

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION**

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**ORDER NUMBER R4-2024-0182**

**NPDES NUMBER CA0110175**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS AND  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT  
FOR THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

The following Permittee is subject to state waste discharge requirements (WDRs) as set forth in this Order:

**Table 1. Permittee Information**

<b>Permittee</b>	United States Navy (Navy or Permittee)
<b>Name of Facility</b>	San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility or SCI WWTP)
<b>Facility Address</b>	Navy Auxiliary Landing Field San Clemente Island Los Angeles County, California

**Table 2. Discharge Location**

<b>Discharge Point</b>	<b>Effluent Description</b>	<b>Discharge Point Description</b>	<b>Receiving Water</b>
002	Secondary and Tertiary Treated Wastewater	250 feet east of the Facility on the northeast end of the island approximately 1,000 feet south of Wilson Cove	Pacific Ocean

**Table 3. Administrative Information**

This Order was adopted on:	April 25, 2024
This Order shall become effective on:	July 1, 2024
This Order shall expire on:	June 30, 2029
The Permittee shall file a Report of Waste Discharge as an application for reissuance of WDRs in accordance with title 23, California Code of Regulations, and an application for reissuance of an NPDES permit no later than:	180 days prior to the Order expiration date

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9 and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region have classified this discharge as follows:	Minor
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I, Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of the Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on the date indicated above.

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for Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer

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## 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Information describing the San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility or SCI WWTP) is summarized on the cover page and in sections 1 and 2 of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F). Section 1 of the Fact Sheet also includes information regarding the Facility's permit application.

## 2. FINDINGS

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

- 2.1. Legal Authorities.** This Order serves as waste discharge requirements (WDRs) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (Water Code) (commencing with section 13260). This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit authorizing the Permittee to discharge into waters of the United States at the discharge location described in Table 2 subject to the WDRs in this Order.
- 2.2. Background and Rationale for Requirements.** The Los Angeles Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the application, through monitoring and reporting programs, and other available information. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F), which contains background information and rationale for the requirements in this Order, is hereby incorporated into and constitutes Findings for this Order. Attachments A through E, and G through I are also incorporated into this Order.
- 2.3. Provisions and Requirements Implementing the California State Law.** The provisions and requirements implementing the California State law are not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of these provisions/requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.
- 2.4. Notification of Interested Parties.** The Los Angeles Water Board has notified the Permittee and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of the notification are provided in the Fact Sheet.
- 2.5. Consideration of Public Comment.** The Los Angeles Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order Number R4-2018-0156 is terminated upon the effective date of this Order except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the

provisions of the CWA and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Permittee shall comply with the requirements in this Order. This action in no way prevents the Los Angeles Water Board from taking enforcement action for past violations of the previous Order.

### 3. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

- 3.1. The discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent or high-level radioactive waste into the ocean is prohibited.
- 3.2. Waste shall not be discharged to a designated Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), except as provided in chapter III.E of the Ocean Plan (see section 2.5 of the Fact Sheet).
- 3.3. Pipeline discharge of sludge to the ocean is prohibited by federal law. The discharge of municipal and industrial waste sludge directly to the ocean, or into a waste stream that discharges to the ocean, is prohibited by the California Ocean Plan. The discharge of sludge digester supernatant directly to the ocean, or to a waste stream that discharges to the ocean without further treatment, is prohibited.
- 3.4. The bypassing of untreated wastes containing concentrations of pollutants in excess of those of Table 3 or Table 4 of the Ocean Plan to the ocean is prohibited.
- 3.5. The bypass or overflow of untreated wastewater or wastes to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited, except as allowed in Standard Provision 1.7 of Attachment D, Standard Provisions.
- 3.6. Discharge of treated wastewater at a location different from that described in this Order is prohibited.
- 3.7. The monthly average daily flow (effluent discharge) shall not exceed 0.025 MGD.
- 3.8. The discharge of trash to surface waters of the State or the deposition of trash where it may be discharged into surface waters of the State is prohibited.
- 3.9. The Permittee shall not cause degradation of any water body, except as consistent with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 68-16, *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Of Waters In California*.
- 3.10. The treatment or disposal of wastes from the Facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), of the Water Code.
- 3.11. The discharge of any toxic substances in concentrations that are toxic to, or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, animal, plant, or aquatic life is prohibited.
- 3.12. The discharge of any waste resulting from the combustion of toxic or hazardous wastes to any waste stream that ultimately discharges to waters of the United States is prohibited.

#### **4. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS, PERFORMANCE GOALS, AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

##### **4.1. Effluent Limitations and Performance Goals – Discharge Point 002**

Effluent limitations for Discharge Point 002 are specified below.

The performance goals for Discharge Point 002 are prescribed below in this Order. Performance goals for the SCI WWTP are based upon actual performance data, test method minimum levels (MLs), Ocean Plan water quality objectives (WQOs), and effluent limitations, and are specified only as an indication of the treatment efficiency of the Facility. (Refer to Fact Sheet section 5). Performance goals are not enforceable values but are used to evaluate the Facility's treatment efficiency. The Permittee shall maintain, if not improve, the effluent quality at or below the performance goal concentrations. Any two consecutive exceedances of a single performance goal shall trigger an investigation into the cause of the exceedance. If the exceedance persists in three successive monitoring periods, the Permittee shall submit a written report to the Los Angeles Water Board on the nature of the exceedance, the results of the investigation including the cause of the exceedance, the corrective actions taken, any proposed corrective measures, and a timetable for implementation, if necessary.

##### **4.1.1. Final Effluent Limitations and Performance Goals – Discharge Point 002**

The Permittee shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point 002, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as described in the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP).



**Table 4. Final Effluent Limitations and Performance Goals for Discharge Point 002**

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Average Monthly Effluent Limitation</b>	<b>Average Weekly Effluent Limitation</b>	<b>Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation</b>	<b>Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation</b>	<b>Average Monthly Performance Goal</b>	<b>Notes</b>
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--	a
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	lbs/day	6.3	9.4	19	--	--	b
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--	a
TSS	lbs/day	6.3	9.4	19	--	--	b
Oil and Grease (O&G)	mg/L	25	40	--	75	--	a, c
O&G	lbs/day	5.2	8.3	--	15	--	b, c
Settleable Solids	mL/L	1.0	1.5	--	3.0	--	a, c
Turbidity	NTU	75	100	--	225	--	a, c
Arsenic	µg/L	--	--	--	--	13.5	d
Cadmium	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.4	d
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.25	d
Copper	µg/L	--	--	--	--	30	d
Lead	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.4	d
Mercury	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.014	d
Nickel	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.1	d

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limitation	Average Weekly Effluent Limitation	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly Performance Goal	Notes
Selenium	µg/L	--	--	--	--	1.3	d
Silver	µg/L	--	--	--	--	1.0	d
Zinc	µg/L	--	--	--	--	128	d
Cyanide	µg/L	--	--	--	--	17	--
Ammonia as Nitrogen	mg/L	--	--	--	--	21	--
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.274	--	0.1	8.2	--	a, c, e, h
Total Residual Chlorine	lbs/day	0.06		0.021	1.7	--	b
Chronic Toxicity <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> Germination and Growth	Pass or Fail [Test of Significant Toxicity (TST)]	--	--	Pass	--	--	a, f
Phenolic Compounds (non-chlorinated)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	g
Phenolic Compounds (chlorinated)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	g
Endosulfan	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.05	g
Endrin	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.05	--
Hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.025	g

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limitation	Average Weekly Effluent Limitation	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly Performance Goal	Notes
Radioactivity, Gross alpha	pCi/L	--	--	--	--	8.0	--
Radioactivity, Gross beta	pCi/L	--	--	--	--	13	--
Acrolein	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Antimony	µg/L	--	--	--	--	1.4	d
Bis(2-chloroethoxy) methane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Chlorobenzene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Chromium (III)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.96	d
Di-n-butyl phthalate	µg/L	--	--	--	--	50	--
Dichlorobenzenes	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	g
Diethyl phthalate	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Dimethyl phthalate	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
4,6-dinitro-2-methylphenol	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
2,4-dinitrophenol	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	1.0	--

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limitation	Average Weekly Effluent Limitation	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly Performance Goal	Notes
Fluoranthene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Nitrobenzene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Thallium	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	d
Toluene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Tributyltin	ng/L	--	--	--	--	14.5	--
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Acrylonitrile	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Aldrin	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.025	--
Benzene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Benzidine	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Beryllium	µg/L	--	--	--	--	2.5	d
Bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Carbon tetrachloride	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Chlordane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.5	g

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limitation	Average Weekly Effluent Limitation	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly Performance Goal	Notes
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	60	--
Chloroform	µg/L	--	--	--	--	120	--
Dichlorodiphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.25	g
1,4-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
3,3-dichlorobenzidine	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
1,2-dichloroethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
1,1-dichloroethylene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	120	--
Dichloromethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
1,3-dichloropropene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
Dieldrin	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.05	--
2,4-dinitrotoluene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
1,2-diphenylhydrazine	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Halomethanes	µg/L	--	--	--	--	60	g
Heptachlor	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.05	--
Heptachlor epoxide	µg/L	--	--	--	--	0.05	--

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limitation	Average Weekly Effluent Limitation	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly Performance Goal	Notes
Hexachlorobenzene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Hexachlorobutadiene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Hexachloroethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Isophorone	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
N-Nitrosodi-N-propylamine	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	--
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine	µg/L	--	--	--	--	5.0	--
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)	µg/L	--	--	--	--	25	g
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) as aroclors	µg/L	--	--	--	--	2.5	g
Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) Equivalents	pg/L	0.53	--	--	--	--	a, e, g
TCDD Equivalents	lbs/day	1.1x 10 <sup>-10</sup>	--	--	--	--	b
1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limitation	Average Weekly Effluent Limitation	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly Performance Goal	Notes
Toxaphene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	2.5	--
Trichloroethylene	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
1,1,2-trichloroethane	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--
2,4,6-trichlorophenol	µg/L	--	--	--	--	50	--
Vinyl Chloride	µg/L	--	--	--	--	10	--

**Footnotes for Table 4**

- a. The maximum daily, average weekly, and average monthly effluent limitations shall apply to flow-weighted 24-hour composite samples. They may apply to grab samples if the collection of composite samples for those constituents is not appropriate because of the instability of the constituents.
- b. The mass emission rates are calculated using 0.025 MGD, consistent with the water-quality based effluent limits in the previous permit: lbs/day = 0.00834 x C<sub>e</sub> (effluent concentration in µg/L) x Q (flow rate in MGD).
- c. The instantaneous maximum effluent limitations shall apply to grab samples.
- d. Values are expressed as total recoverable concentrations.
- e. The minimum dilution ratio used to calculate effluent limitations for all nonconventional and toxic pollutants for Discharge Point 002 is 136:1 (i.e., 136-parts seawater to one-part effluent).
- f. The Chronic Toxicity effluent limitation is protective of both the numeric acute and chronic toxicity Ocean Plan water quality objectives. The effluent limitation will be implemented using *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms* (EPA/600/R-95/136, 1995), current USEPA guidance in the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Test of Significant Toxicity Implementation Document* (EPA 833-R-10-003, June 2010) ([http://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/wet\\_final\\_tst\\_implementation2010.pdf](http://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/wet_final_tst_implementation2010.pdf)) and *EPA Regions 8, 9, and 10, Toxicity Training Tool* (January 2010).
- g. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definitions of terms.

h. These total chlorine residual effluent limitations shall only apply to continuous discharges exceeding two hours. For intermittent discharges not exceeding two hours, effluent limitations for total chlorine residual shall be determined using the procedures outlined in section III.C.4.a of the Ocean Plan, a minimum dilution ratio of 136:1, the water quality objectives in Table 3 of the Ocean Plan, and the following equation:

$$\text{Log } y = -0.43(\text{log } x) + 1.8$$

Where y = the water quality objective (in  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) to apply when chlorine is being discharged  
x = duration of uninterrupted chlorine discharge in minutes.

**End of Footnotes for Table 4**



#### 4.1.2. Other Effluent Limitations:

- a. Percent Removal:** The average monthly percent removal of BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C and TSS shall not be less than 85 percent. The removal efficiency final effluent limitation does not apply in situations where the concentration of the influent wastewater is too low to meet the 85% removal, per 40 CFR 133.103(d), so long as the Discharger satisfactorily demonstrates that (1) the treatment works is consistently meeting or will consistently meet, the final effluent limitations for BOD and TSS; (2) if the Discharger would have to achieve significantly more stringent limitations than would otherwise be required by the concentration-based standards to meet the percent removal requirements; and (3) the less concentrated influent is not the result of excessive inflow and infiltration (I/I). The wastewater will be considered the result of excessive I/I if the total flow to the FOTW (i.e., wastewater plus I/I) is less than 275 gallons per capita per day and is consistent with the definition in 40 CFR 35.2005(b)(16). This demonstration must be made in the monitoring reports.
- b. Temperature:** The temperature of wastes discharged shall not exceed 100°F.
- c. pH:** The effluent values for pH shall be maintained within the limits of 6.0 standard units and 9.0 standard units at all times.
- d. Radioactivity:** Not to exceed limits specified in title 17, division 1, chapter 5, subchapter 4, group 3, article 3, section 30253 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Reference to section 30253 is prospective, including future changes to any incorporated provisions of federal law, as the changes take effect.
- e. Waste discharged to the ocean must be essentially free of:**
  - i. Material that is floatable or will become floatable upon discharge.
  - ii. Settleable material or substances that may form sediments which will degrade benthic communities or other aquatic life.
  - iii. Substances that will accumulate to toxic levels in marine waters, sediments or biota.
  - iv. Substances that significantly decrease the natural light to benthic communities and other marine life.
  - v. Materials that result in aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the ocean surface.

#### 4.1.3. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

#### 4.2. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

### 4.3. Recycling Specifications

The Permittee shall investigate the feasibility of recycling, conservation, and/or alternative disposal methods for wastewater (such as groundwater injection), and/or capture and treatment of dry-weather urban runoff and stormwater on a permissive basis for beneficial reuse. The Permittee shall submit a feasibility study as part of the submittal of the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for the next permit renewal.

## 5. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

The Permittee shall not cause a violation of the following water quality objectives. Compliance with these water quality objectives shall be determined by samples collected at stations outside the zone of initial dilution as specified in the MRP.

### 5.1. Surface Water Limitations

#### 5.1.1. Bacterial Characteristics

##### a. State/Regional Water Contact Standards

Within a zone bounded by the shoreline and a distance of 1,000 feet from the shoreline or the 30-foot depth contour, whichever is further from the shoreline, and in areas outside this zone used for water contact sports, as determined by the Los Angeles Water Board (i.e., waters designated as REC-1), but including all kelp beds, the following bacterial objectives shall be maintained throughout the water column.

- i. **Fecal coliform:** A 30-day geometric mean (GM) of fecal coliform density not to exceed 200 per 100 milliliters (mL), calculated based on the five most recent samples from each site, and a single sample maximum (SSM) not to exceed 400 per 100 mL.
- ii. **Enterococci:** A six-week rolling GM of *Enterococci* not to exceed 30 colony forming units (CFU) or most probable number (MPN) per 100 mL, calculated weekly, and a statistical threshold value (STV) of 110 CFU/100 mL not to be exceeded by more than 10 percent of the samples collected in a calendar month, calculated in a static manner. USEPA recommends using USEPA Method 1600 or other equivalent method to measure culturable *Enterococci*.

The Initial Dilution Zone for any wastewater outfall shall be excluded from designation as kelp beds for purposes of bacterial standards. Adventitious assemblages of kelp plants on waste discharge structures (e.g., outfall pipes and diffusers) do not constitute kelp beds for purposes of bacterial standards.

##### b. Shellfish Harvesting Standards

At all areas where shellfish may be harvested for human consumption, as determined by the Los Angeles Water Board, the following bacterial objectives shall be maintained throughout the water column: The

median total coliform density for any 6-month period shall not exceed 70 per 100 mL, and not more than 10 percent of the samples shall exceed 230 per 100 mL for any six-month period.

### **5.1.2. Physical Characteristics**

The waste discharged shall not:

- a. result in floating particulates and oil and grease to be visible;
- b. cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration on the ocean surface;
- c. significantly reduce the transmittance of natural light at any point outside the initial dilution zone;
- d. change the rate of deposition of inert solids and the characteristics of inert solids in ocean sediments such that benthic communities are degraded; and
- e. cause trash to be present in ocean waters, along shorelines or adjacent areas in amounts that adversely affect beneficial uses or cause nuisance.

### **5.1.3. Chemical Characteristics**

The waste discharged shall not:

- a. cause the dissolved oxygen concentration at any time to be depressed more than 10 percent from that which occurs naturally, as a result of the discharge of oxygen demanding waste;
- b. change the pH of the receiving waters at any time more than 0.2 units from that which occurs naturally;
- c. cause the dissolved sulfide concentration of waters in and near sediments to be significantly increased above that present under natural conditions;
- d. cause concentration of substances (as set forth in Chapter II, Table 3 of the Ocean Plan) in marine sediments to be increased to levels that would degrade indigenous biota;
- e. cause the concentration of organic materials in marine sediments to be increased to levels that would degrade marine life;
- f. contain nutrients at levels that will cause objectionable aquatic growths or degrade indigenous biota;
- g. cause total chlorine residual to persist in the receiving water at any concentration that causes impairment of beneficial uses;
- h. produce concentrations of substances in the receiving water that are toxic to or cause detrimental physiological responses, in human, animal, or aquatic life; and

- i. contain individual pesticides or combinations of pesticides in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.

#### **5.1.4. Biological Characteristics**

The waste discharged shall not:

- a. degrade marine communities, including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species;
- b. alter the natural taste, odor, and color of fish, shellfish, or other marine resources used for human consumption;
- c. cause the concentration of organic materials in fish, shellfish or other marine resources used for human consumption to bioaccumulate to levels that are harmful to human health; and
- d. contain substances that result in biochemical oxygen demand that adversely affects the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

#### **5.1.5. Radioactivity**

Discharge of radioactive waste shall not degrade marine life.

### **5.2. Groundwater Limitations – Not Applicable**

## **6. PROVISIONS**

### **6.1. Standard Provisions**

- 6.1.1. The Permittee shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D to this Order.
- 6.1.2. **Los Angeles Water Board Standard Provisions.** The Permittee shall comply with the following provisions. If there is any conflict, duplication, or overlap between provisions specified by this Order, the more stringent provision shall apply:
  - a. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of pollutants shall create pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined by section 13050 of the Water Code.
  - b. Odors, vectors, and other nuisances of sewage or sludge origin beyond the limits of the treatment plant site or the sewage collection system due to improper operation of facilities (such as failure to implement appropriate best management practices) and/or spills, bypass, or overflow of sewage or sludge, as determined by the Los Angeles Water Board, are prohibited.
  - c. All facilities used for collection, transport, treatment, or disposal of wastes shall be adequately protected against damage resulting from overflow, washout, or inundation from a storm or flood having a 1-percent chance of occurring in a 24-hour period in any given year.

- d. Collection, treatment, and disposal systems shall be operated in a manner that precludes or impedes public contact with wastewater.
- e. Collected screenings, sludges, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board.
- f. The provisions of this Order are severable. If any provision of this Order or the application of any provision of this Order is found invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected.
- g. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties established pursuant to any applicable state law or regulation under authority preserved by section 510 of the CWA.
- h. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the Permittee is or may be subject to under section 311 of the CWA, related to oil and hazardous substances liability.
- i. The Permittee shall comply with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties, drainage districts, and other local agencies regarding discharges of stormwater to storm drain systems or other water courses under their jurisdiction, including applicable requirements in municipal stormwater management programs developed to comply with the NPDES permit(s) issued by the Los Angeles Water Board to local agencies.
- j. The Permittee shall comply with all applicable effluent limitations, national standards of performance, toxic effluent standards, and all federal regulations established pursuant to sections 301, 302, 303(d), 304, 306, 307, 316, 403, and 405 of the federal CWA and amendments thereto.
- k. These requirements do not exempt the Permittee from compliance with any other laws, regulations, or ordinances which may be applicable; they do not legalize this Facility; and they leave unaffected any further restraints on the disposal of wastes at this site which may be contained in other statutes or required by other agencies.
- l. The Permittee shall make diligent, proactive efforts to reduce Facility infrastructure vulnerability to current and future impacts resulting from climate change, including but not limited to extreme wet weather events, flooding, storm surges, and projected sea level rise when the facility is located near the ocean or discharges to the ocean.
- m. Oil or oily material, chemicals, refuse, or other polluting materials shall not be stored or deposited in areas where they may be picked up by rainfall and carried off the property and/or discharged to surface waters.

