

State of California  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION

ORDER NO. 97-102  
NPDES NO. CA0055786

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
WESTERN ATLAS INC.  
(Corporate Headquarters, Beverly Hills)

The California Regional Water Quality Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), finds:

1. Western Atlas Inc. (Formerly Litton Industries, Inc.) maintains its corporate headquarters at 360 North Crescent Drive, Beverly Hills, California, and discharges wastewater under waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. 93-031, adopted by this Regional Board on May 10, 1993.
2. With the implementation of the Watershed Management Approach, waste discharge requirements and NPDES permit are revised and reissued for discharges of wastes to surface waters pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §122.21(d) and California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 23 §2235.4.
3. Western Atlas Inc., discharges up to 10,000 gallons per day of wastewater consisting of the following:

Discharge Serial No. 001 - cooling tower bleed-off, decorative fountain filter bakwash, water softener, regenerating wastes, and occasionally boiler clean-up wastes, all collected in the storm drain sump.

Discharge Serial No. 002 - groundwater seepage from a dewatering system at the parking structure collected in a separate sump.

The wastes from both sumps are pumped to the storm drain at Crescent Drive (Latitude: 34°4'40"; Longitude: 118°24'22") and thence to Ballona Creek, a water of the United States, at Madison Avenue above the estuary. The cooling tower system is treated by ozone. Chlorine is added to the fountain water. The wastewater traverses about five miles of lined storm drain to Ballona Creek and an additional 3 miles along the lined portion of the Ballona Creek flood control channel prior to reaching the estuary. The discharge concentration allowed for residual chlorine at the point of discharge (0.5 mg/l) to the storm drain will dissipate by the time the wastewater reaches areas of beneficial use within Ballona Creek.

(lead, copper, zinc, cadmium, and silver), debris, pathogens, oil and grease, PAHs, and chlordane.

9. The 1996 State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) *Water Quality Assessment Report*<sup>1</sup> identified the water quality condition of waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region. Beneficial uses, including aquatic life, contact and noncontact water recreation, coastal salt marsh, freshwater riparian habitat, wetlands, and fish consumption of certain water bodies specifically identified in these assessments were determined to be either impaired or threatened to be impaired:

Ballona Creek (Hydrologic Unit 405.15) is impaired because of significant development in demand for housing and business with coastal amenities. Two of the many consequences associated with human inhabitation are natural habitat replacement/destruction, and increased pollutant loading to waterbodies within the subwatershed.

- a. **Habitat Degradation:** At one time, the Ballona Wetland Complex was 2,100 acres of coastal estuary and wetlands. With the developments, the Wetland Complex has been reduced to approximately 430 acres. Most part of Ballona Wetlands are degraded. The degraded wetlands support less species and less productive. Many species characteristic of pristine salt marshes in the area are lacking. Additional adverse impacts include the introduction of non-native plants and animals, debris and bacteria.
  - b. **Elevated Contaminant Levels and Toxicity:** Data collected over the years have shown contaminants are accumulated in the estuarine area of the watershed both in sediments and in marine organisms. The elevated contaminants include lead, zinc, cadmium, chlordane, trash and debris. Studies conducted by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project in 1993 and 1995 found that both dry-weather and wet-weather runoffs are toxic to marine organisms. Tests conducted on sediment samples also exhibited toxic effects.
10. Effluent limitations and toxic and effluent standards established pursuant to §301, 302, 304, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, are applicable to discharges under this Order.
11. The requirements contained in this Order were established by considering and are consistent with all the water quality control policies, plans, and regulations mentioned above and will protect and maintain the beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

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<sup>1</sup> California 305(b) Report on Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, August 1996.

12. The issuance of waste discharge requirements and NPDES permit for this discharge is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with §21100, et. seq.), Division 13, Public Resources Code, pursuant to Water Code §13389.

The Regional Board has notified interested agencies, parties and persons of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.

The Regional Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharges to be regulated under this Order and to the tentative requirements.

This Order shall serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit pursuant to §402 of the Clean Water Act as amended and shall take effect at the end of ten days from the date of its adoption provided the Regional Administrator of the USEPA, Region 9, has no objections.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Western Atlas Inc., in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, and provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

1. The discharge of wastes other than cooling tower bleed-off, decorative fountain filter backwash, water softener regenerating wastes, and groundwater seepage, as proposed, is prohibited.
2. The purposeful or knowing discharge of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) to waters of the State is prohibited.
3. The discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent or high level radiological wastes is prohibited.

**B. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The discharge of an effluent in excess of the following limitations is prohibited:

1. Conventional and Nonconventional Pollutants

| <u>Constituents</u>    | <u>Units</u>           | <u>Discharge Limitations</u> |                      |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
|                        |                        | <u>Monthly Average</u>       | <u>Daily Maximum</u> |
| Total Suspended Solids | mg/L                   | 50                           | 150                  |
|                        | lbs/day <sup>[1]</sup> | 4                            | 12                   |
| Turbidity              | NTUL                   | 50                           | 150                  |
| BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C  | mg/L                   | 20                           | 30                   |
|                        | lbs/day <sup>[1]</sup> | 1.7                          | 2.6                  |
| Oil and Grease         | mg/L                   | 10                           | 15                   |
|                        | lbs/day <sup>[1]</sup> | 0.8                          | 1.2                  |
| Settleable Solids      | ml/L                   | 0.1                          | 0.3                  |
| Sulfides               | mg/L                   | ---                          | 1.0                  |
| Residual Chlorine      | mg/L                   | ---                          | 0.5                  |

[1] Based on the maximum flow of 10,000 gallons per day (gpd).

