

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

ORDER NO. 81-18

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
SIMCAL EL CENTRO PLANT  
El Centro - Imperial County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. SimCal Chemical Company (hereinafter also referred to as the discharger), P.O. Box 649, El Centro, CA 92244 submitted a Report of Waste Discharge dated December 1, 1980.
2. The discharger is discharging from a nitrogen fertilizer manufacturing plant approximately 1000 gallons-per-operating day of wastewater containing 8.6 percent Ammonium Nitrate and 3.2 percent Urea into a large earthen basin, and approximately 43,200 gallons-per-operating day of wastewater consisting of 3.8 percent Ammonium Nitrate and 0.5 percent Urea into another large earthen basin. Most of the wastewater in the basins is reused in the manufacturing process. Final disposal is by infiltration and evaporation. The site is located in the SW 1/4 of Section 9, T16S, R14E, SBB&M. A surface drain is adjacent to the basins.
3. This fertilizer plant is also subject to waste discharge requirements adopted in Board Order No. 77-44 (NPDES No. CA 0104183) for discharge into Date Drain.
4. The Water Quality Control Plan for the West Colorado River Basin was adopted on April 10, 1975. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives for Imperial Hydrologic Unit.
5. Shallow groundwaters at the discharge location are saline and are not beneficially used. Deep groundwaters are highly saline and are being investigated for geothermal development.
6. The Board has notified the discharger and interested persons and agencies of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge.

*Rescinded  
9/17/86  
by 86-66*

7. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.
8. This wastewater disposal operation constitutes an ongoing project in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and Title 23, California Administrative Code, Chapter 3, Subchapter 17, Section 2715, because the governmental approvals on or after April 5, 1973, do not involve a greater degree of responsibility or control over such activity than the governmental approvals received prior to that date.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Specifications

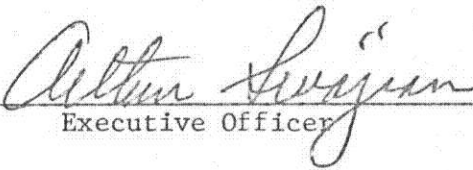
1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of wastewater shall create a pollution or a nuisance as defined in Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. The wastewater designated in Finding No. 2 (above) shall not enter any rivers, canals, drainage channels, or drains (including subsurface drainage systems) which could provide flow or seepage to Salton Sea.
3. A minimum depth of freeboard of at least one foot shall be maintained in the basins.
4. Permanent disposal of any wastes is prohibited at this site.
5. Adequate protective works shall be provided to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render disposal facilities inoperable.

B. Provisions

1. Prior to any material change or proposed change in the character, location or volume of wastes to be discharged, the discharger shall report thereon to the Board.
2. In the event of any change in operation, or in control or ownership of the land used for wastewater disposal, the discharger shall:
  - a. Notify the Board of such change; and
  - b. Notify the succeeding owner or operator by letter of the existence of this Order; and file a copy of said letter with the Board.

3. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 81-18" and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Executive Officer.

I, Arthur Swajian, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on March 25, 1981.

  
Executive Officer

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 81-18  
FOR  
SIMCAL EL CENTRO PLANT  
El Centro - Imperial County

Location of Discharge: Portion of the SW 1/4 of Section 9, T16S,  
R14E, SBB&M.

MONITORING

The discharger shall report to the Regional Board concerning the following:

1. Quantity of wastewater discharged to basins - reported quarterly in gallons.

REPORTING

Quarterly monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board by January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 of each year.