- Any such spill of such materials shall be contained and removed immediately.
- n. A copy of these waste discharge specifications shall be maintained at the discharge Facility and be available at all times to operating personnel.
  - o. If there is any storage of hazardous or toxic materials or hydrocarbons at this Facility and if the Facility is not manned at all times, a 24-hour emergency response telephone number shall be prominently posted where it can easily be read from the outside.
  - p. The Permittee shall file with the Los Angeles Water Board a report of waste discharge at least 120 days before making any proposed change in the character, location or volume of the discharge.
  - q. In the event of any change in name, ownership, or control of these waste disposal facilities, the Permittee shall notify the Los Angeles Water Board of such change and shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Los Angeles Water Board and USEPA, 30 days prior to taking effect.
  - r. The Permittee shall notify the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer in writing no later than 6 months prior to planned discharge of any chemical, other than the products previously reported to the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer, which may be toxic to aquatic life. Such notification shall include:
    - i. Name and general composition of the chemical,
    - ii. Frequency of use,
    - iii. Quantities to be used,
    - iv. Proposed discharge concentrations, and
    - v. USEPA registration number, if applicable.
  - s. Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from this Facility, may subject the Permittee to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Permittee to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities.
  - t. Water Code section 13385(h)(i) requires the Los Angeles Water Board to assess a mandatory minimum penalty of three-thousand dollars (\$3,000) for each serious violation. Pursuant to Water Code section 13385(h)(2), a "serious violation" is defined as any waste discharge that violates the effluent limitations contained in the applicable waste

discharge requirements for a Group II pollutant by 20 percent or more, or for a Group I pollutant by 40 percent or more. Appendix A in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) section 123.45 specifies the Group I and II pollutants. Pursuant to Water Code section 13385.1(a)(1), a “serious violation” is also defined as “a failure to file a discharge monitoring report required pursuant to section 13383 for each complete period of 30 days following the deadline for submitting the report, if the report is designed to ensure compliance with limitations contained in waste discharge requirements that contain effluent limitations.”

- u. Water Code section 13385(i) requires the Los Angeles Water Board to assess a mandatory minimum penalty of three-thousand dollars (\$3,000) for each violation whenever a person violates a waste discharge requirement effluent limitation four or more times in any period of six consecutive months, except that the requirement to assess the mandatory minimum penalty shall not be applicable to the first three non-serious violations within that time period.
- v. The CWC provides that any person who violates a waste discharge requirement or a provision of the CWC is subject to civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per day, \$10,000 per day, or \$25,000 per day of violation, or when the violation involves the discharge of pollutants, is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10 per gallon per day or \$25 per gallon per day of violation, or some combination thereof, depending on the violation, or upon the combination of violations. Violation of any of the provisions of the applicable statutes and regulations or any provisions of this Order may subject the violator to any of the penalties described herein, or any combinations thereof, at the discretion of the prosecuting authority; except that only one kind of penalty may be applied for each kind of violation.
- w. Pursuant to Water Code section 13385.1(d), for the purposes of section 13385.1 and subdivisions (h), (i), and (j) of section 13385, “effluent limitation” means a numeric restriction or a numerically expressed narrative restriction, on the quantity, discharge rate, concentration, or toxicity units of a pollutant or pollutants that may be discharged from an authorized location. An effluent limitation may be final or interim and may be expressed as a prohibition. An effluent limitation, for these purposes, does not include a receiving water limitation, a compliance schedule, or a best management practice.
- x. Water Code section 13387(e) provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this Order, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance, or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained in this Order is subject to a fine of not more than twenty-five thousand

dollars (\$25,000), by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16, 20, or 24 months, or by both that fine and imprisonment. For a subsequent conviction, such a person shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per day of violation, by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for two, three, or four years, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

- y. In the event the Permittee does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation of this Order that may endanger health or the environment, the Permittee shall notify the Manager of the Watershed Regulatory Section at the Los Angeles Water Board by telephone (213) 576-6616 or by fax at (213) 576-6660 within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing to the Los Angeles Water Board within five days, unless the Los Angeles Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall state the nature, time, duration, and cause of noncompliance, and shall describe the measures being taken to remedy the current noncompliance and prevent recurrence including, where applicable, a schedule of implementation. The written notification shall also be submitted via email with reference to CI-6432 to losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.

## **6.2. MRP Requirements**

The Permittee shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E of this Order.

## **6.3. Special Provisions**

### **6.3.1. Reopener Provisions**

- a. This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause, including, but not limited to:
- i. Violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;
  - ii. Obtaining this Order by misrepresentation, or by failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
  - iii. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.
- b. The filing of a request by the Permittee for an Order modification, revocation, issuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any condition of this Order.
- c. This Order may be reopened and modified to incorporate new limits based on future reasonable potential analyses to be conducted based



- on on-going monitoring data collected by the Permittee and evaluated by the Los Angeles Water Board.
- d. This Order may be reopened and modified to incorporate new mass emission limitations based on the current SCI WWTP design capacity, provided that the Permittee complies with the requirements in the SCI WWTP ASBS exclusion/exception, and the Permittee requests and conducts an antidegradation analysis to demonstrate that the change is warranted.
  - e. This Order may be modified, in accordance with the provisions set forth in 40 CFR parts 122 and 124 to incorporate requirements for the implementation of a watershed protection management approach.
  - f. The Los Angeles Water Board may modify, or revoke and reissue this Order if present or future investigations demonstrate that the discharge(s) governed by this Order will cause, have the potential to cause, or will contribute to adverse impacts on water quality or beneficial uses of the receiving waters.
  - g. This Order may also be modified, revoked, and reissued or terminated in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR sections 122.44, 122.62 to 122.64, 125.62, and 125.64. Causes for taking such actions include, but are not limited to, failure to comply with any condition of this Order, endangerment to human health or the environment resulting from the permitted activity, or acquisition of newly obtained information which would have justified the application of different conditions if known at the time of Order adoption and issuance.
  - h. This Order may be modified, in accordance with the provisions set forth in 40 CFR parts 122 to 124, to include new minimum levels (MLs).
  - i. If an applicable toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under section 307(a) of the CWA for a toxic pollutant and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in this Order, the Los Angeles Water Board may institute proceedings under these regulations to modify or revoke and reissue the Order to conform to the toxic effluent standard or prohibition.
  - j. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to section 303 of the CWA, or amendments, thereto, the Los Angeles Water Board will revise and modify this Order in accordance with such standards.
  - k. This Order may be reopened and modified to revise effluent limitations as a result of future *Water Quality Control Plan: Los Angeles Region Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura*

*Counties* (Basin Plan) amendments or the adoption or revision of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) associated with the receiving water.

- I. This Order may be reopened and modified to the extent necessary, to be consistent with new or revised policies, new or revised state-wide plans, new laws, or new regulations.
- m. This Order may be reopened and modified to incorporate the requirement to develop a pretreatment program pursuant to 40 CFR 403.8(a) if the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer determines that a pretreatment program is necessary to address the introduction of any pollutants into the Federally-owned Treatment Works (FOTW) or any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants in the discharge.

### **6.3.2. Special Studies, Technical Reports, and Additional Monitoring Requirements**

#### **a. Toxicity Reduction Requirements**

The Permittee shall prepare and submit a copy of the Permittee's initial investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) workplan in accordance with MRP section 5.8.

#### **b. ASBS Compliance**

The Permittee shall monitor the water quality (at the boundary of the exclusion zone which is within 1,000 feet of the initial point of discharge) at a single down-current location, at the first trapping normal depth, to demonstrate that natural water quality is not altered in the ASBS outside of the exclusion zone in comparison to an unaffected reference site. Further details are in Attachment E (MRP).

#### **c. Evaluation of Minimum Initial Dilution**

The Permittee shall submit an updated dilution study work plan to the Los Angeles Water Board for approval by the Executive Officer within 90 days of the effective date of this Order. The updated dilution study work plan must address the Los Angeles Water Board's November 8, 2019 comments on the Permittee's August 29, 2019 submission. (Refer to Fact Sheet section 1.4).

#### **d. Treatment Plant Capacity**

The Permittee shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board within 90 days after the "30-day (monthly) average" daily dry-weather flow equals or exceeds 75 percent of the design capacity of waste treatment and/or disposal facilities. The written report shall also be prepared prior to any proposed Facility changes or construction related to expansion on the island that could increase the daily flow rate to equal or exceed the design capacity. The Permittee's senior administrative officer shall transmit the report with a signed letter,

certifying that the Permittee's policy-making body is adequately informed of the report's contents. The report shall include the following:

- i. The average daily flow for the calendar month, the date on which the peak flow occurred, the rate of that peak flow, and the total flow for the day;
- ii. The Permittee's best estimate of when the monthly average daily dry-weather flow rate will equal or exceed the design capacity of the FOTW; and
- iii. A schedule for studies, design, and other steps needed to provide additional capacity for waste treatment and/or disposal facilities before the waste flow rate equals the capacity of present units.

This requirement is applicable in the case where the Facility has not reached 75 percent of capacity as of the effective date of this Order. If the Facility has reached 75 percent of capacity by that date but has not previously submitted such report, such a report shall be filed within 90 days of the issuance of this Order.

### **6.3.3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention**

#### **a. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) – Not Applicable**

#### **b. Spill Clean-up Contingency Plan (SCCP)**

Within 90 days of the effective date of this Order, the Permittee is required to update and submit an SCCP. The SCCP shall describe the activities and protocols to address the cleanup of spills, overflows, and bypasses of untreated or partially treated wastewater from the Permittee's collection system or treatment facilities. At a minimum, the SCCP shall include sections on spill clean-up and containment measures, public notifications, monitoring, nuisance and odor control measures, and the procedures to be carried out if floatable material is visible on the water surface near the discharge point or has been washed ashore. The Permittee shall review and amend the SCCP as appropriate after each spill from the Facility or in the service area of the Facility. The Permittee shall include a discussion in the annual summary report of any modifications to the SCCP and the application of the SCCP to all spills during the year.

#### **c. Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)**

Reporting protocols in MRP section 10.2.4 describe sample results that are to be reported as Detected but Not Quantified (DNQ) or Not Detected (ND). Definitions for a reported Minimum Level (ML) and Method Detection Limit (MDL) are provided in Attachment A. These reporting protocols and definitions are used in determining the need to conduct a PMP as follows:

The Permittee shall develop and conduct a PMP as further described below when there is evidence (e.g., sample results reported as DNQ when the effluent limitation is less than the ML; sample results from analytical methods more sensitive than those methods required by this Order; presence of whole effluent toxicity; health advisories for fish consumption; beach posting by the local health officer per CCR, title 17, section 7958 et seq.; or, results of benthic or aquatic organism tissue sampling) that a pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and either of the following is true:

- i. The concentration of the pollutant is reported as DNQ and the effluent limitation is less than the reported ML; or,
- ii. The concentration of the pollutant is reported as ND and the effluent limitation is less than the MDL, using definitions described in Attachment A and reporting protocols described in the MRP section 10.2.4.

The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a pollutant through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Los Angeles Water Board may consider cost-effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP), if required pursuant to Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

The PMP shall include, but not be limited to, the following actions and submittals acceptable to the Los Angeles Water Board:

- i. An annual review and semiannual monitoring of potential sources of the reportable pollutant(s), which may include fish tissue monitoring and other bio-uptake sampling.
- ii. Quarterly monitoring for the reportable pollutant(s) in the influent to the wastewater treatment system.
- iii. Submittal of a control strategy designed to proceed toward the goal of maintaining concentrations of the reportable pollutant(s) in the effluent at or below the effluent limitation.
- iv. Implementation of appropriate cost-effective control measures for the reportable pollutant(s), consistent with the control strategy; and
- v. An annual status report that shall be sent to the Los Angeles Water Board including:
  - 1) All PMP monitoring results for the previous year;

- 2) A list of potential sources of the reportable pollutant(s);
- 3) A summary of all actions undertaken pursuant to the control strategy; and
- 4) A description of actions to be taken in the following year.

#### **6.3.4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications**

- a. Certified Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator:** Wastewater treatment facilities subject to this Order shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certificates of appropriate grade pursuant to CCR, title 23, division 3, chapter 26 (Water Code sections 13625 –13633). All treatment plant operators shall also be trained in emergency response.
- b. Climate Change Effects Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan:** The Permittee shall consider the impacts of climate change as they affect the operation of the treatment facility due to flooding, wildfires, or other climate-related changes. The Permittee shall develop a Climate Change Effects Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan (Climate Change Plan) to assess and manage climate change-related effects that may impact the Facility's operation, water supplies, its collection system, and water quality, including any projected changes to the influent water temperature and pollutant concentrations, and beneficial uses. The Permittee shall also identify new or increased threats to the sewer system resulting from climate change that may impact desired levels of service in the next 50 years. The permittee shall project upgrades to existing assets or new infrastructure projects, and associated costs, necessary to meet desired levels of service. Climate change research also indicates the overarching driver of climate change is increased atmospheric carbon dioxide from human activity. The increased carbon dioxide emissions trigger changes to climatic patterns, which increase the intensity of sea level rise and coastal storm surges, lead to more erratic rainfall and local weather patterns, trigger a gradual warming of freshwater and ocean temperatures, and trigger changes to ocean water chemistry. As such, the Climate Change Plan shall also identify steps being taken or planned to address greenhouse gas emissions attributable to wastewater treatment plants, solids handling, and effluent discharge processes. For facilities that discharge to the ocean including desalination plants and advanced water treatment facilities, the Climate Change Plan shall also include the impacts from sea level rise. The Climate Change Plan is due 12 months after the effective date of this Order.
- c. Alternate Power Source:** The Permittee shall maintain in good working order a sufficient alternate power source for operating the wastewater treatment and disposal facilities. All equipment shall be located and secured to minimize failure due to moisture, liquid spray, flooding,

wildfires, and other physical phenomena. The alternate power source shall be designed to allow inspection and maintenance and shall provide for periodic testing. If such alternate power source is not in existence, the Permittee shall halt, reduce, or otherwise control all discharges upon the reduction, loss, or failure of the primary source of power. The Permittee shall provide standby or emergency power facilities and/or storage capacity or other means so that in the event of plant upset or outage due to power failure or other cause, discharge of raw or inadequately treated sewage does not occur. If the existing alternate power source is insufficient to prevent the discharge of raw or inadequately treated sewage, the Permittee shall develop a plan to provide additional back-up power to the Facility.

- d. Routine Maintenance and Operational Testing for Emergency Infrastructure/Equipment:** The Permittee shall perform monthly maintenance for all emergency infrastructure and equipment at the Facility, including but not limited to any bypass gate/weir in the headworks, alarm systems, backup pumps, standby power generators, and other critical emergency pump station components. The Permittee shall also perform monthly operational testing of emergency infrastructure and equipment if operation of such infrastructure and equipment does not result in a violation of this permit or cause a safety hazard. The Permittee shall update the Operation and Maintenance Plan to include monthly maintenance and operational testing of emergency infrastructure and equipment, and shall keep the records of all operational testing for emergency systems, repairs, and modifications.
- e. Outfalls:** The Permittee shall properly operate and maintain the outfall structure to ensure it (or its replacement, in whole or part) is in good working order and is consistent with or can achieve better mixing than 136:1 at Discharge Point 002.

### 6.3.5. Special Provisions for FOTWs

**a. Biosolids Disposal Requirements – Refer to Attachment H**

- i. Sewage sludge (including biosolids) generated at the Facility must be disposed of, treated, or applied to land in accordance with federal regulations contained in 40 CFR § 503. These requirements are enforceable by USEPA.
- ii. The Permittee is separately required to comply with the requirements in State Water Board Water Quality Order Number 2004-0012-DWQ, *General WDRs for the Discharge of Biosolids to Land for Use as a Soil Amendment in Agricultural, Silvicultural, Horticultural and Land Reclamation Activities (General Order)*, for those sites receiving the Permittee's biosolids which a regional water board has placed under this general order, and with the requirements in individual WDRs

issued by a regional water board for sites receiving the Permittee's biosolids.

- iii. The Permittee shall separately comply, if applicable, with WDRs issued by other regional water boards to which jurisdiction the biosolids are transported and applied.
- iv. The Permittee shall ensure that haulers transporting biosolids within its jurisdiction for treatment, storage, use, or disposal take all necessary measures to keep the biosolids contained. The Permittee shall maintain and have haulers adhere to a spill clean-up plan. Any spills shall be reported to USEPA and the Los Angeles Water Board or state agency in which the spill occurred. All trucks hauling biosolids shall be thoroughly washed after unloading at the field or at the receiving facility.

#### **b. Collection System Requirements**

The Permittee's collection system is part of the Facility that is subject to this Order. As such, the Permittee must properly operate and maintain its collection system [40 CFR section 122.41(e)]. The Permittee must report any non-compliance [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(6) and (7)] and mitigate any discharge from the collection system in violation of this Order [40 CFR section 122.41(d)].

### **6.3.6. Spill Reporting Requirements for FOTWs**

#### **a. Initial Notification**

For certain spills, overflows and bypasses, the Permittee shall make notifications as required below:

- i. In accordance with the requirements of Health and Safety Code section 5411.5, the Permittee shall provide notification to the local health officer or the director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water body of any unauthorized release of sewage or other waste that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to any waters of the state or odors, vectors, and other nuisances of sewage sludge origin beyond the limits of the treatment plant site or the sewage collection system as soon as possible, but no later than two hours after becoming aware of the release.
- ii. In accordance with the requirements of Water Code section 13271, the Permittee shall provide notification to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) of the release of reportable amounts of hazardous substances or sewage that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to any waters of the state as soon as possible, but not later than two hours after becoming aware of the release. The CCR, title 23, section 2250, defines a reportable amount of sewage as being 1,000 gallons. The phone number for reporting these releases to the Cal OES is (800) 852-7550. In addition, the Permittee shall notify

other interested persons of any such sewage spill, including but not limited to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), cities within the jurisdiction of the spill, and Heal the Bay, by maintaining an email list of those interested persons that have requested such notification. The Permittee shall also include public outreach in their emergency communications protocols, which may include media updates, social media postings, and community notices. The Permittee shall submit an emergency communications protocol to the Los Angeles Water Board within 60 days of the effective date of the Order for Executive Officer approval including specific outreach elements, such as mass emails and telephone calls to residents in the communities surrounding the plant.

- iii. The Permittee shall notify the Los Angeles Water Board of any unauthorized release of sewage from the Facility that causes, or probably will cause, a discharge to a water of the state or odors, vectors, and other nuisances of sewage or sludge origin beyond the limits of the treatment plant site or the sewage collection system as soon as possible, but not later than two hours after becoming aware of the release. This initial notification does not need to be made if the Permittee has notified Cal OES and the local health officer or the director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected waterbody. The phone number for reporting these releases of sewage to the Los Angeles Water Board is (213) 576-6657. The phone numbers for after hours and weekend reporting of releases of sewage to the Los Angeles Water Board are (213) 305-2284 and (213) 305-2253.
- iv. At a minimum, the following information shall be provided to the Los Angeles Water Board:
  - The location, date, and time of the release.
  - The route of the spill, including the water body that received or will receive the discharge.
  - An estimate of the amount of sewage or other waste released and the amount that reached surface water at the time of notification.
  - If ongoing, the estimated flow rate of the release at the time of the notification.
  - The name, organization, phone number and email address of the reporting representative.

