CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

Region 7 Office
73-720 Fred Waring Dr. #100
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 346-7491
Regional Board Website (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver)

MONITORING & REPORTING PROGRAM R7-2023-0001

ORDER INFORMATION

Order Type(s):	Monitoring & Reporting Program (MRP)
Status:	ADOPTED
Program:	Non-15 Discharges to Land
Discharger(s):	Spreckels Sugar Company, Inc.
Facility:	Sugar Beet Processing Facility, Brawley
Address:	295 West Keystone Road, Brawley, California 92227
County:	Imperial County
Parcel Nos.:	040-330-002; 040-330-003
GeoTracker ID:	WDR100034568
CIWQS ID:	CW-391727
WDID:	7A132008011
Prior Order(s):	WDRs Order R7-2013-0057 (Disposal Ponds) WDRs Order R7-2015-0023 (Holding Basin)

CERTIFICATION

I, Paula Rasmussen, Executive Officer, hereby certify that the following is a full, true, and correct copy of the order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on January 10, 2023.

Original signed by

PAULA RASMUSSEN
Executive Officer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE INDEX

GLOSSARY

Avg .....Average

BGS .....Below Ground Surface

BOD5 .....Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand and 20°C

ELAP.....Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program

Est.....Estimated

MDL .....Method Detection Limit

mg/L.....Milligrams per Liter

MGD.....Million Gallons per Day

µg/L.....Micrograms per Liter

MSL.....Mean Sea Level

MRP .....Monitoring and Reporting Program

Operating Season.....For the purposes of this MRP, this period shall extend from April 1 to September 1

PQL.....Practical Quantitation Limit

Qualified Professional .....California-licensed civil engineer or engineering geologist that is competent and proficient in the field and subject matter

Required Signatory .....For corporations, a Senior Vice President or equivalent principal executive

TDS.....Total Dissolved Solids

TSS .....Total Suspended Solids

USEPA.....United States Environmental Protection Agency

WDRs.....Waste Discharge Requirements

REQUIREMENTS

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Water Code section 13267, that the Discharger shall comply with the following Monitoring and Reporting Program.

A. Monitoring Requirements

1. Source Water Monitoring (5 Years)

The Discharger shall monitor the source water in accordance with **Table 1** below. If the Discharger does not use Imperial Irrigation District (IID) water, the Discharger shall report that in their Quarterly Report as the basis for not monitoring.

Table 1. Source Water Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

2. Wastewater Discharge Monitoring (Disposal Basins and Holding Pond)

The Discharger shall establish representative monitoring points from which samples of wastewater discharged to the Disposal Basins and the Holding Basin may be taken. To the extent feasible, these monitoring points shall be located at the point of discharge into the impoundment.

For any month where wastewater[1] is discharged to either the Disposal Basins or the Holding Pond, the Discharger shall conduct monitoring of

[1] For the purposes of this requirement, “wastewater” does not include discharges of imported water from the Imperial Irrigation District.

the subject impoundments in accordance with **Table 2**.[2] Samples shall be taken at a time when the discharge contains wastewater which has a representative mixture of influent waste streams.

Table 2. Effluent Discharge Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
Flow	MGD	Calculation[3]	Daily Flow	Quarterly
BOD_5	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

3. Disposal Basins Monitoring

The Discharger shall conduct monitoring of the impounded wastewater within its Disposal Basins in accordance with the schedule in **Table 3**.

[2] For any month in which no discharges occur, the Discharger shall indicate "no discharge" in its monitoring report.

[3] Within three months of the adoption of this MRP, the Discharger shall provide a flow measurement calculation and water balance quantifying the discharge flow to the Disposal Basins and Holding Pond. If producing a flow calculation for the discharges is impractical, within six months of the adoption of this MRP, the Discharger shall install a flow meter at or before the discharge point to the first Disposal Basin, and another flow meter prior to each discharge point into the Holding Pond. Flow monitoring shall commence within 30 days of meter installation.

Table 3. Disposal Basins Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
Freeboard	Feet	Measurement	Monthly	Quarterly
BOD_5	mg/L	Composite Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	Std. Units	Composite Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Composite Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Composite Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Composite Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

4. Mud Ponds Monitoring

The Discharger shall monitor the mud ponds in accordance with **Table 4**.

Table 4. Mud Ponds Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
Pesticides (EPA 608)	µg/L	Composite Grab	Annually[4]	Annually

[4] Composite sample for pesticides (EPA 608) shall be collected during the peak of the processing season (typically early April to mid-August).

5. Holding Pond Monitoring

During the processing season[5], the Discharger shall monitor the recycled water (wastewater) within the Holding Pond in accordance with **Table 5**.

Table 5. Holding Pond Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
Freeboard	Feet	Measurement	Quarterly	Quarterly
BOD_5	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

6. PCC Ponds Monitoring

Wastewater contained in the PCC ponds shall be monitoring at the peak of the operating season for constituents in accordance with **Table 6**.

