WMF is located in Southern California, approximately seven (7) miles north of the city of Blythe in Riverside County, as shown on Attachments A and B. The WMF is located in

the W ½ of Section 31, T5S, R23E, SBB&M and SE ¼ of Section 25, T5S, R22E, SBB&M, as shown on Attachment C.

6. The terrain in the vicinity of the site is characterized by gently sloping, relatively flat alluvial surfaces, which extend from the Big Maria Mountains northeast of the site to the edge of Palo Verde Mesa directly south of the site. The land surface within the boundaries of the site is predominantly flat with scattered erosional channels that trend in a southeasterly direction. The elevation at the north of the site is 450 feet above sea level and in the southwest and southeast corners 380 feet above mean sea level.
7. The site is underlain by alluvial sediments composed of well-sorted fine to coarse-grained sand, gravelly sand, and poorly sorted sandy gravel and gravel with traces of silt and isolated clay lenses. The alluvial deposits are in excess of 400 feet thick. The alluvium is underlain by the Bouse Formation and indurated deposits of continental and marine rocks of Pliocene Age.
8. The land use within 1,000 feet radius of the WMF is zoned primarily natural asset and agricultural.
9. The Landfill started operating in 1958. It became subject to WDRs under Board Order No. 71-005 on September 30, 1971. From 1984 to 1993 the WDRs have been updated under the following Board Orders:

<u>Board Order No.</u>	<u>Date Adopted</u>
84-006	January 18, 1984
88-067	May 12, 1988
91-005	March 13, 1991

10. On September 15, 1993, the WDRs were amended when Board Order No. 93-071, amending all municipal solid waste landfill Board Orders to comply with federal regulations, was adopted by the Regional Board.
11. WDRs were again updated under Board Order No. 98-012 on December 10, 1998. Board Order No. 98-012 incorporated the laws and regulations as set forth in the California Water Code and combined State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)/California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) Regulations, Division 2, Title 27 (hereinafter referred to as Title 27).
12. On May 3, 2001, the discharger submitted a request to modify the monitoring parameters and monitoring frequencies in Board Order No. 98-012.
13. This Board Order updates Board Order No. 98-012 to reflect the recent water quality related concerns and ground water monitoring/reporting changes.
14. The Landfill is unlined and has no leachate collection and removal system. The Landfill receives approximately 86 tons-per-day of the following wastes:
 - a. Residential

- b. Commercial/industrial
 - c. Demolition/construction
 - d. Agricultural
 - e. Dead animals
 - f. Tires
15. The area fill method is used for waste disposal at the Landfill. Waste is compacted and covered daily.
 16. The discharger has a load-checking program for identifying and removing hazardous and prohibited wastes from the municipal waste stream coming to the Landfill. Specific components of the program include the following:
 - a. Customer notification by signs, notices and verbal inquiries.
 - b. Surveillance through visual inspection of waste load and questioning of customers by entrance station personnel.
 - c. Waste inspection conducted on randomly selected loads at the working face.
 17. Any hazardous materials found at the Landfill are handled in accordance with regulations of California Code of Regulations Title 22.
 18. In early 1960's an unlined surface impoundment/evaporation pond was constructed at the WMF as shown on Attachment D. Grease trap, septic waste and chemical toilet waste were discharged at this pond. After the liquid waste dried in the pond, the residue was excavated and disposed of in the Landfill. This process continued until 1992.
 19. In 1992 the discharger stopped receiving liquid waste at the unlined pond and covered it with soil.
 20. In 1993 the discharger constructed the two (2) adjacent, double-lined Class II Surface Impoundments as shown on Attachment D. The Surface Impoundments each have a leachate collection removal system (LCRS). The LCRS consists of a drainage layer and a sump.
 21. Each Surface Impoundment has a capacity of 547,176 gallons.
 22. The Surface Impoundments receive approximately 33,000 gallons-per-month of the following liquid wastes:
 - Grease trap
 - Septic waste
 - Chemical toilet waste
 23. The LCRS sump is inspected and the inspection results are reported to the Regional Board as indicated in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005.
 24. The average annual rainfall for the general vicinity of the site is four (4) inches, while evaporation at the site averages 86 inches annually.