**b. Monitoring**

For spills, overflows and bypasses reported under section 6.3.6.a, the Permittee shall monitor as required below:



To define the geographical extent of the spill's impact, the Permittee shall obtain grab samples for all spills, overflows or bypasses of any volume that reach any waters of the state (including shoreline, surface, groundwaters, etc.). If a grab sample cannot be obtained due to accessibility or safety concerns that cannot be addressed with the appropriate personal protective equipment or following proper sampling procedures, the sample shall be obtained as soon as it becomes safe to do so. The Permittee shall analyze the samples for total coliform, fecal coliform, *E. coli* (if fecal coliform tests positive), *Enterococcus*, and relevant pollutants of concern that are typically present in the SCI WWTP's effluent, upstream and downstream of the point of entry of the spill (if feasible, accessible, and safe). Rapid fecal monitoring is preferred in these situations, as long as a State Water Board's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)-certified lab is available to conduct the analyses. Daily monitoring shall be conducted from the time the spill is known until the results of two consecutive sets of bacteriological monitoring indicate the return to the background level or the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health authorizes cessation of monitoring.

**c. Reporting**

The initial notification required under section 6.3.6.a of this Order shall include the following:

i. As soon as possible, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours after becoming aware of an unauthorized discharge of sewage or other waste from its wastewater treatment plant to a water of the state, or a spill, bypass or upset that results in odors, vectors, and other nuisances of sewage or sludge origin beyond the limits of the treatment plant site or the sewage collection system, the Permittee shall submit a statement to the Los Angeles Water Board by [email](mailto:augustine.anijelo@waterboards.ca.gov) at [augustine.anijelo@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:augustine.anijelo@waterboards.ca.gov). If the discharge is 1,000 gallons or more, this statement shall certify that Cal OES has been notified of the discharge in accordance with Water Code section 13271. The statement shall also certify that the local health officer or director of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water bodies has been notified of the discharge in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 5411.5. The statement shall also include at a minimum the following information:

- Agency, NPDES Number, Order Number, and MRP CI Number, if applicable.
- The location, date, and time of the discharge.
- The water body that received the discharge.

- A description of the level of treatment of the sewage or other waste discharged.
  - An initial estimate of the amount of sewage or other waste released and the amount that reached a surface water.
  - The Cal OES control number and the date and time that notification of the incident was provided to Cal OES.
  - The name of the local health officer or director of environmental health representative notified (if contacted directly); the date and time of notification; and the method of notification (e.g., phone, fax, email).
- ii. A written preliminary report five (5) business days after disclosure of the incident is required. Submission to the Los Angeles Water Board of the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) event number shall satisfy this requirement. Within 30 days after submitting the preliminary report, the Permittee shall submit the final written report to the Los Angeles Water Board. [A copy of the final written report for a given incident, already submitted pursuant to *Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems* (SSS WDRs, State Water Board Order No. WQ 2022-0103-DWQ), may be submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board to satisfy this requirement]. If unable to report the SSO events in CIWQS, the Permittee shall submit the certified SSO reports (following the requirements in Attachment D, section 5.2.5 of this Order) separately. The written report shall document the information required in paragraph 6.3.6.d below, monitoring results and any other information required in provisions of the Standard Provisions document including corrective measures implemented or proposed to be implemented to prevent/minimize future occurrences. The Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer for just cause can grant an extension for submittal of the final written report.
- iii. The Permittee shall include a certification in the annual summary report (due according to the schedule in the MRP) that states that the sewer system emergency equipment, including alarm systems, backup pumps, standby power generators, and other critical emergency pump station components were maintained and tested in accordance with the Permittee's preventive maintenance plan. Any deviations from or modifications to the plan shall be discussed.

**d. Records**

The Permittee shall develop and maintain a record of all spills, overflows or bypasses of raw or partially treated sewage from its collection system or treatment plant. This record shall be made available to the Los

Angeles Water Board upon request and a spill summary shall be included in the annual summary report. The records shall contain:

- i. The date and time of each spill, overflow, or bypass.
- ii. The location of each spill, overflow, or bypass.
- iii. The estimated volume of each spill, overflow, and bypass including gross volume, amount recovered and amount not recovered, monitoring results as required by section 6.3.6.b.
- iv. The cause of each spill, overflow, or bypass.
- v. Whether each spill, overflow, or bypass entered a receiving water and, if so, the name of the water body and whether it entered via storm drains or other man-made conveyances.
- vi. Any mitigation measures implemented.
- vii. Any corrective measures implemented or proposed to be implemented to prevent/minimize future occurrences.
- viii. The mandatory information included in SSO online reporting for finalizing and certifying the SSO report for each spill, overflow, or bypass under the SSS WDRs.
- ix. Evaluation of the discharge plume pathway using high frequency radar ocean current data collected by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System if a spill impacts the beach or the ocean.

**e. Activities Coordination**

Although not required by this Order, Los Angeles Water Board expects the Facility's owners/operators will coordinate their compliance activities for consistency and efficiency with other entities that have responsibilities to implement: (i) this NPDES permit, including the Pretreatment Program if applicable, (ii) a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) NPDES permit that may contain spill prevention, sewer maintenance, reporting requirements and (iii) the SSS WDRs or subsequent updates. The Los Angeles Water Board also expects that the Facility's owners/operators to consider coordination with other agencies regarding the potential for the permissive integration of the MS4 with the wastewater collection system.

**f. Consistency with the SSS WDRs**

The requirements for reporting sanitary sewer overflows are included in this Order and in Attachment I and are intended to be consistent with the SSS WDRs. The Permittee's collection system is part of the Facility that is subject to this permit. As such, pursuant to federal regulations, the Permittee must properly operate and maintain its collection system [40 CFR §122.41(e)], report any non-compliance [40 CFR § 122.41(l)(6) and (7)], and mitigate any discharge from the collection system in

violation of this NPDES permit [40 CFR § 122.41(d)]. As such, the Permittee must comply with all requirements in Attachment I.

The requirements contained in this Order in sections 6.3.3.b (SCCP Plan section), 6.3.4. (Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications section), and 6.3.6. (Spill Reporting Requirements section) are intended to be consistent with the requirements of the SSS WDRs.

### **6.3.7. Other Special Provisions – Not Applicable**

### **6.3.8. Compliance Schedule – Not Applicable**

## **7. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

Compliance with the effluent limitations contained in section 4 of this Order will be determined as specified below:

### **7.1. General**

Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined using sample reporting protocols defined in the MRP and Attachment A of this Order. For purposes of reporting and administrative enforcement by the Regional and State Water Boards, the Permittee shall be deemed out of compliance with effluent limitations if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the Reporting Level (RL) or ML.

### **7.2. Multiple Sample Data**

When determining compliance with a measure of central tendency (arithmetic mean, geometric mean, median, etc.) of multiple sample analyses and the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the Permittee shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

7.2.1. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The Order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.

7.2.2. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

### **7.3. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)**

If the average (or when applicable, the median determined by section 7.2 above for multiple sample data) of daily discharges over a calendar month exceeds the AMEL for a given parameter, this will represent a single violation for the purpose

of calculating mandatory minimum penalties, though the Permittee may be considered out of compliance for each day of that month for that parameter (e.g., resulting in 31 days of non-compliance in a 31-day month) in cases where discretionary administrative civil liabilities are appropriate. If only a single sample is taken during the calendar month and the analytical result for that sample exceeds AMEL, the Permittee may be considered out of compliance for that calendar month. For those average monthly effluent limitations that are based on the 6-month median water quality objectives in the Ocean Plan, the daily value used to calculate these average monthly values for intermittent discharges, shall be considered to equal zero for days on which no discharge occurred. The Permittee will only be considered out of compliance for days when the discharge occurs. For any one calendar month during which no sample (daily discharge) is collected, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar month with respect to AMEL.

If the analytical result of a single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, does not exceed the AMEL for a given parameter, the Permittee will have demonstrated compliance with the AMEL for each day of that month for that parameter.

If the analytical result of any single sample, monitored monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually, exceeds AMEL for any parameter, the Permittee may collect up to four additional samples within the same calendar month. All analytical results shall be reported in the monitoring report for that month. The concentration of pollutants (an arithmetic mean or a median) in these samples estimated from the "Multiple Sample Data Reduction" section above, will be used for compliance determination.

In the event of noncompliance with an AMEL, the sampling frequency for that parameter shall be increased to weekly and shall continue at this level until compliance with the AMEL has been demonstrated.

#### **7.4. Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)**

If the average of daily discharges over a calendar week exceeds the AWEL for a given parameter, an alleged violation will be flagged, and the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for each day of that week for that parameter, resulting in 7 days of non-compliance. The average of daily discharges over the calendar week that exceeds the AWEL for a parameter will be considered out of compliance for that week only. If only a single sample is taken during the calendar week and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the AWEL, the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for that calendar week. For any one calendar week during which no sample (daily discharge) is collected, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar week with respect to the AWEL.

A calendar week will begin on Sunday and end on Saturday. Partial calendar weeks at the end of calendar month will be carried forward to the next month to calculate and report a consecutive seven-day average value on Saturday.

### **7.5. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)**

If a 24-hour composite sample exceeds the MDEL for a given parameter, an alleged violation will be flagged, and the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for that day for that parameter. If no sample (daily discharge) is collected over a calendar day, no compliance determination can be made for that day with respect to an effluent violation determination, but compliance determination can be made for that day with respect to a reporting violation determination.

### **7.6. Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation**

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation for a parameter, a potential violation will be flagged, and the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples collected within a calendar day that both are lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation).

### **7.7. Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation**

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is higher than the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for a parameter, a potential violation will be flagged, and the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples collected within a calendar day that both exceed the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation).

### **7.8. Six-month Median Effluent Limitation**

If the median of daily discharges over any 180-day period exceeds the six-month median effluent limitation for a given parameter, a potential violation will be flagged, and the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for each day of that 180-day period for that parameter. The next assessment of compliance will occur after the next sample is collected. If only a single sample is collected during a given 180-day period and the analytical result for that sample exceeds the six-month median, the Permittee will be considered out of compliance for the 180-day period. For any 180-period during which no sample is collected, no compliance determination can be made for the six-month median effluent limitation.

### **7.9. Chronic Toxicity**

The discharge is subject to determination of "Pass" or "Fail" from a chronic toxicity test using the TST statistical t-test approach described in the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Test of Significant Toxicity Implementation Document* (USEPA 833-R-10-003, 2010), Appendix A, Figure A-1, Table A-1, and Appendix B, Table B-1. The null hypothesis (Ho) for the TST statistical approach is: Mean discharge In-stream Waste Concentration (IWC)

response  $\leq 0.75 \times$  Mean control response. A test result that rejects this null hypothesis is reported as “Pass.” A test result that does not reject this null hypothesis is reported as “Fail.” This is a t-test (formally Student’s t-test), a statistical analysis comparing two sets of replicate observations – in the case of a Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test, only two test concentrations (i.e. a control and IWC). The purpose of this statistical test is to determine if the means of the two sets of observations are different (i.e. if the IWC or receiving water concentration differs from the control (the test result is “Pass” or “Fail”). The Welch’s t-test employed by the TST statistical approach is an adaptation of Student’s t-test and is used with two samples having unequal variances.

The MDEL for chronic toxicity is exceeded and a violation will be flagged when a chronic toxicity test, analyzed using the TST statistical approach, results in “Fail”.

The chronic toxicity MDEL is set at the IWC for the discharge (0.73% effluent for Discharge Point 002) and expressed in units of the TST statistical approach (“Pass” or “Fail”). All NPDES effluent compliance monitoring for the chronic toxicity MDEL shall be reported using only the IWC effluent concentration and negative control, expressed in units of the TST. The TST hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) (see above) is statistically analyzed using the IWC and a negative control. Effluent toxicity tests shall be run using *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms* (EPA/600/R-95/136, 1995). The Los Angeles Water Board’s review of reported toxicity test results will include review of concentration-response patterns as appropriate (see Fact Sheet discussion at 4.3.6). As described in bioassay laboratory audit correspondence from the State Water Resources Control Board dated August 07, 2014, and from USEPA dated December 24, 2013, the Percent Minimum Significant Difference (PMSD) criteria only apply to compliance reporting for the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) and the sublethal statistical endpoints of the NOEC, and therefore are not used to interpret results using the TST statistical approach. Standard Operating Procedures used by the toxicity testing laboratory to identify and report valid, invalid, anomalous, or inconclusive effluent (and receiving water) toxicity test measurement results from the TST statistical approach, including those that incorporate a consideration of concentration-response patterns, must be submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board [40 CFR § 122.41(h)]. The Los Angeles Water Board will make a final determination as to whether a toxicity test result is valid, and may consult with the Permittee, USEPA, the State Water Board’s Quality Assurance Officer, or the State Water Board’s ELAP as needed. The Los Angeles Water Board may consider the results of any Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE)/TRE studies in an enforcement action.

#### **7.10. Percent Removal**

The average monthly percent removal is the removal efficiency expressed as a percentage across a treatment plant for a given pollutant parameter, as determined from the 30-day average values of pollutant concentrations (C in

mg/L) of influent and effluent samples collected at about the same time using the following equation:

$$\text{Percent Removal (\%)} = [1 - (C_{\text{Effluent}}/C_{\text{Influent}})] \times 100\%$$

When preferred, the Permittee may substitute mass loadings and mass emissions for the concentrations.

### 7.11. Mass and Concentration Limitations

Compliance with mass and concentration effluent limitations for the same parameter shall be determined separately with their respective limitations. When the concentration of a constituent in an effluent sample is determined to be ND or DNQ, the corresponding mass emission rate determined from that sample concentration shall also be reported as ND or DNQ.

### 7.12. Compliance with Single Constituent Effluent Limitations

Permittees may be considered out of compliance with the effluent limitation if the concentration of the pollutant (see Section 7.2 “Multiple Sample Data Reduction” above) in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the RL.

### 7.13. Compliance with Effluent Limitations Expressed as a Sum of Several Constituents

Permittees are out of compliance with an effluent limitation which applies to the sum of a group of chemicals (e.g., PCB’s) if the sum of the individual pollutant concentrations is greater than the effluent limitation. Individual pollutants of the group will be considered to have a concentration of zero if the constituent is reported as ND or DNQ.

### 7.14. Compliance with TCDD Equivalents

TCDD equivalents shall be monitored and calculated using the following formula, where the MLs, and toxicity equivalency factors (TEFs) are as provided in the table below. The Permittee shall report all measured values of individual congeners, including data qualifiers. When calculating TCDD equivalents, the Permittee shall set congener concentrations below the minimum levels to zero. USEPA method 1613 may be used to analyze dioxin and furan congeners.

$$\text{TCDD Equivalents Concentration} = \sum_{1}^{17} \text{TEQ}_i = \sum_{1}^{17} C_i \times \text{TEF}_i$$

Where:

C<sub>i</sub> = individual concentration of a TCDD equivalents congener

TEF<sub>i</sub> = Individual TEF for a congener



**MLs and TEFs**

<b>Congeners</b>	<b>MLs (pg/L)</b>	<b>TEFs</b>
2,3,7,8-Tetra chlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (CDD)	10	1.0
1,2,3,7,8-PentaCDD	50	0.5
1,2,3,4,7,8-HexaCDD	50	0.1
1,2,3,6,7,8-HexaCDD	50	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HexaCDD	50	0.1
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HeptaCDD	50	0.01
OctaCDD	100	0.001
2,3,7,8-Tetra chlorodibenzofuran (CDF)	10	0.1
1,2,3,7,8-PentaCDF	50	0.05
2,3,4,7,8-PentaCDF	50	0.5
1,2,3,4,7,8-HexaCDF	50	0.1
1,2,3,6,7,8-HexaCDF	50	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HexaCDF	50	0.1
2,3,4,6,7,8-HexaCDF	50	0.1
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HeptaCDF	50	0.01
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HeptaCDF	50	0.01
OctaCDF	100	0.001

**7.15. Mass Emission Rate**

The mass emission rate shall be obtained from the following calculation for any calendar day:

$$\text{Mass Emission Rate (lbs/day)} = \frac{8.34}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Q_i C_i$$

$$\text{Mass Emission Rate (kg/day)} = \frac{3.79}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Q_i C_i$$

in which 'N' is the number of samples analyzed in any calendar day. 'Q<sub>i</sub>' and 'C<sub>i</sub>' are the flow rate (MGD) and the constituent concentration (mg/L), respectively, which are associated with each of the 'N' grab samples, which may be collected in any calendar day. If a composite sample is collected, 'C<sub>i</sub>' is the concentration

measured in the composite sample and 'Q<sub>i</sub>' is the average flow rate occurring during the period over which samples are composited.

The daily concentration of all constituents shall be determined from the flow-weighted average of the same constituents in the combined waste streams as follows:

$$\text{Daily Concentration} = \frac{1}{Q_t} \sum_{i=1}^N Q_i C_i$$

in which 'N' is the number of component waste streams. 'Q<sub>i</sub>' and 'C<sub>i</sub>' are the flow rate (MGD) and the constituent concentration (mg/L), respectively, which are associated with each of the 'N' waste streams. 'Q<sub>t</sub>' is the total flow rate of the combined waste streams.

### 7.16. Bacterial Standards and Analysis

7.16.1. The geometric mean (GM) is a type of mean or average that indicates the central tendency or typical value of a set of numbers by using the product of their values (as opposed to the arithmetic mean which uses their sum). The geometric mean is defined as the nth root of the product of n numbers. The formula is expressed as:

$$GM = \sqrt[n]{(x_1)(x_2)(x_3) \cdots (x_n)}$$

where x is the sample value and n is the number of samples collected.

- 7.16.2. The statistical threshold value (STV) for the bacteria water quality objective is a set value that approximates the 90th percentile of the water quality distribution of a bacterial population.
- 7.16.3. For bacterial analyses, sample dilutions should be performed so the expected range of values is bracketed (for example, with multiple tube fermentation method or membrane filtration method, 2 to 16,000 per 100 ml for total and fecal coliform, at a minimum, and 1 to 1000 per 100 ml for enterococcus). The detection methods used for each analysis shall be reported with the results of the analyses.
- 7.16.4. Detection methods used for coliforms (total and fecal) shall be those presented in Table 1A of 40 CFR part 136, unless alternate methods have been approved by USEPA pursuant to 40 CFR part 136, or improved methods have been determined by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer and/or USEPA Water Division Director.
- 7.16.5. Detection methods used for *Enterococcus* shall be those presented in Table 1A of 40 CFR part 136 or in the USEPA publication EPA 600/4-85/076, *Test Methods for Escherichia coli and Enterococci in Water By Membrane Filter Procedure* or any improved method determined by the Executive Officer and/or USEPA to be appropriate.

### **7.17. Single Operational Upset (SOU)**

An SOU that leads to simultaneous violations of more than one pollutant parameter shall be treated as a single violation and limits the Permittee's liability in accordance with the following conditions:

- 7.17.1. An SOU is broadly defined as a single unusual event that temporarily disrupts the usually satisfactory operation of a system in such a way that it results in violation of multiple pollutant parameters.
- 7.17.2. A Permittee may assert SOU to limit liability only for those violations which the Permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in Provision 5.5.2(b) of Attachment D – Standard Provisions.
- 7.17.3. For purpose outside of Water Code section 13385 subdivisions (h) and (i), determination of compliance and civil liability (including any more specific definition of SOU, the requirements for Permittees to assert the SOU limitation of liability, and the manner of counting violations) shall be in accordance with USEPA Memorandum Issuance of Guidance Interpreting Single Operational Upset (September 27, 1989).
- 7.17.4. For purpose of Water Code section 13385 (h) and (i), determination of compliance and civil liability (including any more specific definition of SOU, the requirements for Permittees to assert the SOU limitation of liability, and the manner of counting violations) shall be in accordance with Water Code section 13385 (f)(2).

## ATTACHMENT A. DEFINITIONS

### **Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS)**

Those areas designated by the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) as ocean areas requiring protection of species or biological communities to the extent that alteration of natural water quality is undesirable. All ASBS are also classified as a subset of STATE WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AREAS.

### **Arithmetic Mean ( $\mu$ )**

Also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Arithmetic Mean} = \mu = (\sum x) / n$$

Where  $\sum x$  is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and n is the number of samples.

### **Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)**

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

### **Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)**

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

### **Bioaccumulative**

Those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

### **Biosolids**

Sewage sludge that has been treated and tested and shown to be capable of being beneficially and legally used pursuant to federal and state regulations as a soil amendment for agricultural, silvicultural, horticultural, and land reclamation activities as specified under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 503.

