

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 84-78

RESCINDING THE DISCHARGE LIMITS AND TIME SCHEDULES IN STATE BOARD RESOLUTION NOS. 78-34 AND 82-9, ORDERING CONTINUATION OF THE MONITORING PROGRAM CONDUCTED BY CARMEL SANITARY DISTRICT AND DIRECTING THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, CENTRAL COAST REGION, TO ESTABLISH NEW FLOW LIMITATIONS FOR CARMEL SANITARY DISTRICT'S DISCHARGE TO CARMEL BAY

WHEREAS:

1. Implementation of the State Board's Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) Policy requires the prohibition of discharges of discrete, point-source sewage in a manner that would alter conditions from those occurring naturally in an ASBS.
2. State Board Resolution No. 75-61 (a) designated a portion of Carmel Bay as an ASBS, (b) required the Carmel Sanitary District to submit a feasibility level plan by July 1, 1978 for waste control facilities, (c) required that a continuous source discharge be phased out, and (d) directed the Executive Director of the State Board to develop a waste discharge monitoring program in cooperation with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (Central Coast Regional Board) to determine if waste discharge constituents enter the boundaries of the Point Lobos ASBS and to evaluate the discharge effects on the receiving waters of Carmel Bay.
3. Carmel Sanitary District proposed a plan which provides for reclamation and reuse of wastewater during dry weather and eliminates the discharge of wastewater in excess of 2.4 million gallons per day equivalent dry weather flow to Carmel Bay during wet weather.
4. The State Board adopted Resolution No. 78-34 which concurs with Carmel Sanitary District's facilities plan.
5. The State Board stated its intention to review the actions by the Carmel Sanitary District and possibly prohibit any discharge of waste by the Carmel Sanitary District into the Carmel Bay ASBS upon a showing that a degradation of water quality is threatened or has occurred.
6. Results of the monitoring program required in State Board Resolution No. 78-34 indicate that current discharges of secondary treated wastewater into the Carmel Bay ASBS have had no significant adverse impact on Bay ecosystems.
7. State Board Resolution No. 82-9 clarified State Board Resolution No. 78-34 and concurred that a project which complies with the following conditions will comply with the intent of State Board Resolution No. 75-61.

- a. The approved Carmel Project shall be amended to exclude the connection to the Monterey System for the disposal of excess reclaimed wastewater.
- b. All discharge of wastewater from Carmel Sanitary District's facilities into the Carmel Bay ASBS during the period May through October shall be eliminated by July 1, 1990. The Carmel Sanitary District shall use this compliance period to develop additional reclamation markets or other approved disposal alternatives. The Carmel Sanitary District is required to submit to the State Board's Executive Director by July 1 of each year, prior to July 1, 1990, a report on the Carmel Sanitary District's progress in eliminating the dry weather discharge to the ASBS.
- c. The Carmel Sanitary District is required to coordinate with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and implement a water conservation and flow reduction plan.
- d. Continuation of the State Board-approved receiving water monitoring program will be required to ensure continued protection of the ASBS.
- e. The State Board stated it would reconsider the wet weather discharge flow limit contained in State Board Resolution No. 78-34, subsequent to Carmel Sanitary District's submittal of:
  - o documentation of additional sewerage needs;
  - o environmental clearance of the proposed Carmel Sanitary District's treatment capacity increase with a complete analysis of the secondary impacts from growth and the anticipated effects to Carmel Bay ecosystems; and
  - o certification that any capacity increase will not require a discharge into the Carmel Bay from May through October.
8. The Environmental Protection Agency did not approve federal clean water grant funding for advanced treatment for Carmel Bay.
9. Advanced treatment is a necessary element for reclamation, which could provide for elimination of discharge of waste from Carmel Sanitary District's facilities to Carmel Bay during the period May through October.
10. Imposition of the entire cost of advanced treatment on the Carmel Sanitary District may not be financially and economically feasible.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the discharge limits and time schedules expressed in State Board Resolution No. 78-34 and further clarified in State Board Resolution No. 82-9 for elimination of discharge of waste from Carmel Sanitary District's facilities into Carmel Bay during the period May through October are rescinded.
2. That monitoring for effects of the discharge, including use of mussels for scope for growth measurements, shall continue each year; and a comprehensive study shall be developed to be implemented by July 1, 1987 to allow evaluation of effects of the discharge on the ASBS. Such evaluation shall be repeated once every ten years to determine whether changes are occurring as a result of the Carmel Sanitary District's discharge. In addition, the intensive monitoring will be conducted more frequently if it is determined that changes are occurring.
3. That the Carmel Sanitary District shall prepare a report of efforts to reduce or eliminate the discharge to the Carmel Bay ASBS to be submitted to the State Board no later than January 1, 1986.
4. That the State Board will review the Carmel Sanitary District's report to the State Board and other pertinent information to determine future alternatives for elimination or reduction of the Carmel Sanitary District's discharge into the Carmel Bay.
5. That flow limits established in previous State Board resolutions for Carmel Bay ASBS shall be evaluated by the Central Coast Regional Board in order to determine flow limitations which will be required to prevent the alteration of natural water quality conditions in Carmel Bay.
6. That the Central Coast Regional Board shall take appropriate actions to include the flow limits determined in Number 5 in any permits granted to the Carmel Sanitary District.

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 December 5, 1984.



Michael A. Campos  
Executive Director