Table 6. PCC Ponds Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

[5] The processing season is typically early April to mid-August.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
Phosphorous	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
Aluminum	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
Copper	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
Molybdenum	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
Zinc	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
General Minerals[6]	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

7. Groundwater Monitoring

Within six months of Colorado River Basin Water Board staff concurrence in the Groundwater Monitoring Network Work Plan, the Discharger shall commence groundwater monitoring in accordance with **Table 7**.

Table 7. Groundwater Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
GW[7] Depth	Feet BGS[8]	Measurement	Quarterly	Quarterly
GW Elevation	Feet MSL[9]	Measurement	Quarterly	Quarterly

[6] General Minerals shall include: total dissolved solids, calcium, chloride, fluoride, iron, magnesium, manganese, nitrate, potassium, sodium, sulfate, barium, total alkalinity (including alkalinity series), and hardness.

[7] Groundwater

[8] Below ground surface

[9] Above mean sea level

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	Std. Units	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

8. Precipitated Calcium Carbonate Waste Pile Monitoring

The Discharger shall monitor the onsite stockpiling of Precipitated Calcium Carbonate (PCC) in accordance with **Table 8** below.

Table 8. Precipitated Calcium Carbonate Waste Pile Monitoring.

Parameter	Units	Type	Monitoring	Reporting
PCC Generated	Cubic Yards	Estimate	Annually	Annually
PCC Transported Offsite	Cubic Yards	Estimate	Annually	Annually

9. General Monitoring Requirements

a. **Composited Grab Samples from Impoundments.** Whenever grab samples are required to be collected from impoundment, the Discharger shall collect at least two samples and average the two analytical results. To the extent possible, these samples shall be collected from locations at the furthest points away from the initial point of discharge into the impoundment.

b. **Testing and Analytical Methods**. The collection, preservation, and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) approved procedures. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of either *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants under Clean Water Act* (40 C.F.R. part 136)

or *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods Compendium* (SW-846).

c. **Laboratory Certification**. All analyses shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP), unless otherwise approved by the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer.

d. **Reporting Levels**. All analytical data shall be reported with method detection limits (MDLs) and with either the reporting level or limits of quantitation (LOQs) according to 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 136, Appendix B. The laboratory reporting limit for all reported monitoring data shall be no greater than the practical quantitation limit (PQL).

e. **Sampling Locations**. Samples shall be collected at the location(s) specified in the WDRs or this MRP. If no location is specified, sampling shall be conducted at the most representative sampling point available.

f. **Representative Sampling**. All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The time, date, and location of each grab sample shall be recorded on the chain of custody form for the sample. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Board staff.

g. **Instrumentation and Calibration**. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger shall be properly maintained and calibrated to ensure their continued accuracy. Any flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices. In the event that continuous monitoring equipment is out of service for a period greater than 24 hours, the Discharger shall obtain representative grab samples each day the equipment is out of service. The Discharger shall correct the cause(s) of failure of the continuous monitoring equipment as soon as practicable. The Discharger shall report the period(s) during which the equipment was out of service and if the problem has not been corrected, shall identify the steps which the Discharger is taking or proposes to take to bring the equipment back into service and the schedule for these actions.

h. **Field Test Instruments**. Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that:

i. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;

ii. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;

iii. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and

iv. Field calibration reports are submitted.

i. **Inoperative Facility**. If the Facility is not in operation, or there is no discharge during a required reporting period, the Discharger shall forward a letter to the Regional Water Board indicating that there has been no activity during the required reporting period.

B. Reporting Requirements

1. Quarterly Reporting

The Discharger shall submit Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) quarterly in accordance with the schedule set forth in **Table 9** below. Each Quarterly SMR shall contain the following information:

a. Tabulated results of all monitoring required to be conducted on a quarterly or more frequent basis (e.g., monthly or daily monitoring);

b. A current and accurate Facility map identifying each monitoring point used for monitoring activities during the subject quarter;

c. A discussion of any violations occurring during the subject quarter, and actions taken or planned for correcting them.[10]

Table 9. Quarterly Reporting Schedule.