### **Carcinogenic**

Carcinogenic pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

### **Chlordane**

The sum of chlordane-alpha, chlordane-gamma, chlordene-alpha, chlordene-gamma, nonachlor-alpha, nonachlor-gamma, and oxychlordane.

### **Coefficient of Variation (CV)**

A measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

### **Composite Sample, 24-hour**

For flow rate measurements, the arithmetic mean of no fewer than eight individual measurements taken at equal intervals for 24 hours or for the duration of discharge, whichever is shorter.

Composite sample, for other than flow rate measurements:

- a. No fewer than eight individual sample portions collected at equal time intervals for 24 hours. The volume of each individual sample portion shall be directly proportional to the discharge flow rate at the time of sampling; or,
- b. No fewer than eight individual sample portions collected of equal volume collected over a 24-hour period. The time interval between each individual sample portion shall vary such that the volume of the discharge between each individual sample portion remains constant.

The compositing period shall equal the specified sampling period, or 24 hours, if no period is specified.

The composite sample result shall be reported for the calendar day during which composite sampling ends.

### **Daily Discharge**

Either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

### **Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT)**

The sum of 4,4'-DDT, 2,4'-DDT, 4,4'-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE), 2,4'-DDE, 4,4'-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane (DDD), and 2,4'-DDD.

### **Degrade**

Degradation shall be determined by comparison of the waste field and reference site(s) for characteristic species diversity, population density, contamination, growth anomalies, debility, or supplanting of normal species by undesirable plant and animal

species. Degradation occurs if there are significant differences in any of three major biotic groups, namely, demersal fish, benthic invertebrates, or attached algae. Other groups may be evaluated where benthic species are not affected or are not the only ones affected.

**Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)**

Sample results less than the Reporting Level (RL), but greater than or equal to the laboratory's Method Detection Limit (MDL). Sample results reported as DNQ are estimated concentrations.

**Dichlorobenzenes**

The sum of 1,2- and 1,3-dichlorobenzene.

**Dilution Credit**

The amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

**Downstream Ocean Waters**

Waters downstream with respect to ocean currents.

**Dredged Material**

Any material excavated or dredged from the navigable waters of the United States, including material otherwise referred to as "spoil."

**Enclosed Bays**

Indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays include, but are not limited to, Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drake's Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

**Endosulfan**

The sum of endosulfan-alpha and -beta and endosulfan sulfate.

**Estimated Chemical Concentration**

The estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

**Estuaries and Coastal Lagoons**

Waters at the mouths of streams that serve as mixing zones for fresh and ocean waters during a major portion of the year. Mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to the upstream limit of tidal action but may be considered to extend seaward if significant mixing of fresh and saltwater occurs in the open coastal waters. Waters described by this definition include but are

not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in California Water Code (Water Code) section 12220, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to the Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Mad, Eel, Noyo, Russian, Klamath, San Diego, and Otay rivers. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

**Federally-Owned Treatment Works (FOTW)**

A facility that is owned and operated by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal Government treating wastewater, a majority of which is domestic sewage, prior to discharge [42 United States Code (USC) § 6939e(d)].

**Grab Sample**

An individual sample collected during a period not to exceed 15 minutes. Grab samples shall be collected during normal peak loading conditions for the parameter of interest, which may or may not occur during hydraulic peaks.

**Halomethanes**

The sum of bromoform, bromomethane (methyl bromide) and chloromethane (methyl chloride).

**Hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH)**

The sum of the alpha, beta, gamma (lindane), and delta isomers of hexachlorocyclohexane.

**Indirect Discharge**

The introduction of pollutants into a POTW from any non-domestic source regulated under section 307(b), (c), or (d) of the CWA.

**Initial Dilution**

The process that results in the rapid and irreversible turbulent mixing of wastewater with ocean water around the point of discharge.

For a submerged buoyant discharge, characteristic of most municipal and industrial wastes that are released from the submarine outfalls, the momentum of the discharge and its initial buoyancy act together to produce turbulent mixing. Initial dilution in this case is completed when the diluting wastewater ceases to rise in the water column and first begins to spread horizontally.

For shallow water submerged discharges, surface discharges, and non-buoyant discharges, characteristic of cooling water wastes and some individual discharges, turbulent mixing results primarily from the momentum of discharge. Initial dilution, in these cases, is considered to be completed when the momentum induced velocity of the discharge ceases to produce significant mixing of the waste, or the diluting plume reaches a fixed distance from the discharge to be specified by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, whichever results in the lower estimate for initial dilution.

### **Inland Surface Waters**

All surface waters of the state that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

### **Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation**

The highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

### **Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation**

The lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

### **In-stream Waste Concentration (IWC)**

The concentration of a toxicant or the parameter of toxicity in the receiving water after mixing.

### **Kelp Beds**

For purposes of the bacteriological standards of the Ocean Plan, are significant aggregations of marine algae of the genera *Macrocystis* and *Nereocystis*. Kelp beds include the total foliage canopy of *Macrocystis* and *Nereocystis* plants throughout the water column.

### **Mariculture**

The culture of plants and animals in marine waters independent of any pollution source.

### **Material**

(a) In common usage: (1) the substance or substances of which a thing is made or composed (2) substantial; (b) For purposes of the Ocean Plan relating to waste disposal, dredging and the disposal of dredged material and fill, MATERIAL means matter of any kind or description which is subject to regulation as waste, or any material dredged from the navigable waters of the United States. See also, DREDGED MATERIAL.

### **Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)**

The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant.

### **Median**

The middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of measurements ( $n$ ) is odd, then the median =  $X_{(n+1)/2}$ . If  $n$  is even, then the median =  $(X_{n/2} + X_{n/2+1})/2$  (i.e., the midpoint between the  $n/2$  and  $n/2+1$ ).

### **Method Detection Limit (MDL)**

The minimum measured concentration of a substance that can be reported with 99 percent confidence that the measured concentration is distinguishable from method blank results, as defined in 40 CFR part 136, Attachment B.

### **Minimum Level (ML)**

The concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is



equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

### **Mixing Zone**

A limited volume of receiving water that is allocated for mixing with a wastewater discharge where water quality criteria can be exceeded without causing adverse effects to the overall water body.

### **Natural Light**

Reduction of natural light may be determined by the California Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) by measurement of light transmissivity or total irradiance, or both, according to the monitoring needs of the Los Angeles Water Board.

### **Not Detected (ND)**

Sample results which are less than the laboratory's MDL.

### **Ocean Waters**

The territorial marine waters of the state as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. If a discharge outside the territorial waters of the state could affect the quality of the waters of the state, the discharge may be regulated to assure no violation of the Ocean Plan will occur in ocean waters.

### **PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)**

The sum of acenaphthylene, anthracene, 1,2-benzanthracene, 3,4-benzofluoranthene, benzo[k]fluoranthene, 1,12-benzoperylene, benzo[a]pyrene, chrysene, dibenzo[ah]anthracene, fluorene, indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene, phenanthrene, and pyrene.

### **PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) as Aroclors**

The sum of chlorinated biphenyls whose analytical characteristics resemble those of Aroclor-1016, Aroclor-1221, Aroclor-1232, Aroclor-1242, Aroclor-1248, Aroclor-1254, and Aroclor-1260.

### **PCBs as Congeners**

The sum of the following 41 individually quantified PCB congeners or mixtures of isomers of single congeners in a co-elution: PCB-18, 28, 37, 44, 49, 52, 66, 70, 74, 77, 81, 87, 99, 101, 105, 110, 114, 118, 119, 123, 126, 128, 138, 149, 151, 153, 156, 157, 158, 167, 168, 169, 170, 177, 180, 183, 187, 189, 194, 201, and 206.

### **Persistent Pollutants**

Substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

### **Phenolic Compounds (chlorinated)**

The sum of 2-chlorophenol, 2,4-dichlorophenol, 4-chloro-3-methylphenol, 2,4,6-trichlorophenol, and pentachlorophenol.

**Phenolic Compounds (non-chlorinated)**

The sum of 2,4-dimethylphenol, 2-nitrophenol, 4-nitrophenol, 2,4-dinitrophenol, 4,6-dinitro-2-methylphenol, and phenol.

**Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)**

PMP means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Los Angeles Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

**Pollution Prevention**

Any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in Water Code section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State Water Board or Los Angeles Water Board.

**Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)**

A treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), which is owned by a State or municipality (as defined by section 502(4) of the CWA). This definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes and other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW treatment plant. The term also means the municipality which has jurisdiction over the indirect discharges to and the discharges from such treatment works. (40 CFR § 403.3(q).)

**Reporting Minimum Level**

The reported ML (also known as the Reporting Level or RL) is the ML (and its associated analytical method) chosen by the Permittee for reporting and compliance determination from the MLs included in this Order, including an additional factor if applicable as discussed herein. The MLs included in this Order correspond to approved analytical methods for reporting a sample result that are selected by the Los Angeles Water Board either from Appendix II of the Ocean Plan in accordance with section III.C.5.a. of the Ocean Plan or established in accordance with section III.C.5.b. of the Ocean Plan. The ML is based on the proper application of method-based analytical

procedures for sample preparation and the absence of any matrix interferences. Other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the specific sample preparation steps employed. For example, the treatment typically applied in cases where there are matrix-effects is to dilute the sample or sample aliquot by a factor of ten. In such cases, this additional factor must be applied to the ML in the computation of the reported ML. (See Ocean Plan section III.C.6.).

**Satellite Collection System**

The portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility to which a sanitary sewer system is tributary.

**Shellfish**

Organisms identified by the California Department of Health Services as shellfish for public health purposes (i.e., mussels, clams and oysters).

**Significant Difference**

Statistically significant difference in the means of two distributions of sampling results at the 95 percent confidence level.

**Six-Month Median Effluent Limitation**

The highest allowable moving median of all “daily discharges” for any 180-day period.

**Standard Deviation (s)**

Standard Deviation is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x-\mu)^2}{n-1}}$$

where:

x is the observed value;

μ is the arithmetic mean of the observed value; and

n is the number of samples.

**State Water Quality Protection Areas (SWQPAs)**

Non-terrestrial marine or estuarine areas designated to protect marine species or biological communities from an undesirable alteration in natural water quality. All AREAS OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE (ASBS) that were previously designated by the State Water Board in Resolutions 74-28, 74-32, and 75-61 are now also classified as a subset of State Water Quality Protection Areas and require special protections afforded by the Ocean Plan.

**Statistical Threshold Value (STV)**

The STV for the bacteria water quality objectives is a set value that approximates the 90th percentile of the water quality distribution of a bacterial population.

**TCDD Equivalents**

The sum of the concentrations of chlorinated dibenzodioxins (2,3,7,8-CDDs) and chlorinated dibenzofurans (2,3,7,8-CDFs) multiplied by their respective toxicity factors, as shown in the table below.

<b>Congeners</b>	<b>MLs (pg/L)</b>	<b>TEFs</b>
2,3,7,8-TetraCDD	10	1.0
1,2,3,7,8-PentaCDD	50	0.5
1,2,3,4,7,8-HexaCDD	50	0.1
1,2,3,6,7,8-HexaCDD	50	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HexaCDD	50	0.1
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HeptaCDD	50	0.01
OctaCDD	100	0.001
2,3,7,8-TetraCDF	10	0.1
1,2,3,7,8-PentaCDF	50	0.05
2,3,4,7,8-PentaCDF	50	0.5
1,2,3,4,7,8-HexaCDF	50	0.1
1,2,3,6,7,8-HexaCDF	50	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HexaCDF	50	0.1
2,3,4,6,7,8-HexaCDF	50	0.1
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HeptaCDF	50	0.01
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HeptaCDF	50	0.01
OctaCDF	100	0.001

**Test of Significant Toxicity (TST)**

A statistical approach used to analyze toxicity test data. The TST incorporates a restated null hypothesis, Welch’s t-test, and the biological effect thresholds for chronic and acute toxicity.

**Total Nitrogen**

The sum of nitrate nitrogen, nitrite nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen, and total organic nitrogen.

**Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE)**

Set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.

**Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)**

A study conducted in a stepwise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity. The first steps of the TRE consist of the collection of data relevant to the toxicity, including additional toxicity testing, and an evaluation of facility operations and maintenance practices, and best management practices. A TIE may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate.

**Waste**

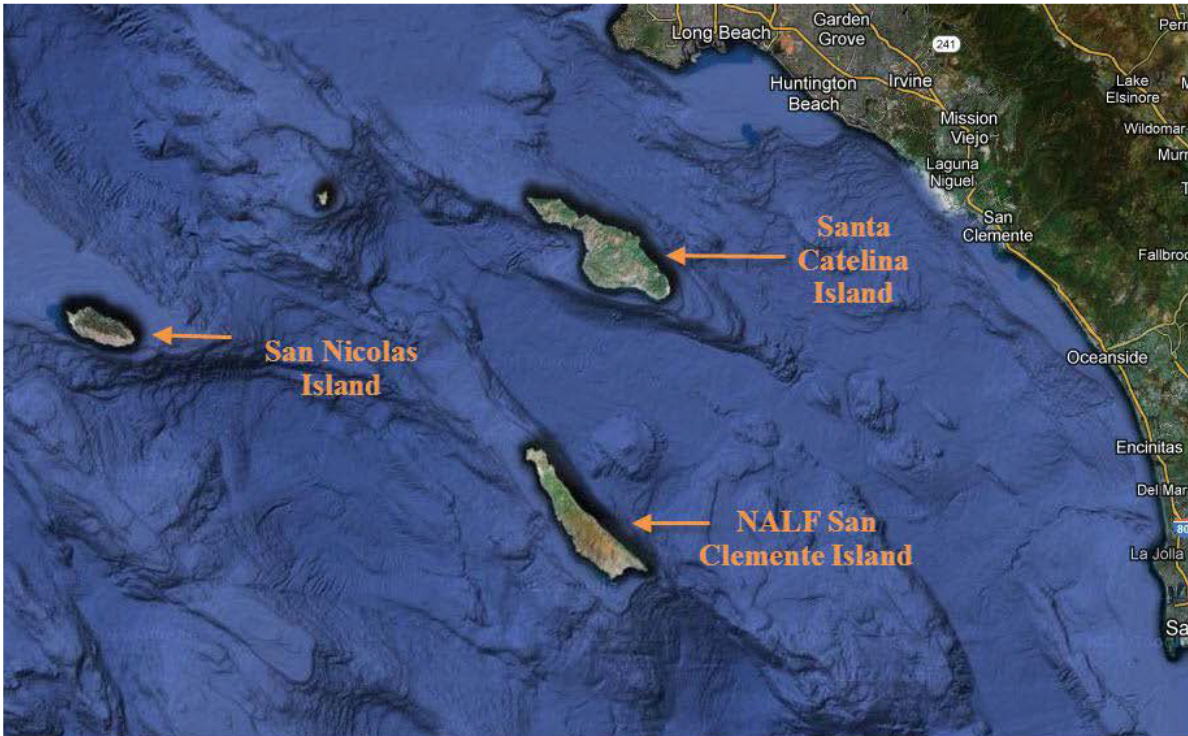
As used in the Ocean Plan, waste includes a Permittee's total discharge, of whatever origin, i.e., gross, not net, discharge.

**Water Recycling**

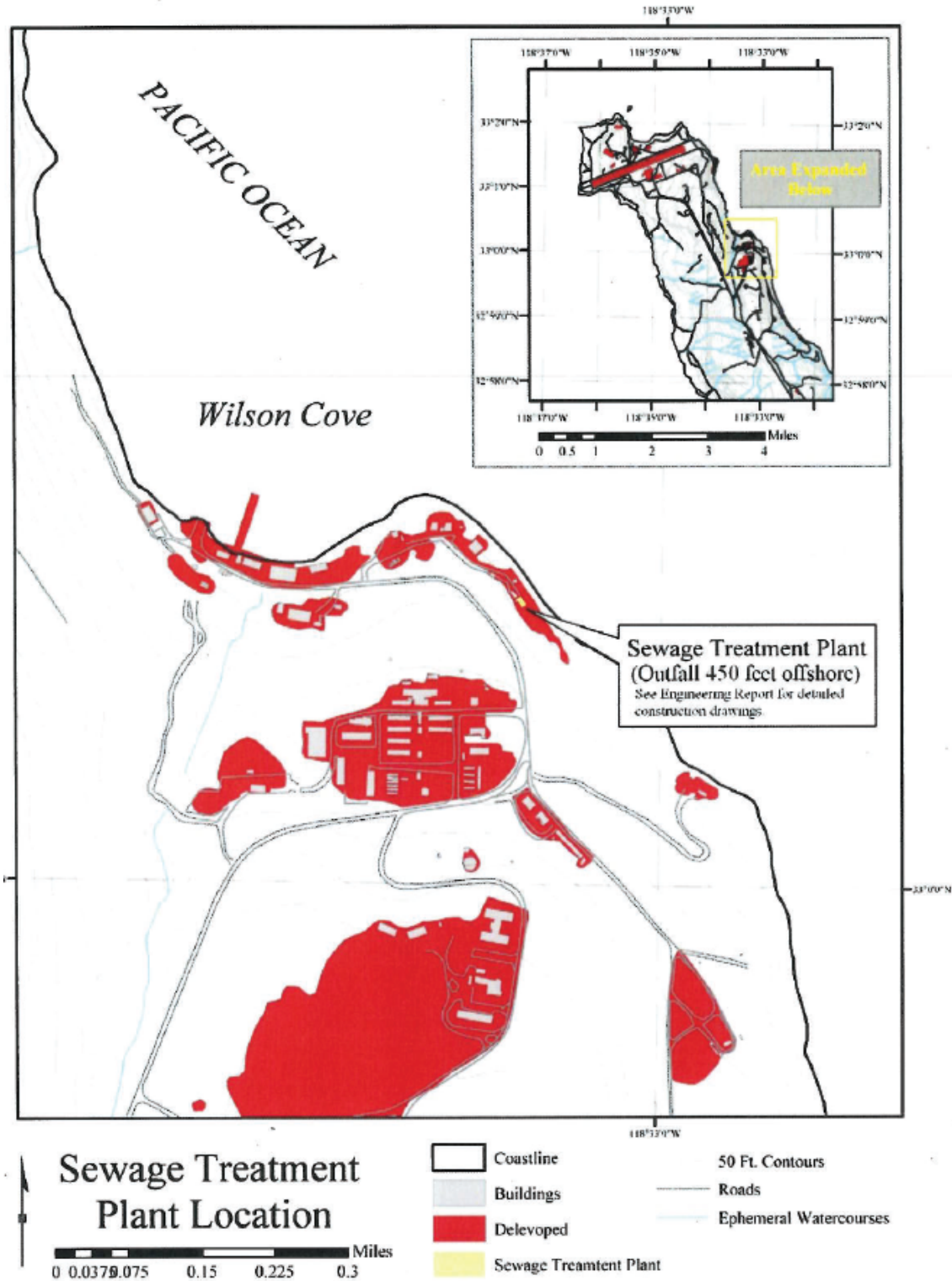
The treatment of wastewater to render it suitable for reuse, the transportation of treated wastewater to the place of use, and the actual use of treated wastewater for a direct beneficial use or controlled use that would not otherwise occur.

**ATTACHMENT B.1. MAP OF SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND LOCATION**

Location Map for NALF San Clemente Island



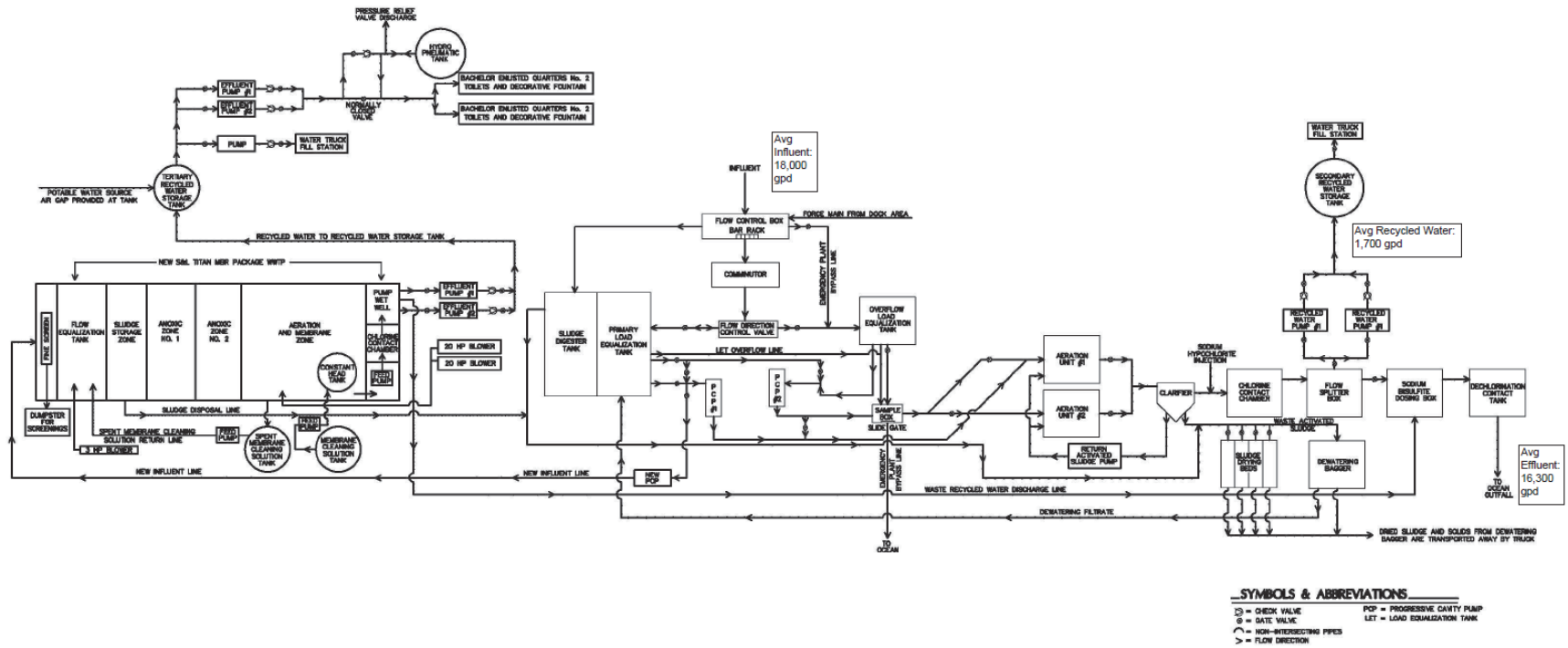
**ATTACHMENT B. 2. SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND WATER SYSTEM**





**ATTACHMENT C. SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOW SCHEMATIC**

SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND  
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND  
RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM SCHEMATIC





## **ATTACHMENT D. STANDARD PROVISIONS**

### **1. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE**

#### **1.1. Duty to Comply**

1.1.1. The Permittee must comply with all the terms, requirements, and conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), its regulations, and the California Water Code (Water Code) and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; denial of a permit renewal application; or a combination thereof. [40 CFR section 122.41(a); Water Code sections 13261, 13263, 13265, 13268, 13000, 13001, 13304, 13350, 13385].

1.1.2. The Permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Part 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. [Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) section 122.41(a)(1).]

#### **1.2. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense**

It shall not be a defense for a Permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(c).]

#### **1.3. Duty to Mitigate**

The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. [40 CFR section 122.41(d).]

#### **1.4. Proper Operation and Maintenance**

The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Permittee only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(e).]

#### **1.5. Property Rights**

1.5.1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. [40 CFR section 122.41(g).]

- 1.5.2. The issuance of this Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. [40 CFR section 122.5(c).]

### **1.6. Inspection and Entry**

The Permittee shall allow the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board), California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to [33 United States Code (USC) section 1318(a)(B); 40 CFR section 122.41(i); Water Code section 13267, 13383]:

- 1.6.1. Enter upon the Permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order [33 USC. section 1318(a)(B)(i); 40 CFR section 122.41(i)(1); Water Code sections 13267 and 13383];
- 1.6.2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order [33 USC. section 1318(a)(B)(ii); 40 CFR section 122.41(i)(2); Water Code sections 13267 and 13383];
- 1.6.3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order [33 USC. section 1318(a)(B)(ii); 40 CFR section 122.41(i)(3); Water Code sections 13267 and 13383]; and
- 1.6.4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (33 USC section 1318(a)(B); 40 CFR section 122.41(i)(4); Water Code sections 13267 and 13383].

### **1.7. Bypass**

#### **1.7.1. Definitions**

- a. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(1)(i).]
- b. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(1)(ii).]

- 1.7.2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if

it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance 1.7.3, 1.7.4, and 1.7.5 below. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(2).]

- 1.7.3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Los Angeles Water Board may take enforcement action against a Permittee for bypass, unless [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(4)(i)]:
  - a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A)];
  - b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)]; and
  - c. The Permittee submitted notice to the Los Angeles Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance 1.7.5 below. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C)].
- 1.7.4. The Los Angeles Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Los Angeles Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance 1.7.3 above. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(4)(ii).]
- 1.7.5. Notice
  - a. Anticipated bypass. If the Permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice to the Los Angeles Water Board, if possible, at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. As of December 21, 2025, all notices submitted in compliance with this section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Los Angeles Water Board, or initial recipient as defined in 40 CFR section 127.2(b), in compliance with this section and 40 CFR part 3 (including, in all cases, subpart D to part 3), 122.22 and part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of part 127, the Permittee may be required to report electronically if specified by a particular Order or if required to do so by State law. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(3)(i).]
  - b. Unanticipated bypass. The Permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting 5.5 below (24-hour notice). As of December 21, 2025, all notices submitted in compliance with this section must be submitted electronically by the

Permittee to the Los Angeles Water Board or to the initial recipient as defined in 40 CFR section 127.2(b), in compliance with this section and 40 CFR part 3 (including, in all cases, subpart D to part 3), 122.22 and part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of part 127, the Permittee may be required to report electronically if specified by a particular Order or if required to do so by State Law. [40 CFR section 122.41(m)(3)(ii).]

## **1.8. Upset**

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(1).]

- 1.8.1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance 1.8.2 below are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(2).]
- 1.8.2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(3)]:
  - a. An upset occurred and that the Permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(3)(i)];
  - b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(3)(ii)];
  - c. The Permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.5.2.b below (24-hour notice) [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(3)(iii)]; and
  - d. The Permittee complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance 1.3 above. [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(3)(iv).]
- 1.8.3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. [40 CFR section 122.41(n)(4).]

## **2. STANDARD PROVISION – PERMIT ACTION**

### **2.1. General**

This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Permittee for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Order condition. [40 CFR section 122.41(f).]

### **2.2. Duty to Reapply**

If the Permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. [40 CFR section 122.41(b).]

### **2.3. Transfers**

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Los Angeles Water Board. The Los Angeles Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. [40 CFR sections 122.41(l)(3); and 122.61.].

## **3. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING**

- 3.1. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(1).]
- 3.2. Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136 for the analyses of pollutants unless another method is required under 40 CFR chapter 1, subchapter N. Monitoring must be conducted according to sufficiently sensitive test methods approved under 40 CFR part 136 for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters or as required under 40 CFR chapter 1, subchapter N. For the purposes of this paragraph, a method is sufficiently sensitive when:
  - 3.2.1. The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the most stringent effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter, and either the method ML is at or below the level of the most stringent applicable water quality criterion for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter or the method ML is above the applicable water quality criterion but the amount of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in the facility's discharge is high enough that the method detects and quantifies the level of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in the discharge; or
  - 3.2.2. The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter 1, subchapter N for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. In the case of pollutants or pollutant parameters for which there are no approved methods under 40

CFR part 136 or otherwise required under 40 CFR chapter 1, subchapter N, monitoring must be conducted according to a test procedure specified in this Order for such pollutants or pollutant parameters. [40 CFR §§ 122.21(e)(3), 122.41(j)(4), 122.44(i)(1)(iv).]

#### **4. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS**

- 4.1. The Permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer at any time. [40 CFR part 122.41(j)(2).]
- 4.2. Records of monitoring information shall include:
  - 4.2.1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(3)(i)];
  - 4.2.2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(3)(ii)];
  - 4.2.3. The date(s) analyses were performed [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(3)(iii)];
  - 4.2.4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(3)(iv)];
  - 4.2.5. The analytical techniques or methods used [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(3)(v)]; and
  - 4.2.6. The results of such analyses. [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(3)(vi).]
- 4.3. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied [40 CFR section 122.7(b)]:
  - 4.3.1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Permittee [40 CFR section 122.7(b)(1)]; and
  - 4.3.2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. [40 CFR section 122.7(b)(2).]

#### **5. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING**

##### **5.1. Duty to Provide Information**

The Permittee shall furnish to the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order or to determine compliance with this Order. Upon request, the Permittee shall also furnish to the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA copies of

records required to be kept by this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(h); Water Code sections 13267 and 13383.]

## **5.2. Signatory and Certification Requirements**

- 5.2.1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, and/or USEPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, and 5.2.6 below. [40 CFR section 122.41(k).]
- 5.2.2. All permit applications shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this provision, a principal executive officer of a federal agency includes: (i) the chief executive officer of the agency, or (ii) a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency (e.g., Regional Administrators of USEPA). (40 CFR section 122.22(a)(3).)
- 5.2.3. All reports required by this Order and other information requested by the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2.2 above [40 CFR section 122.22(b)(1)];
  - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) [40 CFR section 122.22(b)(2)]; and
  - c. The written authorization is submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board and State Water Board. [40 CFR section 122.22(b)(3).]
- 5.2.4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2.3 above must be submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. [40 CFR section 122.22(c).]
- 5.2.5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2.2 or 5.2.3 above shall make the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.” [40 CFR section 122.22(d).]

- 5.2.6. Any person providing the electronic signature for documents described in Standard Provisions – 5.2.1, 5.2.2, or 5.2.3 that are submitted electronically shall meet all relevant requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.2, and shall ensure that all relevant requirements of 40 CFR section 3 (Cross-Media Electronic Reporting) and 40 CFR section 127 [National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Electronic Reporting Requirements] are met for that submission. [40 CFR section 122.22(e).]

### **5.3. Monitoring Reports**

- 5.3.1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(4).]
- 5.3.2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Los Angeles Water Board or State Water Board. As of December 21, 2016, all reports and forms must be submitted electronically to the initial recipient defined in Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.10 and comply with 40 CFR section 3, 40 CFR section 122.22, and 40 CFR section 127. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(4)(i).]
- 5.3.3. If the Permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order using test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 CFR chapter 1, subchapter N, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or reporting form specified by the Los Angeles Water Board or State Water Board. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(4)(ii).]
- 5.3.4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(4)(iii).]



#### **5.4. Compliance Schedules**

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this Order, shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 CFR section 122.41(l)(5).)

#### **5.5. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting**

5.5.1. The Permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment to the Manager of the Watershed Regulatory Section of the Los Angeles Water Board at (213) 576-6616 and jeong-hee.lim@waterboards.ca.gov. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A report shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.

For noncompliance events related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events, these reports must include the data described above (with the exception of time of discovery) as well as the type of event (i.e., combined sewer overflow, sanitary sewer overflow, or bypass event), type of overflow structure (e.g., manhole, combined sewer overflow outfall), discharge volume untreated by the treatment works treating domestic sewage, types of human health and environmental impacts of the event, and whether the noncompliance was related to wet weather.

As of December 21, 2025, all reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events must be submitted electronically to the initial recipient defined in Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.10. The reports shall comply with 40 CFR part 3, 40 CFR section 122.22, and 40 CFR section 127. The Los Angeles Water Board may also require the Permittee to electronically submit reports not related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this section. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(6)(i).]

5.5.2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours:

- a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).]
- b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).]

5.5.3. The Los Angeles Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(6)(iii).]

## **5.6. Planned Changes**

The Permittee shall give notice to the Los Angeles Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(1)]:

5.6.1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in section 122.29(b) [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(1)(i)];

5.6.2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged (This notification applies to pollutants that are not subject to effluent limitations in this Order) [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(1)(ii)]; or

5.6.3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(1)(iii).]

## **5.7. Anticipated Noncompliance**

The Permittee shall give advance notice to the Los Angeles Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this Order's requirements. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(2).]

## **5.8. Other Noncompliance**

The Permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5 above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting 5.5 above. For noncompliance events related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events, these reports shall contain the information described in Standard Provision – Reporting 5.5 and the applicable required data in appendix A to 40 CFR part 127. As of December 21, 2025, all reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows or bypass events submitted in compliance with this section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Los Angeles Water Board/USEPA Region 9 or initial recipient, as defined in 40 CFR § 127.2(b), in compliance with this section and 40 CFR § 3 (including, in all cases, subpart D to 3), 122.22, and 40 CFR § 127. [40 CFR § 122.41(l)(7).]

### **5.9. Other Information**

When the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA, the Permittee shall promptly submit such facts or information. [40 CFR section 122.41(l)(8).]

### **5.10. Initial Recipient for Electronic Reporting Data**

The owner, operator, or the duly authorized representative is required to electronically submit NPDES information specified in appendix A to 40 CFR part 127 to the initial recipient defined in 40 CFR section 127.2(b). USEPA will identify and publish the list of initial recipients on its website and in the Federal Register, by state and by NPDES data group [see 40 CFR section 127.2(c)]. USEPA will update and maintain this listing. (40 CFR section 122.41(l)(9).)

## **6. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT**

- 6.1. The Los Angeles Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this Order under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13268, 13385, 13386, and 13387.
- 6.2. The CWA provides that any person who violates section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any such sections in a permit issued under section 402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under sections 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the CWA, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 per day for each violation. The CWA provides that any person who negligently violates sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the CWA, or any condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the CWA, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the CWA, is subject to criminal penalties of \$2,500 to \$25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than two years, or both. Any person who knowingly violates such conditions or limitations is subject to criminal penalties of \$5,000 to \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than three years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both. Any person who knowingly violates section 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the CWA, and who knows at that time that he thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000 or imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a

second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and can be fined up to \$2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions [40 CFR section 122.41(a)(2); Water Code sections 13385 and 13387.].

- 6.3. Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Administrator of USEPA, the Los Angeles Water Board, or State Water Board for violating section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of this CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the CWA. Administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed \$10,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed \$25,000. Penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed \$10,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed \$125,000. [40 CFR section 122.41(a)(3).]
- 6.4. The CWA provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than four years, or both. [40 CFR section 122.41(j)(5).]
- 6.5. The CWA provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or non-compliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than six months per violation, or by both. [40 CFR section 122.41(k)(2).]

## **7. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS – NOT APPLICABLE**

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## **ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP), (CI-6432)**

Section 308(a) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and sections 122.41(h), (j)-(l), 122.44(i), and 122.48 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) requires that all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. California Water Code (Water Code) section 13383 also authorizes the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) to establish monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements. This MRP establishes monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements that implement federal and California laws and/or regulations.

### **1. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS**

- 1.1. All samples shall be representative of the waste discharge under conditions of peak load. Results of monthly, quarterly, semiannual, and annual analyses shall be reported by the due date specified in Table E-13 of the MRP. The Permittee shall make every effort to schedule monitoring so that the different seasons are represented in the quarterly and semiannual monitoring throughout the year.
- 1.2. Pollutants, except those analyzed in the field, shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR parts 136.3, 136.4, and 136.5; or where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, by methods approved by the Los Angeles Water Board or the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board).
- 1.3. Laboratory Certification. Laboratories analyzing effluent samples and receiving water samples shall be certified by the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) in accordance with Water Code 13176, or approved by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer, and must include quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) data in their reports. A copy of the laboratory certification shall be provided in the Annual Report due to the Los Angeles Water Board each time a new certification and/or renewal of the certification is obtained.
- 1.4. Water/wastewater samples must be analyzed within allowable holding time limits as specified in 40 CFR part 136.3. All QA/QC analyses must be run on the same dates that samples are actually analyzed. The Permittee shall retain the QA/QC documentation in its files and make available for inspection and/or submit them when requested by the Los Angeles Water Board. Proper chain of custody procedures must be followed, and a copy of that documentation shall be submitted with the monthly report.
- 1.5. The Permittee shall ensure all monitoring instruments are calibrated and maintained to ensure accuracy of measurements.
- 1.6. For any analyses performed for which no procedure is specified in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) guidelines, or in the MRP, the constituent or parameter analyzed, and the method or procedure used must be specified in the monitoring report.

- 1.7. Each monitoring report must affirm in writing that “with the exception of field tests, all analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses under the ELAP or approved by the Executive Officer in accordance with current USEPA guideline procedures or as specified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.”
- 1.8. The monitoring report shall specify the USEPA analytical method used, the Method Detection Limit (MDL), and the Reporting Level (RL) [the applicable minimum level (ML) or reported Minimum Level (RML)] for each pollutant. The MLs are those published by the State Water Board in Appendix II of the Ocean Plan. The ML represents the lowest quantifiable concentration in a sample based on the proper application of all method-based analytical procedures and the absence of any matrix interference. When all specific analytical steps are followed and after appropriate application of method specific factors, the ML also represents the lowest standard in the calibration curve for that specific analytical technique. When there is deviation from the method analytical procedures, such as dilution or concentration of samples, other factors may be applied to the ML depending on the sample preparation. The resulting value is the RML or RL.
- 1.9. The Permittee shall select the analytical method that provides an ML lower than the effluent limitation or performance goal established for a given parameter or where no such requirement exists, the lowest applicable water quality objective in the Ocean Plan. If the effluent limitation, performance goal, or the lowest applicable water quality objective is lower than all the MLs in Appendix II of the Ocean Plan, the Permittee must select the method with the lowest ML for compliance purposes. The Permittee shall include in the Annual Summary Report a list of the analytical methods employed for each test.
- 1.10. The Permittee shall instruct its laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Permittee to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.
- 1.11. If the Permittee samples and performs analyses (other than for process/operational control, startup, research, or equipment testing) on any influent, effluent, or receiving water constituent more frequently than required by this MRP using approved analytical methods, the results of those analyses shall be included in the report. These results shall be reflected in the calculation of the average (or median) used in demonstrating compliance with limitations set forth in this Order.
- 1.12. The Permittee shall develop and maintain a record of all spills or bypasses of raw or partially treated sewage from its collection system or treatment plant according to the requirements in the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) of this Order. This record shall be made available to the Los Angeles Water Board upon request and a spill summary shall be included in the annual summary report.



- 1.13. For all bacteriological analyses, sample dilutions should be performed so the expected range of values is bracketed (for example, with multiple tube fermentation method or membrane filtration method, 2 to 16,000 per 100 mL for total coliform, at a minimum, and 1 to 1000 per 100 mL for *Enterococcus*). The detection methods used for each analysis shall be reported with the results of the analyses.
  - 1.13.1. Detection methods used for coliforms (total and fecal) shall be those presented in Table 1A of 40 CFR part 136 unless alternate methods have been approved in advance by the USEPA pursuant to 40 CFR part 136.
  - 1.13.2. Detection methods used for *E. coli* and *Enterococcus* shall be those presented in Table 1A of 40 CFR part 136 or in the USEPA publication EPA 600/4-85/076, *Test Methods for Escherichia coli and Enterococci in Water By Membrane Filter Procedure*, or any improved method determined by the Los Angeles Water Board to be appropriate.
- 1.14. All receiving and ambient water monitoring conducted in compliance with the MRP must be comparable with the Quality Assurance requirements of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP).
- 1.15. NPDES compliance monitoring focuses on the effects of a specific point source discharge. Generally, it is not designed to assess impacts from other sources of pollution (e.g., nonpoint source runoff, aerial fallout) or to evaluate the current status of important ecological resources in the water body. The scale of existing compliance monitoring programs does not match the spatial and, to some extent, temporal boundaries of the important physical and biological processes in the ocean. In addition, the spatial coverage provided by compliance monitoring programs is less than ten percent of the nearshore ocean environment. Better technical information is needed about status and trends in ocean waters to guide management and regulatory decisions, to verify the effectiveness of existing programs, and to shape policy on marine environmental protection.
- 1.16. The Los Angeles Water Board and USEPA Region 9, working with other groups, have developed a comprehensive basis for effluent and receiving water monitoring appropriate to large publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) discharging to waters of the Southern California Bight. This effort culminated in the publication by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) of the Model Monitoring Program guidance document (Schiff, K.C., J.S. Brown and S.B. Weisberg. 2001. *Model Monitoring Program for Large Ocean Permittees in Southern California*. SCCWRP Tech. Rep. #357. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Westminster, CA. 101 pp.). This guidance provides the principles, framework and recommended design for effluent and receiving water monitoring elements that have guided development of the monitoring program described below. The Permittee operates a Federally owned Treatment Works (FOTW) that treats wastewater of similar quality to

POTWs and includes similar treatment processes as POTWs. Since the operation of the Facility is comparable to a POTW, the SCCWRP guidance applies to SCI WWTP.

1.17. The conceptual framework for the Model Monitoring Program has three components that comprise a range of spatial and temporal scales: (1) core monitoring; (2) regional monitoring; and (3) special studies.

1.17.1. Core monitoring is local in nature and focused on monitoring trends in quality and effects of the point source discharge. This includes effluent monitoring as well as some aspects of receiving water monitoring. In the monitoring program described below, these core components are typically referred to as local monitoring.

1.17.2. Regional monitoring is focused on questions that are best answered by a region-wide approach that incorporates coordinated survey design and sampling techniques. The major objective of regional monitoring is to collect information required to assess how safe it is to swim in the ocean, how safe it is to eat seafood from the ocean, and whether the marine ecosystem is being protected. Key components of regional monitoring include elements to address pollutant mass emission estimations, public health concerns, monitoring of trends in natural resources, assessment of regional impacts from all contaminant sources, and protection of beneficial uses. The final design of regional monitoring programs is developed by means of steering committees and technical committees comprised of participating agencies and organizations and is not specified in this Order. Instead, for each regional component, the degree and nature of participation of the Permittee is specified. For this Order, these levels of effort are based upon past participation of the Permittee in regional monitoring programs.

The Permittee shall participate in regional monitoring activities coordinated by the SCCWRP or any other appropriate agency approved by the Los Angeles Water Board. The procedures and timelines for the Los Angeles Water Board approval shall be the same as detailed for special studies, below.

1.17.3. Special studies are focused on refined questions regarding specific effects or development of monitoring techniques and are anticipated to be of short duration and/or small scale, although multiyear studies also may be needed. Questions regarding effluent or receiving water quality, discharge impacts, ocean processes around the discharge, or development of techniques for monitoring the same, arising out of the results of core or regional monitoring, may be pursued through special studies. These studies are by nature ad hoc and cannot be typically anticipated in advance of the five-year permit cycle.

- 1.18. This monitoring program for SCI WWTP includes requirements to demonstrate compliance with the conditions of the NPDES permit, ensure compliance with State water quality standards, and mandate participation in regional monitoring and/or area-wide studies.
- 1.19. The Permittee shall ensure that the results of the Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study or the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study are submitted annually to the State Water Board at the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Quality Assurance Program Officer  
Office of Information Management and Analysis  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**2. MONITORING LOCATIONS**

The Permittee shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order. The North latitude and West longitude information in Tables E-1 to E-6 are approximate for administrative purposes.

**Table E-1. Influent and Effluent Monitoring Stations**

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Station Name	Monitoring Station Description
--	INF-001	The influent monitoring location shall be established at each point of inflow to the sewage treatment plant and shall be located upstream of any in-plant return flows and where representative samples of the influent can be obtained.
002	EFF-001	The effluent monitoring location shall be located downstream of any in-plant return flows but before entering the discharge tunnel where representative samples of both tertiary-treated and secondary-treated effluent can be obtained.

**Table E-2. Shoreline Bacteria Monitoring Stations**

Monitoring Station Name	Monitoring Station Description
SBM-001 SBM-002	<p>As part of the Ocean Plan core monitoring, monthly bacteria monitoring shall occur at the shoreline nearest the outfall. Samples may be collected along the shoreline as near to the shoreline as can be accessed safely by boat. The report shall contain the actual coordinates of the sample location.</p> <p>SBM-001: Latitude: 33.005219°N, Longitude: 118.553225°W SBM-002: Latitude: 33.003386°N, Longitude: 118.550797°W</p>

**Table E-3. Offshore Receiving Water Monitoring Stations**

Monitoring Station Name	Monitoring Station Description
RSW-001 RSW-002 RSW-003 RSW-004 RSW-005	<p>The report shall contain actual depths and coordinates of the up-current and down-current sample location.</p> <p>RSW-001: Latitude: 33.006006°N, Longitude: 118.553156°W RSW-002: Latitude: 33.006833°N, Longitude: 118.551000°W RSW-003: Latitude: 33.005989°N, Longitude: 118.549544°W RSW-004: Latitude: 33.004489°N, Longitude: 118.548747°W RSW-005: Latitude: 33.003142°N, Longitude: 118.549003°W</p>

**Table E-4. Sediment Monitoring (Subtidal Benthic) Stations**

Monitoring Station Name	Monitoring Station Description
SM-001 near-field SM-002 near-field SM-003 near-field SM-004 near-field SM-005 near-field SM-006 far-field SM-007 far-field SM-008 far-field	<p>The Permittee shall perform a benthic biota survey (intertidal and subtidal) once per permit cycle at multiple near and far field stations. The survey shall be conducted at each SM-00X station and at IBM-001 (see below). This activity also satisfies Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) compliance for determining the status of marine aquatic life. The report shall include the actual coordinates of the location sampled.</p> <p>SM-001: Latitude: 33.008940°N Longitude: 118.552670°W SM-002: Latitude: 33.007380°N Longitude: 118.550190°W SM-003: Latitude: 33.006110°N Longitude: 118.546550°W SM-004: Latitude: 33.004970°N Longitude: 118.545970°W SM-005: Latitude: 33.003460°N Longitude: 118.545750°W SM-006: Latitude: 33.002930°N Longitude: 118.545750°W SM-007: Latitude: 33.002140°N Longitude: 118.545560°W SM-008: Latitude: 33.000650°N Longitude: 118.544690°W</p>

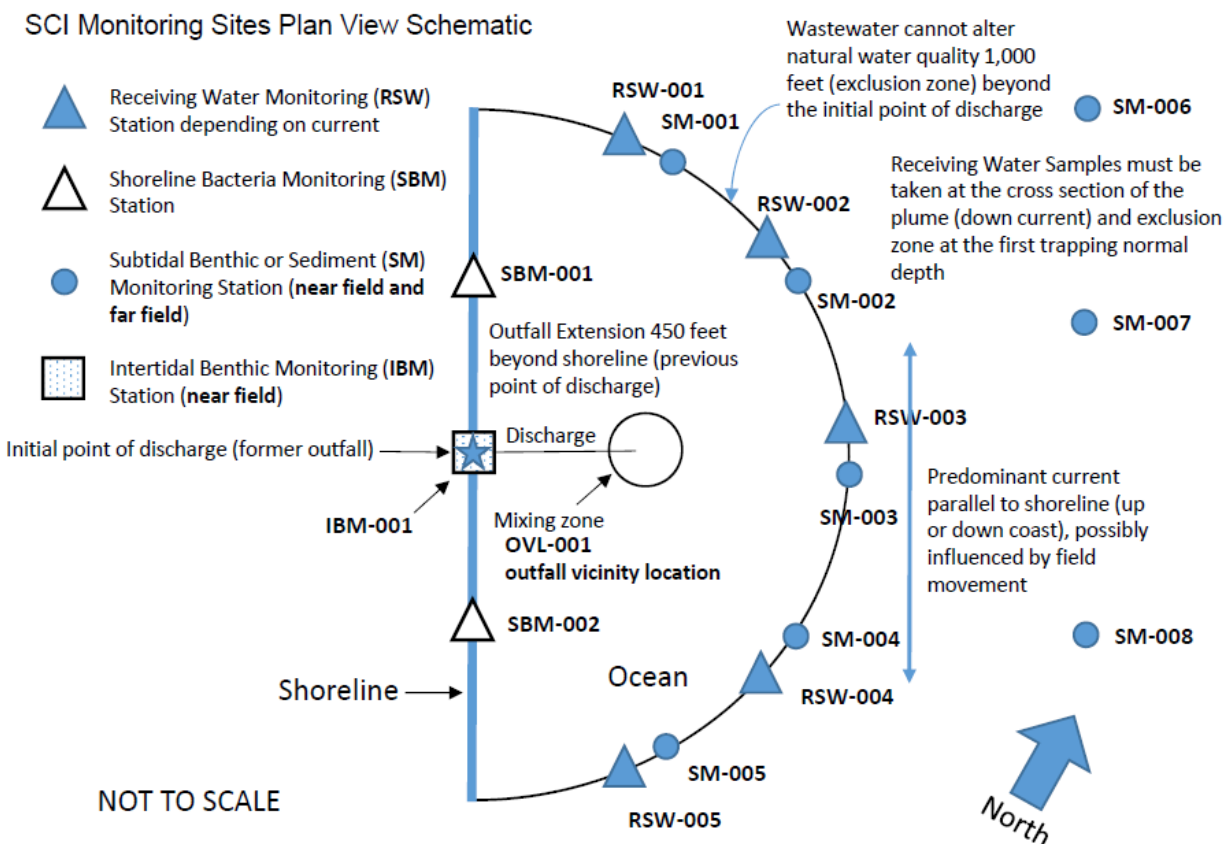
**Table E-5. Intertidal Benthic Monitoring Station**

<b>Monitoring Station Name</b>	<b>Monitoring Station Description</b>
IBM-001 near field	<p>The intertidal benthic monitoring location is located at the terminus of Discharge Point 001 (no longer in service).</p> <p>The Permittee shall perform a benthic biota survey (intertidal and subtidal) once per permit cycle at multiple near and far-field stations. The survey shall be conducted at each SM-00X station and at IBM-001 (see below). This activity also satisfies ASBS compliance for determining the status of marine aquatic life. The report shall include the actual coordinates of the location sampled.</p>

**Table E-6. Outfall Vicinity Monitoring Station**

<b>Monitoring Station Name</b>	<b>Monitoring Station Description</b>
OVL-001	<p>Located near the discharge point at a similar depth but outside the influence of the discharge plume. Temperature and salinity shall be monitored if needed to conduct an updated dilution study. The report shall include the actual depth versus outfall depth and the coordinates of the location sampled.</p> <p>Latitude: 33.000000°N Longitude: 118.564444°W</p>

**Figure E-1. Inshore Water Quality Monitoring Station Locations**



### 3. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Influent monitoring is required to determine compliance with NPDES permit conditions and assess treatment plant performance.

The Permittee shall monitor influent to the facility at INF-001 as follows:

**Table E-7. Influent Monitoring**

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Flow	Million gallons per day (MGD)	Recorder/totalizer	Continuous	a
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C)	mg/L	24-hr composite	Monthly	--
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	24-hr composite	Monthly	--

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
pH	pH units	Grab	Monthly	--
Oil and Grease	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	b
Mercury	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	c, d
Phenolic Compounds (non- chlorinated)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Phenolic Compounds (chlorinated)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Radioactivity (including gross alpha, gross, beta, combined radium-226 & radium-228, tritium, strontium-90 and uranium)	pCi/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f
Dichlorobenzenes	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	g
Chlordane	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e, h
Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloro-ethane (DDT)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Halomethanes	µg/L	Calculated	Semiannually	e
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) as Aroclors	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	e, i
2,3,7,8 - Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) Equivalentents	pg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	e, g, j
Total Chromium	µg/L	grab	Semiannually	c

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Remaining pollutants in Ocean Plan Table 3, except total residual chlorine, acute toxicity, and chronic toxicity	µg/L	24-hr composite; grab for chromium VI, VOCs, and cyanide,	Semiannually	c

**Footnotes for Table E-7**

- a. Total daily flow, the monthly average flow, and instantaneous peak daily flow (24-hr basis) shall be reported. The actual monitored flow shall also be reported (not the design capacity).
- b. Oil and grease monitoring shall consist of a single grab sample at peak flow over a 24-hour period.
- c. Concentrations of metals shall be expressed as total recoverable.
- d. USEPA Method 1631E, with a quantification level of 0.5 ng/L, shall be used to analyze total mercury, unless another 40 CFR 136 method is sufficiently sensitive (ex. influent concentrations exceed the quantification level in the approved method).
- e. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definition of terms.
- f. Analyze these radiochemicals by the following USEPA methods: method 900.0 for gross alpha and gross beta, method 903.0 or 903.1 for radium-226, method 904.0 for radium-228, method 906.0 for tritium, method 905.0 for strontium-90, and method 908.0 for uranium. Analysis for combined radium-226 & 228 shall be conducted only if gross alpha and gross beta results for the same sample exceed 15 pCi/L or 50 pCi/L, respectively. If radium-226 & 228 exceeds 5 pCi/L, then analyze for tritium, strontium-90, and uranium. Although there is currently no ELAP accreditation available for some of the radiochemical methods described above using wastewater, the Permittee shall use an ELAP-accredited laboratory once ELAP accreditation becomes available for the method. The Permittee is required to monitor for those radiochemicals with test methods that can be performed by any commercially available laboratory.
- g. The 40 CFR Part 136 method for phthalate esters, including bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and TCDD equivalents, requires samples to be collected in glass sample containers to avoid interference, which can lead to artifacts and/or elevated baselines in gas chromatograms. Sample collection must be performed using glass sample containers for all phthalate esters, including bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and TCDD equivalents, unless analytical methods for these pollutants in 40 CFR Part 136 specify that other means of sample collection are approved. Grab samples are recommended, but an automatic sampler (composite sample) can be used to collect samples for all phthalate esters, including bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and TCDD equivalents, as long as the sample bottles are glass.



- h. The standards required to analyze chlordene-alpha and chlordene-gamma may not always be readily available; therefore, if the Permittee provides documentation in the self-monitoring report to the Los Angeles Water Board that the standards for these pollutants were not available during the monitoring period, monitoring results for chlordene-alpha and/or chlordene-gamma are waived for that monitoring period only. If monitoring for chlordene-alpha and/or chlordene-gamma is waived for a monitoring period, all other components included in the definition of chlordane must still be analyzed.
- i. PCBs as aroclors shall be analyzed using USEPA method 608.3.
- j. USEPA Method 1613 shall be used to analyze TCDD equivalents.

**End of Footnotes for Table E-7**

**4. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

Effluent monitoring is required to:

- Determine compliance with NPDES permit conditions and water quality standards;
- Assess and improve plant performance and identify operational problems;
- Provide information on wastewater characteristics and flows for use in interpreting water quality and biological data; and
- Conduct reasonable potential analysis for toxic pollutants.

**4.1. Monitoring Location EFF-001**

The Permittee shall monitor at effluent monitoring location EFF-001 for all parameters in Table E-8. If more than one analytical test method is listed for a given parameter, the Permittee must select from the listed methods and corresponding ML.

**Table E-8. Effluent Monitoring**

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Flow	MGD	Recorder/ totalizer	Continuous	a
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	24-hour composite	Monthly	--
TSS	mg/L	24-hour composite	Monthly	--
pH	pH units	Grab	Monthly	--
Oil and Grease	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	b
Temperature	°F	Grab	Monthly	--

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Settleable Solids	mL/L	Grab	Monthly	b
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	--
Turbidity	NTU	24-hr composite	Monthly	b
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	24-hour composite	Semiannually	--
Nitrite Nitrogen	mg/L	24-hour composite	Semiannually	--
Organic Nitrogen	mg/L	Calculated	Semiannually	--
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	24-hour composite	Semiannually	--
Copper	µg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	c
Mercury	µg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	c, d
Zinc	µg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	c
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	b
Ammonia as Nitrogen	mg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	--
Chronic Toxicity <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> Germination and Growth	Pass or Fail % Effect (TST)	24-hr composite	Quarterly	e
Phenolic compounds (non-chlorinated)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f
Phenolic compounds (chlorinated)	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f
Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f
HCH	µg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	f
Radioactivity (including gross alpha, gross beta, combined radium-226 & radium- 228, tritium, strontium- 90 and uranium)	pCi/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	g
Dichlorobenzenes	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	h
Chlordane	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f, i
DDT	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f
Halomethanes	µg/L	Grab	Semiannually	f
Heptachlor	µg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	--
Heptachlor Epoxide	µg/L	24-hr composite	Quarterly	--
PAHs	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f
PCBs as Aroclors	µg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f, j
PCBs as congeners	pg/L	24-hr composite	Semiannually	f, m
TCDD Equivalents	pg/L	24-hr composite	Monthly	f, h, k
Total Chromium	µg/L	Grab	Semiannually	e
PFAS	µg/L	Grab	Semiannually	f, l
Remaining pollutants in Ocean Plan Table 3, except acute toxicity	µg/L	24-hr composite; grab for chromium VI, VOCs and cyanide	Semiannually	c, d

**Footnotes for Table E-8**

- a. When continuous monitoring of flow is required, total daily flow, monthly average flow, and instantaneous peak daily flow (24-hour basis) shall be reported. Actual monitored flow shall be reported (not design capacity).
- b. Oil and grease, settleable solids, turbidity, and total residual chlorine monitoring shall consist of a single grab sample at peak flow over a 24-hour period.
- c. Concentrations of metals shall be expressed as total recoverable.
- d. USEPA Method 1631E, with a quantification level of 0.5 ng/L, shall be used to analyze total mercury, unless another 40 CFR 136 method is sufficiently sensitive (ex. the quantification limit is less than or equal to the most stringent water quality objective).
- e. The Permittee shall conduct whole effluent toxicity monitoring using the most sensitive species, as outlined in section 5 of this MRP.
- f. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definition of terms.

- g. Analyze these radiochemicals by the following USEPA methods: method 900.0 for gross alpha and gross beta, method 903.0 or 903.1 for radium-226, method 904.0 for radium-228, method 906.0 for tritium, method 905.0 for strontium-90, and method 908.0 for uranium. Analysis for combined radium-226 & 228 shall be conducted only if gross alpha and gross beta results for the same sample exceed 15 pCi/L or 50 pCi/L, respectively. If radium-226 & 228 exceeds 5 pCi/L, then analyze for tritium, strontium-90, and uranium. Although there is currently no ELAP accreditation available for some of the radiochemical methods described above using wastewater, the Permittee shall use an ELAP-accredited laboratory once ELAP accreditation becomes available for the method. The Permittee is required to monitor those radiochemicals with test methods that can be performed by any commercially available laboratory.
- h. The 40 CFR Part 136 method for phthalate esters, including bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and for TCDD equivalents, requires samples to be collected in glass sample containers to avoid interference, which can lead to artifacts and/or elevated baselines in gas chromatograms. Sample collection must be performed using glass sample containers for all phthalate esters, including bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and TCDD equivalents, unless analytical methods for these pollutants in 40 CFR Part 136 specify that other means of sample collection are approved. Grab samples are recommended, but an automatic sampler (composite sample) can be used to collect samples for all phthalate esters, including bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and TCDD equivalents, as long as the sample bottles are glass.
- i. The standards required to analyze chlordene-alpha, and chlordene-gamma may not always be readily available; therefore, if the Permittee provides documentation in the self-monitoring report to the Los Angeles Water Board that the standards for these pollutants were not available during the monitoring period, monitoring results for chlordene-alpha and/or chlordene-gamma are waived for that monitoring period only. If monitoring for chlordene-alpha and/or chlordene-gamma is waived for a monitoring period, all other components included in the definition of chlordane must still be analyzed.
- j. PCBs as aroclors shall be analyzed using USEPA method 608.3.
- k. USEPA Method 1613 shall be used to analyze TCDD equivalents.
- l. PFAS shall be analyzed using USEPA method 1633. An alternative ELAP-accredited method for PFAS may be used if the Permittee submits a request to use an alternative method to the Los Angeles Water Board and the request is approved.
- m. PCBs as congeners shall be individually quantified (or quantified as mixtures of isomers of a single congener in co-elutions as appropriate) using USEPA proposed method 1668c. PCBs as congeners shall be analyzed using method EPA 1668c for three years and an alternate method may be used if none of the PCB congeners are detected for three years using method EPA 1668c. USEPA recommends that until USEPA proposed method 1668c for PCBs is incorporated into 40 CFR § 136, permittees should use for discharge monitoring reports/State monitoring reports: (1) USEPA method 608.3 for monitoring data, reported as aroclor results, that will be used for assessing compliance with WQBELs (if applicable) and (2) USEPA

proposed method 1668c for monitoring data, reported as 41 congener results, that will be used for informational purposes to help assess concentrations in the receiving water.

### **End of Footnotes for Table E-8**

## **5. CHRONIC WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **5.1. Discharge In-stream Waste Concentration (IWC) for Chronic Toxicity**

The chronic IWC is the concentration of a pollutant or the parameter toxicity in the receiving water after mixing. The chronic toxicity IWC for Discharge Point 002 is 0.73 percent effluent.

### **5.2. Sample Volume and Holding Time**

The total sample volume shall be determined by the specific toxicity test method used. Sufficient sample volume shall be collected to perform the required toxicity test. All toxicity tests shall be conducted as soon as possible following sample collection. No more than 36 hours shall elapse before the conclusion of sample collection and test initiation.

### **5.3. Chronic Marine Species and Test Methods**

If effluent samples are collected from outfalls discharging to receiving waters with salinity >1 part per thousand (ppt), the Permittee shall conduct the following chronic toxicity tests on effluent samples, at the in-stream waste concentration for the discharge, in accordance with species and test methods in *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms* (EPA/600/R-95/136, 1995). Artificial sea salts or hypersaline brine shall be used to increase sample salinity if needed. In no case shall these species be substituted with another test species unless written authorization from the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer is received.

5.3.1. A static renewal toxicity test with the topsmelt, *Atherinops affinis* (Larval Survival and Growth Test Method 1006.0).

5.3.2. A static non-renewal toxicity test with the purple sea urchin, *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*, and the sand dollar, *Dendraster excentricus* (Fertilization Test Method 1008.0), or a static non-renewal toxicity test with the red abalone, *Haliotis rufescens* (Larval Shell Development Test Method).

5.3.3. A static non-renewal toxicity test with the giant kelp, *Macrocystis pyrifera* (Germination and Growth Test Method 1009.0).

### **5.4. Species Sensitivity Screening**

The Permittee may begin a species sensitivity screening for chronic aquatic toxicity at least 18 months prior to the expiration date of this Order. For continuous dischargers, species sensitivity screening includes four sets of valid

tests completed in the span of one year, with one set collected in each of the four quarters. In each of the four sets, the Permittee shall collect a single effluent sample to initiate and concurrently conduct three toxicity tests using the fish, an invertebrate, and the alga species previously referenced. This sample shall also be analyzed for the parameters required on a monthly frequency for the discharge, during that given month. As required in the test method for *Atherinops affinis* for off-site tests, a minimum of three samples shall be collected preferably on days one, three, and five with a maximum holding time of 36 hours before the first use. Since the Permittee has conducted a species sensitivity screening prior to the effective date of this Order, the most sensitive species selected during that screening process shall be used for the toxicity testing until a new species sensitivity screening is conducted. Toxicity testing for red abalone must be conducted when red abalone is more likely to spawn (January to June). If four successful tests cannot be conducted with red abalone, an alternative invertebrate species, purple sea urchin (*Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*) or the sand dollar (*Dendraster excentricus*), may be used.

If the results of all 12 valid tests conducted during the species sensitivity screening is "Pass," then the species that exhibited the highest percent effect in any single test shall be used for routine monitoring during the following permit cycle. Likewise, if the results of all 12 valid tests conducted during the species sensitivity screening is "Fail," then the species that exhibited the highest percent effect in any single test shall be used for routine monitoring during the following permit cycle. If the result of only one of the 12 valid tests conducted during the species sensitivity screening is "Fail," then the species used in that test shall be used for routine monitoring during the following permit cycle. If there are multiple valid tests conducted during the species sensitivity screening that result in "Fail," the species that resulted in a "Fail" the most often during the species sensitivity screening shall be used in routine monitoring during the following permit cycle. If two species had the same number of tests that result in "Fail" the species that exhibited the highest percent effect in any single test that resulted in "Fail" shall be used during routine monitoring during the following permit cycle.

During the calendar month, toxicity tests used to determine the most sensitive test species shall be reported as effluent compliance monitoring results for the chronic toxicity Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL).

## **5.5. Quality Assurance and Additional Requirements**

Quality assurance measures, instructions, and other recommendations and requirements are found in the test methods manual previously referenced. Additional requirements are specified below:

- 5.5.1. The discharge is subject to determination of "Pass" or "Fail" from a chronic toxicity test using the Test of Significant Toxicity (TST) statistical t-test approach described in the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Test of Significant Toxicity Implementation Document* (EPA 833-R-10-003, 2010), Appendix A, Figure A-1, Table A-1 and Appendix B, Table

B-1. The null hypothesis (Ho) for the TST statistical approach is: Mean discharge IWC response  $\leq 0.75 \times$  Mean control response. A test result that rejects this null hypothesis is reported as “Pass.” A test result that does not reject this null hypothesis is reported as “Fail.” The relative “Percent Effect” at the discharge IWC is defined and reported as:  $[(\text{Mean control response} - \text{Mean discharge IWC response}) \div \text{Mean control response}] \times 100$ . This is a t-test (formally Student’s t-Test), a statistical analysis comparing two sets of replicate observations - in the case of WET, only two test concentrations (i.e., a control and IWC). The purpose of this statistical test is to determine if the means of the two sets of observations are different (i.e., if the IWC or receiving water concentration differs from the control (the test result is “Pass” or “Fail”). The Welch’s t-test employed by the TST statistical approach is an adaptation of Student’s t-test and is used with two samples having unequal variances.

5.5.2. If the effluent toxicity test does not meet all test acceptability criteria (TAC) and all required test conditions specified in the referenced *Short-Term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms* (See Table E-11 for TAC below), the Permittee must re-sample and re-test within 14 days. Deviations from recommended test conditions, specified in the referenced *Short-Term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms*, must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the validity of test results. The Permittee shall consider the degree of the deviation and the potential or observed impact of the deviation on the test results in consultation with Los Angeles Water Board staff before rejecting or accepting a test result as valid, and shall report the results of the validity determination with supporting evidence for that decision in their monthly report.

**Table E-9. USEPA Test Methods and Test Applicability Criteria**

<b>Species &amp; USEPA Test Method Number</b>	<b>TAC</b>
Topsmelt, <i>Atherinops affinis</i> , Larval Survival and Growth Test Method 1006.01. (Table 3 of test method)	80% or greater survival in controls; average dry weight per surviving organism in control chambers equals or exceeds 0.85 mg. Lethal Concentration 50% (LC50) with copper must be $\leq 205 \mu\text{g/L}$ , <25% Minimum Significant Difference (MSD) for survival and <50% MSD for growth. If the test starts with 9-day old larvae, the mean weight per larva must exceed 0.85 milligrams in the reference and brine controls; the mean weight of preserved larvae must exceed 0.72 milligrams. (required)

Species & USEPA Test Method Number	TAC
Purple Sea Urchin, <i>Strongylocentrotus purpuratus</i> , and the Sand Dollar, <i>Dendraster excentricus</i> , Fertilization Test Method 1008.0 (Table 7 of test method)	70% or greater egg fertilization in controls, must achieve an MSD of <25%, and appropriate sperm counts. (required)
Red Abalone, <i>Haliotis rufescens</i> , Larval Shell Development Test Method (Table 3 of test method)	80% or greater normal shell development in the controls; must have statistically significant effect at 56 µg/L zinc and achieve an MSD of <20%. (required)
Giant Kelp, <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> , Germination and Growth Test Method 1009.0 (Table 3 of test method)	70% or greater germination in controls, ≥10 µm germ-tube length in controls, No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) must be below 35 µg/L in the reference toxicant test, and must achieve an MSD of <20% for both germination and germ-tube length in the reference toxicant. (required)

5.5.3. Dilution water and control water, including brine controls, shall be 1-µm-filtered uncontaminated natural seawater, hypersaline brine prepared using uncontaminated natural seawater, or laboratory water prepared and used as specified in the test methods manual. If dilution water and control water is different from test organism culture water, then a second control using culture water shall also be used.

5.5.4. Monthly reference toxicant testing is sufficient. All reference toxicant test results should be reviewed and reported using Effect Concentration 25% (EC25). EC25 is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause an observable adverse effect (e.g., death, immobilization, or serious incapacitation) in 25 percent of the test organisms.

5.5.5. The Permittee shall perform toxicity tests on effluent samples. Chlorine and ammonia shall not be removed from the effluent sample prior to toxicity testing, unless explicitly authorized under this section of the Monitoring and Reporting Program and the rationale is explained in the Fact Sheet (Attachment F).

**5.6. Preparation of an Initial Investigation Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Work Plan**

The Permittee shall update and submit a copy of the Permittee’s initial investigation TRE work plan to the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer for approval within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. If the Executive



Officer does not disapprove the work plan within 60 days of being submitted, the work plan shall become effective. The Permittee shall use USEPA manual EPA/833B-99/002 (municipal) as guidance, or most current version, or USEPA manual *Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations* (EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989). At a minimum, the TRE Work Plan must contain the provisions in Attachment G. This work plan shall describe the steps that the Permittee intends to follow if toxicity is detected. At minimum, the work plan shall include:

- 5.6.1. A description of the investigation and evaluation techniques that will be used to identify potential causes and sources of toxicity, effluent variability, and treatment system efficiency;
- 5.6.2. A description of the Facility's methods of maximizing in-house treatment efficiency and good housekeeping practices, and a list of all chemicals used in the operation of the Facility; and
- 5.6.3. If a TIE is necessary, an indication of the person who would conduct the TIEs (i.e., an in-house expert or an outside contractor).

#### **5.7. Accelerated Monitoring Schedule for Maximum Daily Single Result: "Fail."**

The Maximum Daily single result shall be used to determine if accelerated testing needs to be conducted.

Once the Permittee becomes aware of this result, the Permittee shall implement an accelerated monitoring schedule within 5 calendar days of the receipt of the result. However, if the sample is contracted out to a commercial laboratory, the Permittee shall ensure that the first of six accelerated monitoring tests is initiated within seven calendar days of the Permittee becoming aware of the result. The accelerated monitoring schedule shall consist of six toxicity tests (including the discharge IWC), conducted at approximately two-week intervals, over a twelve-week period; in preparation for the TRE process and associated reporting, these results shall also be reported using the EC25. If each of the accelerated toxicity tests results in "Pass," the Permittee shall return to routine monitoring for the next monitoring period. If one of the accelerated toxicity tests results in "Fail," the Permittee shall immediately implement the TRE Process conditions set forth below. During accelerated monitoring schedules, only TST results ("Pass" or "Fail") for chronic toxicity tests shall be reported as effluent compliance monitoring results for the chronic toxicity MDEL.

#### **5.8. Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Process**

The Permittee shall conduct a TRE in accordance with a Detailed TRE Work Plan as approved by the Los Angeles Water Board. Routine monitoring shall continue during the TRE process and TST results ("Pass" or "Fail") for chronic toxicity tests shall be reported as effluent compliance monitoring results for the chronic toxicity MDEL.

- 5.8.1. **Preparation and Implementation of Detailed TRE Work Plan.** The Permittee shall immediately initiate a TRE using, according to the type of treatment facility, USEPA manual *Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants* (EPA/833/B-99/002, 1999) or *USEPA manual Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations* (EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989) and, within 30 days of a toxicity event, submit to the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer a Detailed TRE Work Plan, which shall follow the initial investigation TRE Work Plan revised as appropriate for this toxicity event. It shall include the following information, and comply with additional conditions set by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer:
- a. Further actions by the Permittee to investigate, identify, and correct the causes of toxicity;
  - b. Actions the Permittee will take to mitigate the effects of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and
  - c. A schedule for these actions, progress reports, and the final report.
- 5.8.2. **TIE Implementation.** The Permittee may initiate a TIE as part of a TRE to identify the causes of toxicity using the same species and test method and, as guidance, USEPA manuals: *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures* (EPA/600/6-91/003, 1991); *Chronic TIE Manual: Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I* (EPA/600/6-91/005F, 1992); *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity* (EPA/600/R-92/080, 1993); *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity* (EPA/600/R-92/081, 1993); and *Marine Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE): Phase I Guidance Document* (EPA/600/R-96-054, 1996). The TIE shall be conducted on the species demonstrating the most sensitive toxicity response.
- 5.8.3. Many recommended TRE elements parallel required or recommended efforts for source control, pollution prevention, and stormwater control programs. TRE efforts should be coordinated with such efforts. As toxic substances are identified or characterized, the Permittee shall continue the TRE by determining the sources and evaluating alternative strategies for reducing or eliminating the substances from the discharge. All reasonable steps shall be taken to reduce toxicity to levels consistent with toxicity evaluation parameters.
- 5.8.4. The Permittee shall continue to conduct routine effluent monitoring while the TIE and/or TRE process is taking place. Additional accelerated monitoring and TRE work plans are not required once a TRE has begun.

5.8.5. The Los Angeles Water Board recognizes that toxicity may be episodic and identification of causes and reduction of sources of toxicity may not be successful in all cases. However, TREs shall be carried out in accordance with the Executive Officer-approved TRE Work Plan.

5.8.6. The Los Angeles Water Board may consider the results of any TIE/TRE studies in an enforcement action.

## 5.9. Reporting

The Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) shall include a full laboratory report for each toxicity test. This report shall be prepared using the format and content of the test methods manual chapter called Report Preparation, including:

5.9.1. The valid toxicity test results for the TST statistical approach, reported as "Pass" or "Fail" and "Percent Effect" at the chronic toxicity IWC for the discharge, using the most sensitive species. All toxicity test results (whether identified as valid or otherwise) conducted during the calendar month shall be reported on the SMR due date specified in Table E-13.

5.9.2. A summary of water quality measurements for each toxicity test (e.g., pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, conductivity, total hardness, salinity, chlorine, and ammonia).

5.9.3. The statistical analysis used in *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Test of Significant Toxicity Implementation Document* (EPA 833-R-10-003, 2010) Appendix A, Figure A-1, Table A-1, and Appendix B, Table B-1.

5.9.4. TRE/TIE results. The Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer shall be notified no later than 30 days from completion of each aspect of TRE/TIE analyses. Prior to the completion of the final TIE/TRE report, the Permittee shall provide status updates in the monthly monitoring reports, indicating which TIE/TRE steps are underway and which steps have been completed.

5.9.5. Statistical program (e.g., TST calculator, CETIS, etc.) output results, including graphical plots, for each toxicity test.

5.9.6. Tabular data and graphical plots clearly showing the laboratory's performance for the reference toxicant, for each solution, for the previous 20 tests and the laboratory's performance for the control mean, control standard deviation, and control coefficient of variation, for each solution, for the previous 12-month period.

5.9.7. Any additional QA/QC documentation or any additional chronic toxicity-related information, upon request from the Los Angeles Water Board Chief Deputy Executive Officer or the Executive Officer.

### **5.10. Ammonia Removal**

5.10.1. Except with prior approval from the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board, ammonia shall not be removed from bioassay samples. The Permittee must demonstrate the effluent toxicity is caused by ammonia because of increasing test pH when conducting the toxicity test. It is important to distinguish the potential toxic effects of ammonia from other pH sensitive chemicals, such as certain heavy metals, sulfide, and cyanide. The following indicators and actions may be used to demonstrate that the toxicity is caused by ammonia and not by other toxicants before the Executive Officer would allow for control of pH in the test.

- a. There is consistent toxicity in the effluent and the maximum pH in the toxicity test is in the range to cause toxicity due to increased pH.
- b. Chronic ammonia concentrations in the effluent are greater than 4 mg/L total ammonia.
- c. Conduct graduated pH tests as specified in the toxicity identification evaluation methods. For example, mortality should be higher at pH 8 and lower at pH 6.
- d. Treat the effluent with a zeolite column to remove ammonia. Mortality in the zeolite treated effluent should be lower than the non-zeolite treated effluent. Then add ammonia back to the zeolite-treated samples to confirm toxicity due to ammonia.

5.10.2. When it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer that toxicity is due to ammonia because of increasing test pH, pH may be controlled using appropriate procedures which do not significantly alter the nature of the effluent.

### **5.11. Chlorine Removal**

Chlorine may be removed from the SCI WWTP effluent bioassay sampled from EFF-001 because there are no appropriate sampling locations that reflect dechlorinated conditions at the outfall.

## **6. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – NOT APPLICABLE**

## **7. RECYCLING MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – NOT APPLICABLE**

## **8. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

All receiving water stations shall be located by state-of-the-art navigational methods [e.g., Global Positioning System (GPS)]; other means (e.g., visual triangulation, fathometer readings) may be used to improve the accuracy of locating stations. Water quality measurements are made with a Conductivity, Temperature and Depth

(CTD) instrument, which also measures other parameters such as pH and light transmissivity.

**8.1. Shoreline/Offshore Microbiological Monitoring Stations**

Microbiological data collected at the shoreline and offshore monitoring stations is required to determine whether bacteriological standards for water contact and shellfish harvesting are being met around the discharge point. Data from both shoreline and offshore monitoring locations are augmented by the monthly bacterial monitoring collected for plant operational purposes.

The Permittee shall monitor bacteria indicators at the two shoreline monitoring stations, SBM-001 and SBM-002, as well as the five offshore monitoring stations, RSW-001, RSW-002, RSW-003, RSW-004, and RSW-005 for the constituents listed in Table E-10 below:

**Table E-10. Shoreline/Offshore Microbiological Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Total Coliform	CFU/100 mL or MPN/100 mL	Grab, surface, and mid-depth and near bottom	Quarterly	a
Fecal Coliform	CFU/100 mL or MPN/100 mL	Grab, surface, and mid-depth and near bottom	Quarterly	a
<i>Enterococcus</i>	CFU/100 mL or MPN/100 mL	Grab, surface, and mid-depth and near bottom	Quarterly	a

**Footnotes for Table E-10**

a. Discrete sampling shall be performed below the surface within 1 meter (3.1 feet), at mid-depth [15 meters (49.2 feet)], and near the bottom at 45 meters (147.6 feet), or as deep as practicable for those stations located at depths less than 45 meters. Bottom sampling shall be conducted 2 meters (6.6 feet) above the seabed. If there is an exceedance of the receiving water quality objectives, the Discharger shall conduct monthly monitoring until the water quality objectives are met in the receiving water, at which point the monitoring frequency shall be reduced back to quarterly.

**End of Footnotes for Table E-10**

**8.2. Offshore Water Quality Monitoring**

This monitoring is designed to determine if the Ocean Plan, ASBS, and Basin Plan objectives for physical and chemical parameters are being met. The data collected will provide the information necessary to demonstrate compliance with the water quality standards.

8.2.1. The Permittee shall conduct offshore water quality monitoring at RSW-001, RSW-002, RSW-003, RSW-004, and RSW-005 annually using grab samples for ammonia and total residual chlorine, and using a CTD profiler for the remaining parameters listed in Table E-11 below.

**Table E-11. Offshore Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Ammonia Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab, surface, and mid-depth and near bottom	Annually	a
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	continuous profile	Annually	b
Temperature	°C	continuous profile	Annually	b
Salinity	ppt	continuous profile	Annually	b
Transmissivity	% transmission	continuous profile	Annually	b, d
Chlorophyll a	µg/L	continuous profile	Annually	b
pH	pH unit	continuous profile	Annually	b
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	Grabs at 0.5 meters below surface at RSW-002 only	Annually	--
Visual Observations	--	--	Annually	c

**Footnotes for Table E-11**

- a. Discrete sampling shall be performed below the surface within 1 meter (3.1 feet) and at 15 meters (49.2 feet), 30 meters (98.4 feet), and 45 meters (147.6 feet), or as deep as practicable for those stations located at depths less than 45 meters. Bottom sampling shall be conducted 2 meters (6.6 feet) above the seabed.
- b. Depth profile measurements shall be obtained using multiple sensors to measure parameters through the entire water column (from the surface to as close to the bottom as practicable).

- c. Receiving water observations shall include a description of any discoloration, turbidity, odor, and unusual or abnormal amounts of floating or suspended matter in the water or on the beach, rocks, jetties, or beach structures, shall be made and recorded at stations. The dates, times, and depths of sampling and these observations shall also be reported. Recreational uses (ex. swimming, wading, water skiing, skin diving, surfing, fishing, etc.) at time of sampling and within a 100-meter radius of each sample location, shall also be recorded and submitted with results.
- d. Turbidity may be measured in lieu of transmissivity at the Discharger’s discretion.

