

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 86-59

NPDES NO. CA0004961

AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

TOSCO CORPORATION
AVON REFINERY
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, (hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. On February 20, 1985 the Board adopted Order No. 85-24, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, prescribing waste discharge requirements for Tosco Corporation, Avon Refinery (hereinafter called the discharger).
2. Order No. 85-24 included an interim effluent limit for toxicity and a time schedule to achieve compliance with the Basin Plan toxicity limit by August 20, 1986. The Basin Plan toxicity limitation requires that "the survival of test fishes in 96 hour bioassays of the undiluted effluent shall be a 90 percentile value of not less than 50 percent survival"; The interim effluent toxicity limitation requires that "the survival of test fishes in 96 hour bioassays of 50 percent effluent shall be a 90 percentile value of not less than 50 percent survival."
3. Order No. 85-24 required the discharger to submit a conceptual toxicity control plan for compliance and if desired, an application for exception to toxicity limitation by August 20, 1985.
4. On August 23, 1985 the discharger submitted a conceptual plan for compliance with the toxicity limitation. The conceptual plan described the sources of effluent toxicity, control measures and a preliminary evaluation of available treatment methods to remove effluent toxicity.
5. In September and December 1985, Board staff met with the discharger to discuss results and plans associated with the implementation of conceptual plan. The discharger reported substantial progress in their work towards reduction of toxicity through source control and through testing an alternate operation of the wastewater treatment system.

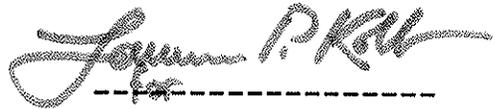
6. In April 1986 Board staff met again with the discharger to discuss the results of the effluent treatment studies for toxicity reduction. At this meeting, the discharger indicated that implementation of a combination of two treatment methods appeared to offer hope for compliance with the Basin Plan toxicity limit. However, they indicated that further study was necessary in order to determine whether implementation of the treatment methods could guarantee compliance with the Basin Plan toxicity limit by the August 20, 1986 deadline.
7. On June 12, 1986 the discharger requested an extension of their time schedule for compliance with the Basin Plan toxicity limitation to December 20, 1987. The extension was requested in order to complete the toxicity reduction evaluation and to determine permanent treatment facilities necessary to achieve compliance with the Basin Plan toxicity limitation; and also to develop an effluent-specific, water quality-based toxicity limit.
8. On June 30, 1986 the Executive Officer requested a technical report by August 2, 1986 addressing the feasibility of providing temporary treatment facilities until such time that the discharger submits documentation and the Board considers a new effluent-specific, water quality-based toxicity limit.
9. On July 17, 1986 the discharger verbally requested a 3-month extension to install and test the effectiveness of temporary treatment facilities (powdered activated carbon) to remove toxicity to compliance levels.
10. It now appears reasonable to grant the discharger a 3-month extension in order to install and test temporary treatment facilities.
11. As this project is an NPDES Permit revision, this Board, pursuant to Water Code Section 13389, is not required to comply with the provisions of Chapter 3 of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code (California Environmental Quality Act).
12. The Board has notified the discharger and interested persons and agencies of its intent to prescribe revised waste discharge requirements for the discharger.
13. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that this Board's Order No. 85-24 is amended as follows:

C. Provision 14 is revised to read as follows:

The discharger shall achieve full compliance with Effluent Limitation A.5b. (LC-50 of the effluent shall not be less than 100) by November 20, 1986.

I, Roger B. James, 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, San Francisco Bay Region, on August 20, 1986.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger B. James". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

ROGER B. JAMES
Executive Officer