25. The 100-year, 24-hour precipitation event for the site is 3.5 inches.
26. Surface water drainage from the watershed above the facility is south to southeasterly into the Palo Verde Valley. Ultimately, all surface flows drain towards the Colorado River.
27. A large, normally dry wash, 20 feet deep and up to 500 feet wide, passes directly to the east of the active portion of the site. The drainage area that is tributary to the site is about 5,500 acres.
28. The surface water nearest to the site flows southward in canals constructed by the Palo Verde Irrigation District, providing Colorado River water to farm lands in the Palo Verde Valley. The closest canal passes nearly one (1) mile to the south east of the site.
29. The Landfill is located in the Colorado Hydrologic Unit.
30. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan) was adopted on November 17, 1993, and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface water in the Region.
31. The beneficial uses of ground waters in the Colorado Hydrologic Unit are:
 - a. Municipal supply (MUN)
 - b. Industrial supply (IND)
 - c. Agricultural supply (AGR)
32. The discharger submitted a Solid Waste Assessment Test (SWAT) report on February 18, 1988. During the SWAT investigation the discharger installed two (2) ground water monitoring wells; one (1) downgradient well (BG-1) and one (1) upgradient well (BG-2) as shown on Attachment E.
33. The depth to the ground water table from the ground surface ranges from 162 feet to 181 feet. Historically, the groundwater table gradient averages 0.0007 ft/ft. The direction of groundwater flow varies as shown on Attachments E and F.
34. The aquifer underlying the site extends into the alluvium and Bouse Formation. The Colorado River is approximately six (6) miles to the east of the WMF.
35. Analysis of water samples from monitoring wells during the SWAT investigation indicates that the WMF is affecting the ground water quality.
36. The Regional Board's Executive Officer issued Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. 90-077 on October 2, 1990, to the discharger.
37. On September 19, 1995, the Regional Board's Executive Officer issued CAO No. 95-017 to the discharger revising CAO No. 90-077.
38. On July 7, 1997, CAO No. 95-107 was revised and replaced by CAO No. 97-102.
39. The discharger has installed four (4) additional wells at the WMF since 1987 as shown on Attachment E. The following table shows all the ground water wells at the WMF, their orientation and the year they were built:

<u>Orientation</u>	<u>Well No.</u>	<u>Year Built</u>
upgradient	BG-6	1994
downgradient	BG-1	1987
	BG-2	1987
	BG-3	1987
	BG-4	1992
	BG-5A	1992

40. The ground water contour maps indicate directional changes in the ground water flow direction. As indicated on Attachments E and F, the ground water flow direction shifted from the northwest in March 2001 to west-southwest in June 2001.
41. In 1997 the discharger, as part of the corrective action plan, installed two (2) multi-depth and three (3) single-depth gas probes at the Landfill. These probes are GP-12, GP-13, GP-14, GP-15 and GP-16 as shown on Attachment G.
42. Gas probes GP-12 through GP-15 are connected to an 8-inch SDR 17 HDPE collection header pipe with a 3-inch SDR 17 HDPE lateral pipe. GP-16 is not connected to the header pipe due to very shallow trash depth at this probe location.
43. In 1998 the discharger, as part of the corrective action plan, installed nine (9) horizontal gas wells. These gas wells are: HW-1, HW-2, HW-3, HW-4, HW-5, HW-6, HW-7, HW-8 and HW-9, as shown on Attachment G.
44. Horizontal wells HW-1 through HW-9 are also connected to the same 8-inch SDR 17 HDPE collection header pipe.
45. The header pipe carries any gas collected from vertical probes and horizontal wells pipes to activated carbon canisters.
46. Any gas condensate formed in the header pipe is diverted to a sump. The sump is 24 inches in diameter and eight (8) feet in height. It is constructed with SDR 13.5 HDPE, and it has a capacity of 137 gallons.
47. Gas condensate collected in the sump is disposed of in the lined Surface Impoundment at the WMF.
48. Samples from the carbon canisters are collected and tested for the certain parameters. The frequency of sample collection/reporting and a list of parameters are stated in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005.
49. The discharger has also installed 12 perimeter probes as part of the corrective action plan. These probes are: probe-1, probe-2, probe-3, probe-4, probe-5, probe-6, probe-7, probe-8, probe-9, probe-10, probe-11 and probe-12, as shown on Attachment G.
50. The data gathered from these perimeter probes are also submitted to the Regional Board in accordance with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005.

