

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 84-12

CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT OF THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN
FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN BY THE ADDITION OF A PROHIBITION
OF WASTE DISCHARGE FROM INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY SEWAGE DISPOSAL
SYSTEMS WITHIN THE LOS ALAMOS AREA, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (Regional Board) adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (basin plan) on March 14, 1975.
2. Division 7 of the California Water Code specifies that basin plans will be periodically reviewed and may be revised.
3. Los Alamos is an unincorporated community of 734 persons located south of the City of Santa Maria in Santa Barbara County.
4. On-site soil adsorption or evapotranspiration systems are the sole means of wastewater disposal in the Los Alamos area.
5. The predominate lot size in Los Alamos of 5,000 to 10,000 square-feet is too small to accommodate individual sewage disposal systems.
6. Many property owners in Los Alamos have attested to on-site system problems.
7. Ground water sampling has indicated human waste contamination of shallow ground water in the Los Alamos area.
8. The U. S. Soil Conservation Service has designated the soils of Los Alamos as severe (due to slow percolation) for septic tank filter fields.
9. On May 14, 1974, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors designated, by ordinance, the Los Alamos area as a Special Problems Area due to a concern for ground water degradation from septic systems on small lots and shallow ground water; and a committee was established to review building permit applications.
10. The Santa Barbara County Health Care Services Department took surface water samples from San Antonio Creek in January 1983, which showed fecal coliform in excess of 200/100 milliliters at four different locations within the Los Alamos area.
11. Los Alamos Community Services District has submitted documentation of conditions which constitute contamination and pollution as defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
12. A Regional Board staff report indicates beneficial uses of Los Alamos ground and surface waters are adversely affected by individual sewage disposal

system discharges, and public health is potentially threatened by the presence of fecal coliform in ground and surface waters, with high nitrates also detected in ground water sampling wells.

13. On November 18, 1983, based on the above facts and findings, after a public hearing, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 83-16 revising Chapter 5 of the basin plan to include a discharge prohibition of the Los Alamos area.
14. On November 22, 1983, the Regional Board submitted a request for State Board consideration of approval for the above-titled basin plan amendment in accordance with Section 13245 of the California Water Code.
15. In satisfaction of the requirements of California Water Code Section 13283, the State Board finds that the record includes a review of possible alternatives to prohibiting discharges from on-site sewage disposal systems.
16. The Regional Board has followed appropriate procedures to satisfy all relevant State statutes.
17. The State Board finds, consistent with the California Water Code, Section 13280, that there is substantial evidence in the record that the continued discharge of waste from individual or community on-site sewage disposal systems will unreasonably degrade water quality.
18. Basin plan amendments do not become effective until approved by the State Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the basin plan be amended as follows:

Page 5-66, after Item 8, following the discussion of discharge limitations (added by Resolution No. 83-13), insert the following prohibition:

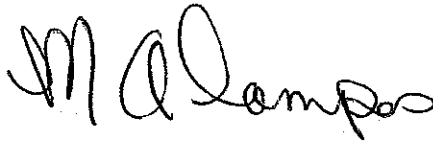
- "9. Discharge of waste from additional individual and community sewage disposal systems is prohibited and the discharge of waste from existing individual and community sewage disposal systems is prohibited after July 1, 1987, in Los Alamos, Santa Barbara County, and more particularly described as:

"Within the boundaries of the Los Alamos Community Services District extant on December 26, 1978."

2. State Board approval of the prohibition does not constitute a commitment to change the Clean Water Grant Project Priority List or provide other assistance.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on January 19, 1984.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael A. Campos".

Michael A. Campos
Executive Director