Submit monitoring reports to :

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region  
73-271 Highway 111, Suite 21  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

ORDERED BY

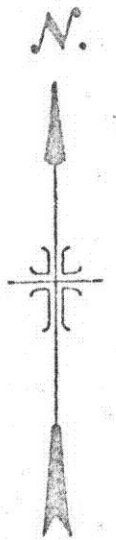
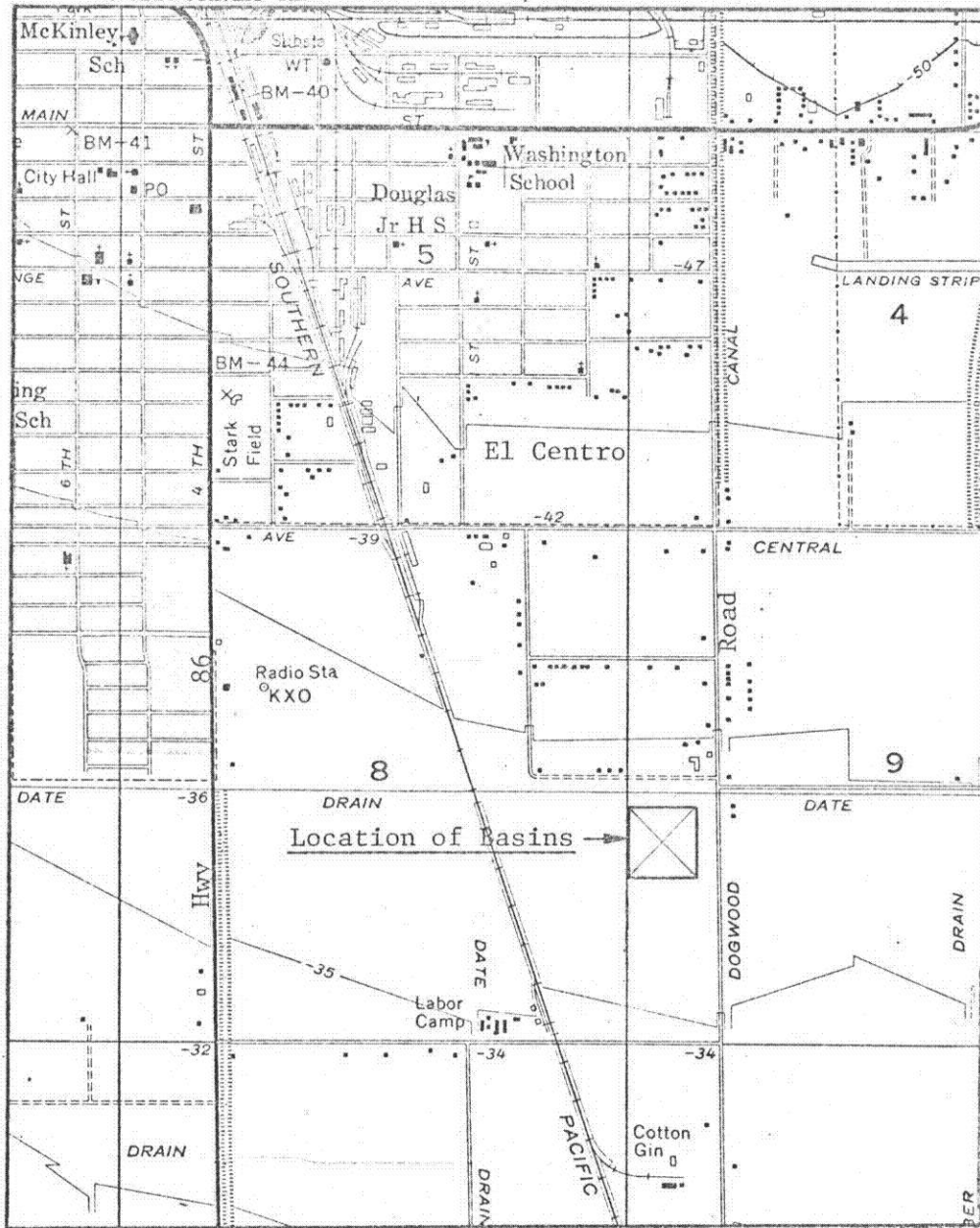
*Arthur Swajian*  
Executive Officer

March 25, 1981

Date

*Superseded  
11/23/86*

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD - 7



Scale:  
1" = 2,000'

SITE MAP  
 SIMCAL EL CENTRO PLANT  
 El Centro - Imperial County  
 SW 1/4 of Section 9, T16S, R14E, SBB&M  
 USGS El Centro 7.5 min. Topographic Map

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