2. Toxic Pollutants

| <u>Constituents</u>               | <u>Units</u> | <u>Discharge Limitations</u><br><u>Daily Maximum</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Cadmium                           | µg/L         | 10   |
| Chromium                          | µg/L         | 50   |
| Copper                            | µg/L         | 1000   |
| Lead                              | µg/L         | 50   |
| Silver                            | µg/L         | 50   |
| Zinc                              | mg/L         | 5  |
| Methy Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) | µg/L         | 35   |

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3. The pH of the discharge shall at all times be within the range of 6.0 and 9.0.
  4. The temperature of the discharge shall not exceed 100°F.

**C. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

1. The discharge shall not cause the following to be present in receiving waters:
  - a) Toxic pollutants at concentrations that will bioaccumulate in aquatic life to levels that are harmful to aquatic life or human health;
  - b) Biostimulatory substances at concentrations that promote aquatic growth to the extent that such growth causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses;
  - c) Chemical substances in amounts that adversely affect any designated beneficial use;
  - d) Visible floating materials, including solids, liquids, foams, and scum;
  - e) Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the receiving water or on objects in the water;
  - f) Suspended or settleable materials in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses; and,
  - g) Taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that alter the natural tastes or odor and/or color of fish, shellfish, or other edible aquatic resources, cause nuisance, or adversely affect beneficial uses.
  - h) Substances that result in increases of BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C in receiving waters that adversely affect beneficial uses;
2. The discharge shall not cause the following to occur in the receiving waters:
  - a) The dissolved oxygen to be depressed below 5 mg/L;
  - b) The pH to be depressed below 6.5 or raised above 8.5, and the ambient pH levels to be changed more than 0.5 units from natural conditions for inland waters;

- c) The temperature at any time or place and within any given 24-hour period to be altered by more than 5°F above natural temperature; but at no time be raised above 80°F;
  - d) The turbidity to increase to the extent that such an increase causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses. Such increase shall not exceed 20% and 10% when the natural turbidity is 50 NTU or less and over 50 NTU, respectively;
  - e) Residual chlorine at concentrations that persist in receiving waters at any concentration that impairs beneficial uses; and,
  - f) Any individual pesticide or combination of pesticides in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses of the receiving waters nor increase pesticide concentration in bottom sediments or aquatic life.
3. The discharge shall not alter the color, create a visual contrast with the natural appearance nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters.
  4. The discharge shall not degrade surface water communities including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species.
  5. The discharge shall not damage, discolor, nor cause formation of sludge deposits on flood control structures or facilities.
  6. The discharge shall not cause problems associated with breeding of mosquitos, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests.

#### D. PROVISIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

1. This Order includes the attached *Standard Provisions and General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (Standard Provisions)* [Attachment N]. If there is any conflict between provisions stated in this Order and the attached *Standard Provisions*, the provisions in this Order prevail.
2. This Order includes the attached *Monitoring and Reporting Program*. This program may be revised by the Executive Officer to implement the regional monitoring program. The Executive Officer may require the Discharger to participate in that regional monitoring program. If there is any conflict between provisions stated in the *Monitoring and Reporting Program* and the attached *Standard Provisions*, the provisions in the former prevail.

3. The Discharger shall maintain a copy of this Order at the waste disposal facility where it will be available at all times to operating personnel.
4. Prior to application, the discharger shall submit for Executive Officer's approval the list of chemicals and proprietary additives that may affect the discharge, including rates/quantities of application, compositions, characteristics, and material safety data sheets, if any.
5. Oil or oily materials, chemicals, refuse, or other materials that may cause pollution in storm water and/or urban runoff shall not be stored or deposited in areas where they may be picked up by rainfall/urban runoff and discharged to surface waters. Any spill of such materials shall be contained, removed and cleaned immediately.
6. The discharger must comply with the lawful requirements of the county, city or municipality, drainage districts, and other local agencies where the discharge is located regarding discharges of storm water to the storm drain systems or other water courses under the jurisdiction of these entities/agencies, including applicable requirements in the storm water management programs developed to comply with the NPDES permits issued by this Regional Board to these entities/agencies.
7. This Order may be modified, revoked, reissued, or terminated pursuant to 40 CFR §122, 124 and 125.

**E. EXPIRATION DATE**

This Order expires on June 10, 2002.

Pursuant to 40 CFR §122.21(d) and CCR Title 23 §2235.4, the Discharger must file a Report of Waste Discharge not later than 180 days before the expiration date of this Order as application for the reissuance of waste discharge requirements.

