

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

RESOLUTION NO. 70-7

REQUIRING THE CITY OF BERKELEY TO SUBMIT A  
TECHNICAL REPORT RELATIVE TO ITS AQUATIC PARK  
LAGOON, ALAMEDA COUNTY

WHEREAS THIS REGIONAL BOARD HAS CONSIDERED

INFORMATION ABOUT THE BERKELEY AQUATIC PARK LAGOON

1. The City of Berkeley has a public recreational lagoon known as the Berkeley Aquatic Park Lagoon which comprises about 80 acres of water surface located between the Eastshore Freeway and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks between Potter and Addison Streets. This Lagoon is used for boating, water skiing, and fishing to a limited extent, and it has been a source of three spine stickelback which are used in toxicity bioassay analyses.
2. Level of the lagoon is controlled by a series of five 24-inch culverts connected to San Francisco Bay beneath the Eastshore Freeway, and by two 18-inch and a 24-inch culvert which also connect to the Bay. Salt water inflow and outflow through these conduits is controlled by manually operated valves.
3. This lagoon receives drainage from approximately one hundred acres of industrial and residential land both from the surface and storm sewers.
4. Colgate Palmolive Co. discharges waste to the lagoon and is currently under Regional Board requirements adopted in September, 1964. Cutter Laboratories, Macaulay Foundry, Philadelphia Quartz Co. and Durkee Famous Foods are discharging or have discharged wastes to the lagoon.
5. Periodic fish kills have occurred in the City of Berkeley's Aquatic Park Lagoon; the most recent one, which occurred around September 10, 1969, has been attributed to depletion of dissolved oxygen, due to "die-off" of algae and aquatic plants, poor circulation with Bay waters and high temperatures.
6. The staff has verbally requested the City of Berkeley to connect the waste discharges from Cutter Laboratories and Macaulay Foundry to the sanitary sewerage system.

STAFF INVESTIGATION

1. The City's staff has proposed a project which would divert most of the storm drainage and all known industrial wastes from the lagoon to the Bay. Cost of this project is estimated at approximately \$100,000. Methods of improving tidal circulation and of controlling aquatic weed and algal growths have also been investigated.

2. Industrial wastes which are discharged at times to the lagoon should be connected to the sanitary sewerage system.
3. Cooling water discharges to this lagoon increase its temperature. The waste and cooling-water discharges to the lagoon are a contributing factor in causing fish kills and should be diverted from the lagoon.
4. Circulation of Bay waters through the lagoon and water circulation within the lagoon are inadequate to maintain water quality at all times at levels sufficient to support fish life. Facilities presently provided for water interchange and circulation appear to be incapable of providing the required flows.
5. Adequate protection of water quality in the lagoon will require diversion of waste discharges and industrial area storm water runoff from the lagoon at the earliest practicable date.

RESOLVED BY THIS REGIONAL BOARD

1. This Regional Board requires the City of Berkeley, pursuant to Section 13225(c) of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, to submit a report to this Board on February 26, 1970 as to its intent to increase circulation of water in said lagoon and control other factors, such as algal and aquatic weed growths, which may contribute to water quality degradation and fish kills.
2. This Regional Board will, at its February 26, 1970 meeting, hold a hearing on the formulation of a Water Quality Control Plan on the prohibition, at the earliest practicable date, of all waste discharges, including storm drainage which may contain wastes, to the Berkeley Aquatic Park Lagoon. City of Berkeley representatives and other interested parties are invited to attend this hearing and present testimony to include but not be limited to:
  - a. Evidence for and against need for proposed prohibition.
  - b. The time required to divert all waste discharges from the lagoon.
3. The Regional Board may adopt the proposed prohibition at its February 26, 1970 meeting.

WILLIAM C. WEBER  
Chairman

January 29, 1970

I, Fred H. Dierker, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 70-7 adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board - San Francisco Bay Region at its regular meeting on January 29, 1970.

FRED H. DIERKER  
Executive Officer  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL  
BOARD - SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION