

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

ORDER NO. 81-3

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
HEBER 50 MEGAWATT GEOTHERMAL GENERATING STATION
EVAPORTION BASINS
South of Heber - Imperial County

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

1. Southern California Edison Company (hereinafter also referred to as the discharger), P.O. Box 800, Rosemead, CA 91770, submitted a report of waste discharge, dated October 7, 1980.
2. The discharger proposes to construct about six acres of evaporation basins which would serve as a standby facility to receive wastewater only under abnormal conditions such as a brine line leak or rupture, storm run-off, etc. The basins would be lined with compacted clay. Sediments removed from the basins would be discharged at a disposal site approved by the Regional Board to receive said waste.
3. The evaporation basins would be located in the SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T16S, R14E, SBB&M.
4. The Water Quality Control Plan for the West Colorado River Basin Region was adopted on April 10, 1975. This Order implements the objectives stated in said Plan.
5. Beneficial uses to be protected by this Order are as follows:
 - a. Shallow groundwaters in two known wells in the Heber area at a depth of 145 to 150 feet, have a total dissolved solids content of 9410 mg/l and 5,410 mg/l, and are not beneficially used.
 - b. Agricultural subsurface drainage water which enters tile drains and open drains in the Heber area, has a total dissolved solids content of from 2,400 mg/l to 12,200 mg/l, and eventually serves as a source of replenishment for Salton Sea.
 - c. Deep groundwaters have a total dissolved solids content of 12,000 to 20,000 mg/l and are being investigated for geothermal development.

6. Imperial County Planning Department adopted on December 12, 1979, Environmental Impact Report No. 213-79 for this project. This report indicates that this project would not have a significant adverse effect on water quality.
7. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the proposed discharge.
8. The Board in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, Southern California Edison Company shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Specifications

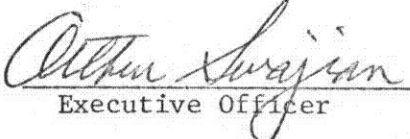
1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of wastes shall create a pollution or a nuisance as defined in Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. Geothermal fluids and other wastes shall not enter any canals, drainage channels, or drains (including subsurface drainage systems) which could provide flow to Salton Sea, except as allowed under an appropriate NPDES permit.
3. Temporary discharge and/or storage of geothermal fluids or wastes for less than one year, other than into containment basins or other containers having a lining permeability of 1×10^{-6} cm/sec, or less, is prohibited, and the fluids contained therein shall not penetrate through the lining during the containment period.
4. Permanent disposal of any waste at this site is prohibited; and also, interim storage of geothermal fluids or wastes for longer than one year, other than into containment basins or other containers having a lining permeability of 1×10^{-8} cm/sec, or less, is prohibited, and the fluids contained therein shall not penetrate through the lining during the containment period.
5. Materials discharged to and/or stored in containment basins shall not overflow said basins.
6. Adequate protective works and maintenance shall be provided to assure that each containment basin shall not become eroded or otherwise damaged by floods occurring during the project life of said basins.

7. Prior to the disposal of any materials removed from containment basins, the discharger shall inform the Executive Officer concerning the nature and volume of the materials and the proposed location of disposal. Said materials shall only be disposed at a location approved by the Regional Board.
8. A minimum freeboard of two feet shall be maintained in each containment basin at all times.
9. Final disposal of residual wastes and cleanup of containment basins shall be accomplished upon abandonment of operations.

B. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 81-3", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Executive Officer.
2. Prior to the discharge of wastewater to any newly constructed containment basin, the discharger shall submit to the Regional Board a technical report on the construction of said basin, and a certificate signed by a California Registered Civil Engineer stating that the basin and attendant facilities are constructed to meet the requirements of this Order.

I, Arthur Swajian, 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, 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. 81-3
FOR
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
HEBER 50 MEGAWATT GEOTHERMAL GENERATING STATION
EVAPORATION BASINS
South of Heber - Imperial County

MONITORING

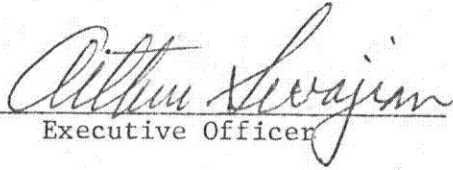
1. Prior to the disposal of any materials removed from containment basins, Southern California Edison Company shall inform the Executive Officer concerning the nature and volume of the materials and the proposed location of disposal.
2. At least 20 days prior to the discharge of any wastewater to a newly constructed containment basin, the discharger shall submit to the Regional Board a technical report on the construction of said basin, and a certificate signed by a California Registered Civil Engineer stating that the basin and attendant facilities are constructed to meet the requirements contained in Board Order No. 81-3.

REPORTING

Mail reports to:

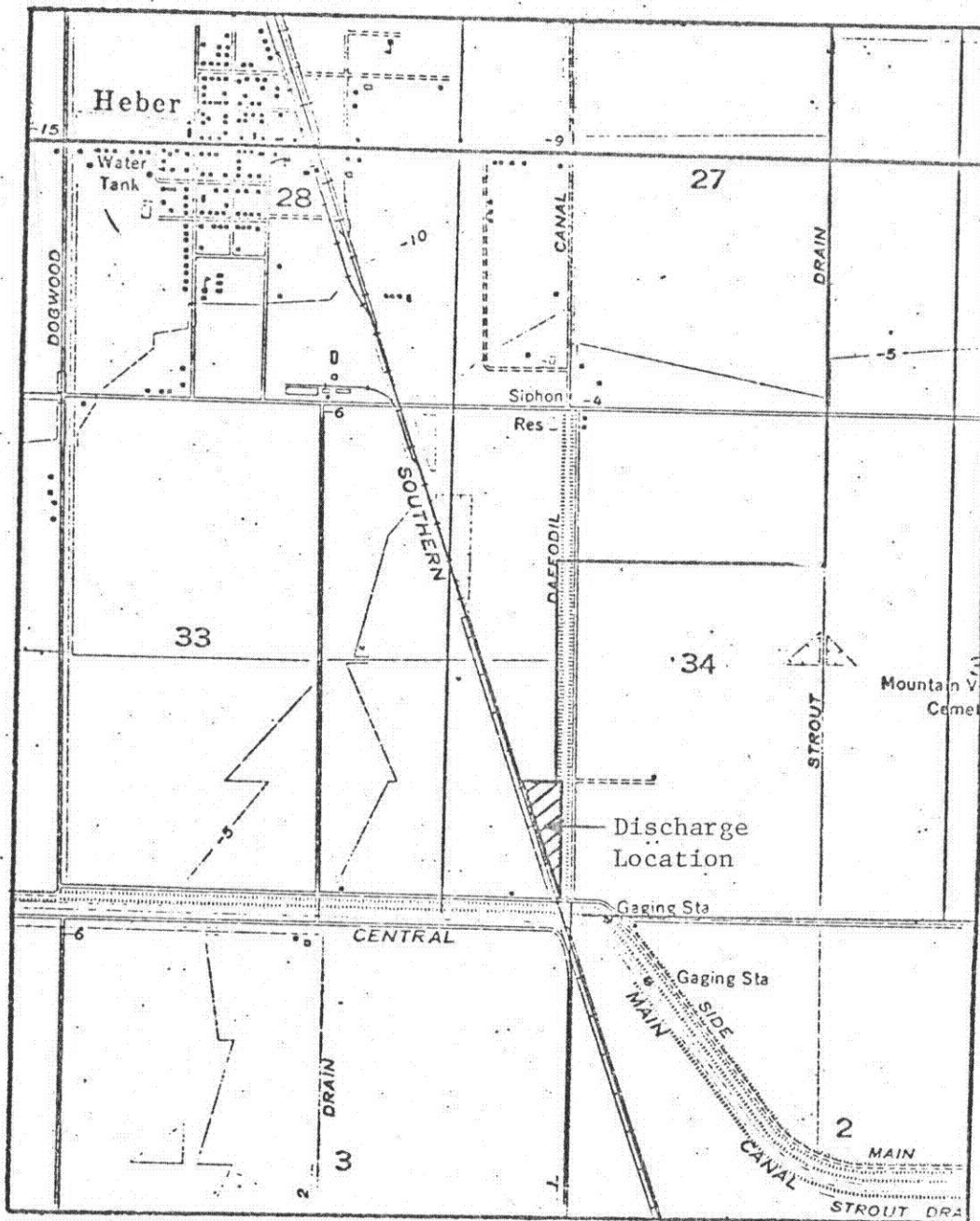
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-271 Highway 111, Suite 21
Palm Desert, CA 92260

ORDERED BY:


Executive Officer

March 25, 1981

Date



Scale:
1" = 2,000'

SITE MAP
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
HEBER 50 MEGAWATT GEOTHERMAL GENERATING STATION
South of Heber - Imperial County
Discharge Location: Evaporation Basins
Section 34, T16S, R14E, SBB&M
USGS Heber 7.5 min. Topographic Map