**F. RESCISSION**

Except for enforcement purposes, Order No. 93-031, adopted by this Regional Board on May 10, 1993, is hereby rescinded.

I, Dennis A. Dickerson, 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, Los Angeles Region, on July 21, 1997.



DENNIS A. DICKERSON  
Executive Officer

be submitted in the report.

6. The report of analyses shall specify the USEPA analytical method used and its Method Detection Limit (MDL). For the purpose of reporting compliance with effluent limitations, and receiving water limitations, analytical data shall be reported with an actual numerical value or "nondetected (ND)" with the MDL indicated for the analytical method used.
7. The method detection limits must be lower than the permit limits established for a given parameter, unless the Discharger can demonstrate that a particular detection limit is not attainable and obtains an approval for a higher detection limit from the Executive Officer. At least once a year, the discharger shall submit a list of the analytical methods employed for each test and associated laboratory quality assurance/quality control procedures.
8. The Discharger shall submit an annual report containing a discussion of the previous year's effluent and receiving water monitoring data, as well as graphical and tabular summaries of the data. The data shall be submitted to the Regional Board on hard copy and on 3 1/2" or 5 1/4" computer diskette. The submitted data must be IBM compatible, preferably using Lotus 123, dbase, or Quattro Pro software.

In the Annual Report, the Discharger shall discuss the compliance record and the corrective actions taken or planned which may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with waste discharge requirements. This annual report is due by March 1 of each year following the calendar year of data collection.

**B. SUBMITTAL OF MONITORING AND ANNUAL REPORTS**

1. All Monitoring and Annual Reports must be addressed to the Regional Board, Attention: Data and Information Management Unit. Reference the reports to Compliance File No. CI-5656 to facilitate routing to the appropriate staff and file.

2. Database Management System

The Regional Board is developing a database management system that when it becomes fully operational may require the Discharger to submit the Monitoring and Annual Reports electronically.

**C. EFFLUENT MONITORING PROGRAM**

A sampling station shall be established for each point of discharge and shall be located where representative samples of the effluent can be obtained. The location of the sampling station shall be submitted to the Executive Officer. Any changes in sampling



location shall be approved by the Executive Officer.

The following shall constitute the effluent monitoring program:

| <u>Constituents</u>               | <u>Units</u> | <u>Type of Sample</u> | <u>Minimum Frequency of analysis</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Total waste flow <sup>(1)</sup>   | gal/day      | —                     | monthly                              |
| Total Suspended Solids            | mg/L         | grab                  | quarterly                            |
| Turbidity                         | NTU          | grab                  | quarterly                            |
| BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C             | mg/L         | grab                  | quarterly                            |
| Oil and Grease                    | mg/L         | grab                  | quarterly                            |
| Settleable Solids                 | ml/L         | grab                  | quarterly                            |
| Residual Chlorine                 | mg/L         | grab                  | quarterly                            |
| Cadmium                           | µg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |
| Chromium                          | µg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |
| Copper                            | µg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |
| Lead                              | µg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |
| Silver                            | µg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |
| Zinc                              | mg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |
| Methy Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) | µg/L         | grab                  | annually                             |

[1] Actual observed/monitored (not the maximum permitted) flow shall be reported.

D. REGIONAL MONITORING PROGRAM

Pursuant to 40 CFR §122.41(j) and §122.48(b), the monitoring program for a discharge receiving an NPDES permit must determine compliance with NPDES permit terms and conditions, and demonstrate that water quality standards are met.

Since compliance effluent monitoring focuses only on the quality of the discharge, it is not designed to assess the impact of the discharge on the receiving water in combination with other point source discharges and other sources of pollution (e.g., nonpoint source runoff, aerial fallout) nor it is designed to evaluate the current status of important ecological resources on a regional basis. To support the Watershed Approach, a watershed-wide Regional Monitoring Program will be designed for the Ballona Creek sub-watershed, with the input of stakeholders, to determine: compliance with receiving water objectives, trends in surface water quality, impacts to beneficial uses, and data needs for modeling contaminants of concern.

Once this Regional Monitoring Program has been designed, the Executive Officer may require the Discharger to participate in the Regional Program and/or revise the existing Monitoring Program.

- E. The Discharger shall notify the Executive Officer in writing prior to use of any chemicals, such as corrosion additives, that pass through the discharge which may be toxic to humans and aquatic life. Such notification shall include:
1. Name and general composition of the chemical;
  2. Frequency of use;
  3. Quantities to be used;
  4. Proposed discharge concentrations; and
  5. USEPA registration number, if any.

No discharge of such chemical shall be made prior to the Executive Officer's approval.

- F. If wastes (associated with the discharge covered under this permit) are transported offsite during the reporting period, the following shall be reported in the monitoring report:
1. Type of wastes and quantity of each type;
  2. Name and address of the waste hauler (or the method of transport, if other than hauling); and
  3. Location of the final point(s) of disposal of the wastes.

If no wastes are transported offsite during the reporting period, a statement to that effect shall be submitted.

Ordered by:



DENNIS A. DICKERSON  
Executive Officer

July 21, 1997