51. The discharger submitted a Preliminary Closure/Post-Closure maintenance Plan (PCPMP) on November 28, 1994.
52. The discharger proposes to close the Landfill in 2033.
53. In accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Division 6, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, the issuance of these WDRs, which governs the operation of an existing facility involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et. Seq.)
54. Federal regulations for storm water discharges were promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on November 16, 1990 (40 CFR, Parts 122, 123, and 124). The regulations require that specific categories of facilities, which discharge storm water associated with industrial activity, obtain a NPDES Permit and implement Best Conventional Pollutant Technology (BCPT) to reduce or eliminate industrial storm water pollution.
55. The SWRCB adopted Order No. 97-03-DWQ (General Permit No. CAS000001), specifying WDRs for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities, excluding construction activities, and requiring submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) by industries to be covered under the Permit.
56. The discharger has submitted to this Regional Board and to the CIWMB, evidence of Financial Assurance for Closure and Post Closure, pursuant to Section 22207 and 22212 of Title 27.
57. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to update WDRs for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public meeting and an opportunity to submit comments.
58. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Board Order No. 98-012 is rescinded, and in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Specifications

1. The treatment of disposal at this facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050 of Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. Waste material shall be confined to the existing footprint of the WMF as defined in Finding No. 4a and described on the attached site maps.
3. Waste materials shall not be discharged on any ground surface which is less than five (5) feet above the highest anticipated ground water level.

4. The discharger shall maintain two (2) feet of free board at the two (2) lined surface impoundments.
5. The discharger shall not cause degradation of any water supply.
6. Surface drainage from tributary areas, and internal site drainage from surface or subsurface sources, shall not contact or percolate through the wastes discharged at the site.
7. The exterior surfaces of the disposal area, including the intermediate and final Landfill covers, shall be graded and maintained to promote lateral runoff of precipitation and to prevent ponding.
8. The discharger shall use the constituents listed in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005 and revisions thereto, as "monitoring parameters". These monitoring parameters are subject to the most appropriate statistical or non-statistical test under Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005, Part III, and any revised Monitoring and Reporting Program approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
9. The discharger shall implement the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005 in order to detect, at the earliest opportunity, any unauthorized discharge of waste constituents from the WMF, or any unreasonable impairment of beneficial uses associated with (caused by) discharges of waste to the WMF.
10. The discharger shall not cause the concentration of any Constituent of Concern or Monitoring Parameter to exceed its respective background value in any monitored medium at any Monitoring Point assigned to Detection Monitoring pursuant to Part II.B.4 of the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005.
11. The discharger shall follow the Water Quality Protection Standards (WQPS) for detection monitoring established by the Regional Board in this Board Order pursuant to Title 27. The following are five (5) parts of WQPS as established by the Regional Board (the terms of art used in this Board Order regarding monitoring are defined in Part I of the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005, and revisions thereto, which is hereby incorporated by reference):
 - a. The discharger shall test on a quarterly basis for the monitoring parameters and the Constituents of Concern (COC) listed in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005 and revisions thereto.
 - b. Concentration Limit – The concentration limits for each monitoring parameter and COC, for each monitoring point (as stated in detection Monitoring Program Part II), shall be its background value as obtained during that reporting period.
 - c. Monitoring points and background monitoring points for detection monitoring shall be those listed in Part II.B. of the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005, and any revised Monitoring and Reporting Program approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Monitoring and background monitoring points are also shown on Attachment E.

- d. The Points of Compliance are shown on Attachment E and extend through the zone of saturation.
 - e. Compliance Period – The estimated duration of the compliance period for this Landfill is six (6) years. Each time the standard is not met (i.e., releases discovered), the Landfill begins a Compliance Period on the date the Regional Board directs the dischargers to begin an Evaluation and Monitoring Program. If the dischargers' Corrective Action Program (CAP) has not achieved compliance with the standard by the scheduled end of the Compliance Period, the Compliance Period is automatically extended until the Landfill has been in continuous compliance for at least three (3) consecutive years.
- 12. The discharger shall remove and relocate any wastes that are discharged at this site in violation of these requirements.
 - 13. Water used for site maintenance shall be limited to the amount necessary for dust control.
 - 14. The discharger shall maintain a hazardous waste load-checking program at the Landfill. The discharger shall report the results in accordance with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005 and revisions thereto.
 - 15. The Landfill shall be designed to prevent any washout or erosion of wastes or covering material, and from any inundation which could occur as a result of floods having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.
 - 16. The discharger shall not cause the release of pollutants, or waste constituents in a manner which could cause a condition of contamination, or pollution to occur, as indicated by the most appropriate statistical (or non-statistical) data analysis method and retest method listed in Part III of the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005.