Quarter	Dates	SMR Deadline
First Quarter	January 1 – March 31	April 15
Second Quarter	April 1 – June 30	July 15
Third Quarter	July 1 – September 30	October 15
Fourth Quarter	October 1 – December 31	January 15

2. Annual Reporting (4th Quarter SMRs)

In addition to the contents listed above, the 4th Quarter SMR shall include the following information:

d. Disposal Basin Discharges

i. Total volume of wastewater discharged to Disposal Basins over previous processing season;

ii. Start and end dates of wastewater discharges to Disposal Basins; and

iii. Estimated amount of material excavated from Disposal Basins (during calendar year).

e. Holding Basin Discharges

[10] If the Discharger previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, a reference to the previous correspondence will be sufficient; if no new violations occurred during the subject quarter, the Discharger shall so indicate.

i. Total volume discharged to Holding Pond; this should include the amount of evaporator condensate as well as the canal water discharged into the Holding Pond;

ii. Start and end dates of discharge to Holding Pond; and

iii. Total volume used for dust control at the Facility.

f. Underflow (Mud) Pond Discharges

i. Total volume discharged to the Disposal Basins from the mud ponds;

ii. Start and end dates of discharge to the mud ponds; and

iii. Estimated amount of material excavated from Underflow ponds and their intended use (i.e. fill material to reinforce onsite berms or roads).

g. PCC Ponds

i. Total volume of PCC liquid discharged to PCC ponds;

ii. Start and end dates of discharge to PCC ponds and which ponds were used; and

iii. Estimated amount of material excavated from PCC ponds (during calendar year), amount of PCC generated and amount of PCC transported offsite. Amount transported should include PCC used for the Soil Reclamation Program as well as amount provided to Helena Chemical or any other business for the use of PCC as a soil amendment.

h. PCC Waste Pile

i. Estimated volume of PCC material in PCC Waste Pile (cubic yards);

ii. Changes in PCC volume from previous year, last five years, and 10-year compliance period under WDRs Order.

3. General Reporting Requirements

a. Electronic Submittals

Reports shall be submitted electronically via the GeoTracker Database (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov), and in the appropriate Microsoft Office software application format, such as Word or Excel files, or as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file. Large documents must be split into appropriately-labelled, manageable file sizes and uploaded into GeoTracker.

After uploading, the Discharger shall notify Board staff via email to RB7_WDRs_paperless@waterboards.ca.gov, or another address specified by staff. The following information shall be included in the body of the email:

Attention:	Land Disposal Unit
Report Title:	[Report Title]
Upload ID:	[Number]
Facility:	Spreckels Sugar Beet Processing Facility, Brawley
County:	Imperial County
GeoTracker ID:	[Number]

b. Technical Reports / Qualified Professionals

The following requirements are applicable to Technical Reports[11] submitted under the Waste Discharge Requirements Order or this Morning and Reporting Program.

(1) The Technical Report shall be prepared by, or under the direct supervision of, a California-licensed civil engineer or engineering geologist that is competent and proficient in the field and subject matter of the submittal (Qualified Professional).

[11] Technical reports are those that contain work plans, describe the conduct of investigations and studies, or contain technical conclusions and recommendations concerning engineering and/or geology.

(2) The Technical Report shall be signed and stamped by the Qualified Professional.

(3) The Technical Report shall include a brief summary of the Qualified Professional's qualifications.

c. Certifications

All submittals (including non-Technical Reports) shall be accompanied by the following certification language, signed under penalty by a senior Vice President or equivalent principal executive (Required Signatory) or their Authorized Representative of perjury:

> I declare under the penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

To act as an Authorized Representative for a Required Signatory, an individual must be identified[12] and duly authorized in writing by the Required Signatory; this written authorization shall be provided to the Board beforehand, or concurrently with the first submittal signed by the Authorized Representative.

C. Record Retention Requirements

The Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of the sampling or measurement. This period may be extended by request

[12] This identification may be in reference to the Authorized Representative's title or position, provided it is one that customarily has the responsibility of supervising a facility's overall operation (e.g., facility manager, superintendent).

of the Regional Water Board's Executive Officer at any time. Records of monitoring information shall include:

(i) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurement(s);

(ii) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurement(s);

(iii) The date(s) analyses were performed;

(iv) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;

(v) The analytical techniques or method used; and

(vi) All sampling and analytical results, including:

(A) units of measurement used;

(B) minimum reporting limit for the analyses;

(C) results less than the reporting limit but above the method detection limit (MDL);

(D) data qualifiers and a description of the qualifiers;

(E) quality control test results (and a written copy of the laboratory quality assurance plan);

(F) dilution factors, if used; and

(G) sample matrix type.

ENFORCEMENT

If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, the Dischargers fail to comply with the provisions of this Order, the Executive Officer may refer this matter to the Attorney General for judicial enforcement, may issue a complaint for administrative civil liability, or may take other enforcement actions. Failure to comply with this Order may result in the assessment of Administrative Civil Liability of up to $10,000 per violation, per day, depending on the violation, pursuant to the Water Code, including sections 13268, 13350 and 13385. The Colorado River Basin Water Board reserves its right to take any enforcement actions authorized by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Any person aggrieved by this Colorado River Basin Water Board action may petition the State Water Board for review in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 et seq. To be timely, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the 30th day after the date of this Order; if the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the next business day. The law and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available on the State Water Board website (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality). Copies will also be provided upon request.