B. Prohibitions

- 1. The discharge of hazardous waste as defined in Title 27 at this site is prohibited.
- 2. The discharge or deposit of designated waste as defined in Title 27 at this site is prohibited unless approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
- 3. The co-disposal of incompatible wastes is prohibited.
- 4. The direct discharge of any waste to any surface waters or surface drainage courses is prohibited.
- 5. The discharge of waste to land not owned or controlled by the discharger is prohibited.
- 6. The discharge of liquid or semi-solid waste (i.e., waste containing less than 50 percent solids) to the Landfill is prohibited unless approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

C. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R7-2002-0005, and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
2. Prior to any modifications in this facility which would result in material change in the quality or quantity of liquid waste discharged at the Surface Impoundments, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
3. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the discharger shall transmit a copy of this Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Board.
4. The discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the content of this Board Order, and shall maintain a copy of this Board Order at the site.
5. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
6. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
 - a. Enter upon the premises regulated by this Board Order, or the place where records must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that shall be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Board Order;
 - d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at this location.
7. The discharger shall neither cause nor contribute to the contamination or pollution of ground water via the release of waste constituents in either liquid or gaseous phase.
8. This Board Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
9. Unless otherwise approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants", promulgated by the USEPA.
10. All regulated disposal systems shall be readily accessible for sampling and inspection.
11. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facilities inoperable.

12. The discharger is the responsible party for the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and the Monitoring and Reporting Program for the facility. The discharger shall comply with all conditions of these WDRs. Violations may result in enforcement actions, including Regional Board Orders or court orders, requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in modification or revocation of these WDRs by the Regional Board.
13. The discharger shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical monitoring program reports, and such reports shall be submitted in accordance with the specifications prepared by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Such specifications are subject to periodic revisions as may be warranted.
14. All containment structures and erosion and drainage control systems shall be designed and constructed under direct supervision of a California Registered Civil Engineer or Certified Engineering Geologist, and shall be certified by the individual as meeting the prescriptive standards and performance goals of Title 27.
15. The Regional Board considers the property owner to have a continuing responsibility for correcting any problems which may arise in the future as a result of this waste discharge.
16. The discharger shall, within 48 hours of a significant earthquake event, submit to the Regional Board a detailed post-earthquake report describing any physical damages to the containment features, groundwater monitoring and/or leachate control facilities and a corrective action plan to be implemented at the Landfill.
17. The discharger shall immediately notify the Regional Board of any flooding, slope failure or other change in site conditions which could impair the integrity of waste containment facilities or of precipitation and drainage control structures.
18. The discharger shall maintain legible records on the volume and type of each waste discharged at the site. These records shall be available for review by representatives of the Regional at any time, during the Landfill operation hours. At the beginning of the post-closure maintenance period, copies of these records shall be sent to the Regional Board.
19. The discharger shall maintain visible monuments identifying the boundary limits of the entire waste management facility.
20. The discharger shall comply with the existing load checking program.
21. The discharger shall submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the SWRCB to be covered under the Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities, Order No. 97-03-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001. The discharger shall comply with all the discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and provisions of the General Permit.
22. The discharger shall submit a sampling and monitoring plan for storm water discharges to the Regional Board's Executive Officer for review and approval no later than 90 days after the adoption of this Board Order. The plan shall meet the minimum requirements of Section B, Monitoring and Reporting Requirements of the Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities, Order No. 97-03-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001.

23. Within 180 days of the adoption of this Board Order, the discharger shall submit to the Regional Board, in accordance with Section 20380(b) of Title 27, assurance of financial responsibility acceptable to the Regional Board's Executive Officer for initiating and completing corrective action for all known or reasonable foreseeable release for the Landfill.
24. One (1) year prior to the anticipated closure of the facility or any unit (portion) thereto, the discharger shall submit to the Regional Board, for review and approval by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, a final closure and post-closure maintenance plan in accordance with Title 27. The final closure and post-closure maintenance plan shall include seismicity studies.
25. This Board Order is subject to Regional Board review and updating, as necessary, to comply with changing state or federal laws, regulations, policies, or guidelines, or changes in the discharger characteristics.

I, Philip A. Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on January 16, 2002.

Original signed by _____

Executive Officer