**End of Footnotes for Table E-11**

Water quality methods and protocols shall follow those described in the most current edition of the *Field Operations Manual for Marine Water Column, Benthic, and Trawl Monitoring in Southern California*. Data shall be analyzed to approximate the typical wastewater plume movement and data under different seasonal and weather conditions.

8.2.2. To determine compliance with ASBS requirements, the Permittee shall monitor a single down-current location, at the first trapping normal depth, to demonstrate that natural water quality is not altered in the ASBS outside the exclusion zone (within 1000 feet of the initial point of discharge) when compared to the unaffected reference site. Only one of the RSW locations (RSW-001, RSW-002, RSW-003, RSW-004, or RSW-005) shall be sampled to determine compliance, depending on the direction of the current at the time of sample collection. The selected station must be down-current of the discharge point. Regional monitoring data may be reported for the reference site except for dissolved oxygen and pH, which shall be sampled separately at a single up-current location from the RSW station. Monitoring results for total residual chlorine and visual observations at the selected down-current RSW station shall be reported in the quarterly self-monitoring report. The Permittee shall conduct the following offshore water quality monitoring biennially at a single down-current RSW station and a single up-current reference station concurrent with the effluent monitoring:

**Table E-12. ASBS Compliance Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Oil and Grease	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Settleable Solids	mL/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Biennially	--
pH	Units	Grab	Biennially	--

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Note
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Nitrate	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Phosphate	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Mercury	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	a
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Ammonia Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Biennially	--
Toxicity, Chronic <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> Germination and Growth	Pass or Fail % Effect (TST)	Grab	Biennially	--
Phenolic compounds (non-chlorinated)	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
Phenolic compounds (chlorinated)	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
Endosulfan	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
HCH	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
Radioactivity (including gross alpha, gross beta, combined radium- 226 & radium-228, tritium, strontium-90 and uranium)	pCi/L	Grab	Biennially	c
Dichlorobenzenes	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
Chlordane	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
DDT	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
Halomethanes	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
PAHs	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b
PCBs as Aroclors	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	b, d
TCDD Equivalents	pg/L	Grab	Biennially	b, e
Remaining pollutants in Ocean Plan Table 3, except acute toxicity	µg/L	Grab	Biennially	a

**Footnotes for Table E-12**



- a. USEPA Method 1631E, with a quantification level of 0.5 ng/L, shall be used to analyze total mercury, unless another 40 CFR 136 method is sufficiently sensitive (ex. the quantification limit is less than or equal to the most stringent water quality objective).
- b. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definition of terms.
- c. Analyze these radiochemicals by the following USEPA methods: method 900.0 for gross alpha and gross beta, method 903.0 or 903.1 for radium-226, method 904.0 for radium-228, method 906.0 for tritium, method 905.0 for strontium-90, and method 908.0 for uranium. Analysis for combined radium-226 & 228 shall be conducted only if gross alpha and gross beta results for the same sample exceed 15 pCi/L or 50 pCi/L, respectively. If radium-226 & 228 exceeds 5 pCi/L, then analyze for tritium, strontium-90, and uranium. Although there is currently no ELAP accreditation available for some of the radiochemical methods described above in seawater, the Permittee shall use an ELAP-accredited laboratory once ELAP accreditation becomes available for the method. The Permittee is required to monitor for those radiochemicals with test methods that can be performed by any commercially available laboratory.
- d. PCBs as aroclors shall be analyzed using USEPA method 608.3.
- e. USEPA Method 1613 shall be used to analyze TCDD equivalents.

**End of Footnotes for Table E-12**

**8.3. Benthic Infauna and Sediment Chemistry Monitoring**

**8.3.1. Local Benthic Trends Survey**

This survey is designed to determine if benthic conditions under the influence of the discharge are changing over time. The data collected are used to assess sediment contamination trends and the relationship between effluent-derived alteration of the benthic habitat and patterns in infaunal community structure. This data is also used to determine the status of marine aquatic life to satisfy ASBS requirements.

The Permittee shall monitor the eight subtidal and one intertidal benthic monitoring stations at SM-001, SM-002, SM-003, SM-004, SM-005, SM-006, SM-007, SM-008, and IBM-001 (see Figure E-1) once per permit cycle as follows:

**Table E-13. Benthic Infauna and Sediment Chemistry Monitoring Requirements**

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Monitoring Frequency	Note
Benthic Infauna Community	--	0.1 square meter Van Veen Grab	Once per permit cycle	a, b
Total Organic Carbon	mg/kg	0.1 square meter Van Veen Grab (upper 2 centimeters)	Once per permit cycle	c

Parameter	Unit	Sample Type	Minimum Monitoring Frequency	Note
Organic Nitrogen	mg/kg	0.1 square meter Van Veen Grab (upper 2 centimeters)	Once per permit cycle	c
Grain Size	Phi size	0.1 square meter Van Veen Grab (upper 2 centimeters)	Once per permit cycle	d

**Footnotes for Table E-13**

- a. Community analysis of benthic infauna shall include the number of species, the number of individuals per species, the total numerical abundance per station, the benthic response index (BRI) and biological indices, plus the analysis shall utilize appropriate regression analyses, parametric and nonparametric statistics, and multivariate techniques or other appropriate analytical techniques.
- b. One sample shall be collected at each station for benthic infaunal community analysis during the month of June, July, or August. The entire contents of each sample shall be passed through a 1.0-millimeter screen to retrieve the benthic organisms. Sampling methods and protocols shall follow those described in the most current Bight Regional Monitoring Program. The following determinations shall be made at each station, where appropriate: Identification of all organisms to the lowest possible taxon based on morphological taxonomy and community analysis including the mean, range, standard deviation, and 95% confidence limits. The resulting data shall be used to describe community structure at each station.
- c. Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods appropriate for solid matrices such as ELAP-accredited methods from USEPA SW-846 or other methods approved by the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA Region 9. The analytical method with the lowest ML must be selected.
- d. Sufficiently detailed to calculate percent weight in relation to phi size.

**End of Footnotes for Table E-13**

Intertidal survey methods shall be those used by the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) for their biodiversity surveys. A single intertidal site at IBM-001 (see Figure E-1 and Table E-5) shall be surveyed as close to the discharge as possible and compared to a reference location around San Clemente Island approved through the regional monitoring program.

Subtidal surveys and sampling at SM-001 through SM-008 (See Figure E-1 and Table E-4) may include rocky reef and/or soft-bottom habitats as appropriate to the actual benthic conditions at the edge of the exclusion zone (within 1,000 feet of the initial point of discharge). The far-field samples at SM-006 through SM-008 shall be collected from a habitat comparable to the near-field samples at SM-001 through SM-005. Subtidal

soft-bottom sampling shall conform with the methods used in the SCCWRP Southern California Bight regional surveys. Subtidal rocky reef surveys shall be non-destructive and conform to the methods used in the SCCWRP Southern California Bight regional surveys.

### **8.3.2. Regional Benthic Survey**

This regional survey is designed to determine the extent, distribution, magnitude and trends associated with ecological change in soft-bottom benthic habitats within the Southern California Bight and the relationship between biological response and contaminant exposure. The data collected will be used to assess the condition of the sea-floor environment and the health of the biological resources in the Bight.

Sampling Design – The most recent regional survey of benthic conditions within the Southern California Bight is currently underway (Bight '23). The final survey design was determined cooperatively by the participants represented on the Regional Steering Committee. The Permittee is encouraged to provide support to the Bight '23 benthic surveys by participating in or performing the following activities:

- a. Participation on the Steering Committee
- b. Participation on the relevant Technical Committees (e.g., Information Management, Field Methods and Logistics, Benthos and Chemistry)
- c. Field sampling at sea
- d. Infaunal sample analysis
- e. Sediment chemistry analysis
- f. Data management

## **9. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

### **9.1 Outfall and Diffuser Inspection**

This survey is designed to ensure that the outfall structures are in serviceable condition and that they continue to be operated safely. The data collected will be used to periodically assess the integrity of the outfall pipes and ballasting system.

The ocean outfall (up to the terminus of Discharge Point 002) shall be inspected externally a minimum of once every other year during the month of July or August starting in 2025. Inspections shall include general observations and photographic/videographic records of the exterior outfall pipes and the adjacent ballast ocean bottom. The pipes shall be visually inspected by a diver, manned submarine, or remotely operated vehicle. A summary report of the inspection findings shall be submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following the year of the inspection. This written report, augmented with videographic and/or photographic images, shall include a description of the

observed condition of the discharge pipe from shallow water to its respective terminus.

## **9.2. Biosolids and Sludge Management**

The Permittee must comply with all Clean Water Act and regulatory requirements of 40 CFR § 257, 258, 501, and 503, including all applicable monitoring, record keeping, and reporting requirements. The Permittee must comply with the requirements in Attachment H of this Order.

## **9.3. Monitoring of Volumetric Data for Wastewater and Recycled Water**

The Permittee shall monitor the following:

**9.3.1. Influent:** The monthly total volume of wastewater collected and treated by the wastewater treatment plant.

**9.3.2. Production:** The monthly volume of wastewater treated, specifying level of treatment.

**9.3.3. Discharge:** The monthly volume of treated wastewater discharged to specific water bodies as categorized in Section 3.2.3 of the Recycled Water Policy. The level of treatment shall also be specified.

**9.3.4. Reuse:** The monthly volume of recycled water distributed, and annual volume of treated wastewater distributed for beneficial use in compliance with California Code of Regulations, title 22 in each of the use categories specified in Section 3.2.4 of the Recycled Water Policy.

## **10. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **10.1. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements**

10.1.1. The Permittee shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.

10.1.2. If there is no discharge during any reporting period, the report shall so state.

10.1.3. Each monitoring report shall contain a separate section titled Summary of Noncompliance, which discusses the compliance record and the corrective actions taken or planned that may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with WDRs. This section shall clearly list all noncompliance with discharge requirements, all excursions of effluent limitations, and other noncompliance issues, including, but not limited to a report of any unresolved odor complaints that demonstrate noncompliance with odor prohibitions (section 6.1.2.b), a report of any power outage or use or failure of alternate power source (section 6.3.4.c), and the resolution of any noncompliance.

10.1.4. The Permittee shall inform the Los Angeles Water Board well in advance of any proposed construction or maintenance activity, or

modification to the FOTW, including any outfall port modifications, that could potentially affect compliance with applicable requirements.

- 10.1.5. The date and time of sampling (as appropriate) shall be reported with the analytical values determined.
- 10.1.6. The laboratory conducting analyses shall be certified by the State Water Resources Control Board, DDW, ELAP, in accordance with CWC section 13176, or approved by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer, in consultation with the State Water Board's Quality Assurance Program, and USEPA for that particular parameter and must include QA/QC data in their reports. A copy of the laboratory certification shall be provided each time a new/renewal certification is obtained from ELAP and must be submitted with the annual summary report. Each monitoring report must affirm in writing that: "All analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Water Resources Control Board's ELAP or approved by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer (in consultation with the State Water Board's Quality Assurance Program) and USEPA, and in accordance with current USEPA guideline procedures or as specified in this MRP."
- 10.1.7. Upon request by the Permittee, the Los Angeles Water Board, in consultation with the State Water Board's Quality Assurance Program and/or USEPA, may establish an ML that is not contained in Appendix II of the Ocean Plan, to be included in the Permittee's NPDES permit, in any of the following situations:
  - a. When the pollutant under consideration is not included in Appendix II;
  - b. When the Permittee agrees to use a test method that is more sensitive than those specified in 40 CFR § 136 (most recent revision);
  - c. When the Permittee agrees to use an ML lower than those listed in Appendix II;
  - d. When the Permittee demonstrates that the calibration standard matrix is sufficiently different from that used to establish the ML in Appendix II and proposes an appropriate ML for their matrix; or
  - e. When the Permittee uses a method whose quantification practices are not consistent with the definition of an ML. Examples of such methods are the USEPA-approved method 1613 for dioxins and furans, method 1624 for volatile organic substances, and method 1625 for semi-volatile organic substances. In such cases, the Permittee, Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Board and USEPA shall agree on a lowest quantifiable limit, and that limit will

substitute for the ML for reporting and compliance determination purposes.

- 10.1.8. Records and reports of marine monitoring surveys conducted to meet receiving water monitoring requirements shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - a. A description of climatic and receiving water characteristics at the time of sampling (weather observations, unusual or abnormal amounts of floating debris, discoloration, wind speed and direction, swell or wave action, time of sampling or measurements, tidal stage and height, etc.).
  - b. The date, exact place and description of sampling stations, including differences unique to each station (e.g., date, time, station location, depth, and sample type).
  - c. A list of the individuals participating in field collection of samples or data and description of the sample collection and preservation procedures used in the various surveys.
  - d. A description of the specific method used for laboratory analysis, the date(s) the analyses were performed and the individuals participating in these analyses.
  - e. An in-depth discussion of the results of the survey. All tabulations and computations shall be explained.
- 10.1.9. The Permittee shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with this Order.
- 10.1.10. The Permittee shall attach a cover letter to the monitoring reports. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the Order; discuss corrective actions taken or planned; and the proposed time schedule for corrective actions. Identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation.

## **10.2. Self-monitoring Reports (SMRs)**

- 10.2.1. The Permittee shall electronically submit SMRs using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program [Web site](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html) (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>). The CIWQS website will provide additional information for SMR submittal when there are planned service interruptions for electronic submittals.
- 10.2.2. The Permittee shall report in the SMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections 3 through 9. The Permittee shall submit monthly, quarterly, semiannual, and annual SMRs including the results of all required monitoring using USEPA-approved test methods

or other test methods specified in this Order. SMRs must include all new monitoring results obtained since the last SMR was submitted. If the Permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order (other than for process/operational control, startup, research, or equipment testing), the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR.

10.2.3. Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule, except where specific monitoring periods and reporting dates are required elsewhere in the Order:

**Table E-14. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule**

<b>Sampling Frequency</b>	<b>Monitoring Period Begins On</b>	<b>Monitoring Period</b>	<b>SMR Due Date</b>
Continuous	Order effective date	All	Submit with Quarterly SMR
Daily	Order effective date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.	Submit with Quarterly SMR
Weekly	Sunday following Order effective date or on permit effective date if on a Sunday	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with Quarterly SMR
Monthly	First day of calendar month following Order effective date or on permit effective date if that date is first day of the month	1st day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	Submit with quarterly SMR
Quarterly	Closest of January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 following (or on) Order effective date	January 1 to March 31 April 1 to June 30 July 1 to September 30 October 1 to December 31	May 15 August 15 November 15 February 15

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Semiannually	Closest of January 1 or July 1 following (or on) Order effective date	January 1 to June 30 July 1 to December 31	Submit with quarterly SMR on: August 15 February 15
Annually	January 1 following (or on) Order effective date	January 1 to December 31	April 30
Annually (Volumetric Reporting)	Order effective date	January 1 to December 31	April 30
Receiving Water Summary Report	Order effective date	January 1 to December 31	August 1
Receiving Water Biennial Report	Order effective date	January 1 to December 31 of the following year	August 1
Outfall Inspection Report every other year	Order effective date	July 1 to August 31	August 1

10.2.4. **Reporting Protocols.** The Permittee shall report the applicable ML and the current MDL with each sample result, as determined by the procedure in 40 CFR part 136. The Permittee shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

- a. Sample results greater than or equal to the ML shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).
- b. Sample results less than the ML, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported. For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ. The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy ( $\pm$  a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.



- c. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or "ND."
- d. Permittees are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Permittee to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.

10.2.5. **Compliance Determination.** Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined using sample reporting protocols defined above and section 7 of this Order. For purposes of reporting and administrative enforcement by the Los Angeles Water Board and State Water Board, the Permittee shall be deemed out of compliance with effluent limitations if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reported ML.

10.2.6. **Multiple Sample Data.** When determining compliance with a measure of central tendency (arithmetic mean, geometric mean, median, etc.) of multiple sample analyses the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "DNQ" or "ND," the Permittee shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

- a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The Order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
- b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

10.2.7. The Permittee shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with interim and/or final effluent limitations. The Permittee is not required to duplicate the submittal of data that is entered in a tabular format within CIWQS. When electronic submittal of data is required and CIWQS does not provide for entry into a tabular format within the system, the Permittee shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.

### 10.3. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs)

DMRs are USEPA reporting requirements. The Permittee shall electronically certify and submit DMRs together with SMRs using Electronic Self-Monitoring Reports module eSMR 2.5 or any upgraded version. Electronic DMR submittal shall be in addition to electronic SMR submittal. Information about electronic DMR submittal is available at the [DMR website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/discharge_monitoring) at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/discharge\\_monitoring](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/discharge_monitoring).

#### **10.4. Other Reports**

10.4.1. The Permittee shall report the results of any special studies, chronic toxicity testing, TRE/TIE, PMP, and Pollution Prevention Plan required by Special Provisions – section 6.3 of this Order. The Permittee shall submit reports in compliance with SMR reporting requirements described in subsection 10.2. above.

#### 10.4.2. Hauling Report

- a. If wastes are transported to a different disposal site during the reporting period, the following shall be reported:
  - i. Types of wastes and quantity of each type;
  - ii. Name and either the address or the State registration number for each hauler of wastes (or the method of transport if other than by hauling); and
  - iii. Location of the final point(s) of disposal for each type of wastes.
- b. If no waste is transported off site during the reporting period, a statement to that effect shall be submitted.

#### 10.4.3. Annual Summary Report

By April 30 of each year, the Permittee shall submit an annual report containing a discussion of the previous year's influent/effluent analytical results, a summary of the shoreline bacteria monitoring, and a recycled water progress report describing any updates to the development of increased recycled water production. The annual report shall contain an overview of any plans for upgrades to the treatment plant's collection system, the treatment processes, the outfall system, or any changes that may affect the quality of the effluent. The Permittee shall submit annual reports to the Los Angeles Water Board in accordance with the requirements described in subsection 10.2.7 above.

Each annual monitoring report shall contain a separate section titled Reasonable Potential Analysis which discusses whether reasonable potential was triggered for pollutants which do not have a final effluent limitation in the NPDES permit. This section shall contain the following statement: "The analytical results for this sampling period did/did not

trigger reasonable potential.” If reasonable potential was triggered, then the following information shall also be provided:

- a. A list of the pollutant(s) that triggered reasonable potential.
- b. The exceeded Ocean Plan criteria for each given pollutant.
- c. The concentration of the pollutant(s).
- d. The test method used to analyze the sample.
- e. The date and time of sample collection.

#### 10.4.4. Receiving Water Monitoring Report

An annual summary of the receiving water monitoring data collected during each sampling year (January-December) shall be prepared and submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board by August 1st of the following year. This annual summary shall include a compliance summary and discussion of plant performance over the year as well as a brief discussion of the monitoring results.

A detailed Receiving Water Monitoring Biennial Assessment Report of the data collected during the two previous calendar sampling years (January-December) shall be prepared and submitted so that it is received by the Los Angeles Water Board by August 1st of every other year. Any effluent compliance issues during that period shall also be discussed. This report shall include a description of the nearfield zone and an in-depth analysis of the biological and chemical data following recommendations in the *Design of 301(h) Monitoring Programs for Municipal Wastewater Discharges to Marine Water* (USEPA, November 1982; 430/982-010; pages 74-91) and the Model Monitoring Program Guidance Document (Schiff, K.C., J.S. Brown and S.B. Weisberg, 2001. *Model Monitoring Program for Large Ocean Dischargers in Southern California*. SCCWRP Tech. Rep #357. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Westminster, CA. 101 pp.). Data shall be tabulated, summarized, graphed where appropriate, analyzed, interpreted, and generally presented in such a way as to facilitate ready understanding of its significance. Spatial and temporal trends shall be examined and compared. The relationship of physical and chemical parameters shall be evaluated. See also section 8 of this MRP. All receiving water monitoring data (including bioassessment/taxonomic data, continuous data, etc.) shall be submitted in a format compatible with the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) when feasible.

The first assessment report shall be due August 1, 2025, and cover the sampling periods of January-December 2023 and January-December 2024. Subsequent reports shall be due August 1, 2027, and August 1,

2029, to cover sampling periods from January 2025 to December 2026, and January 2027 to December 2028, respectively.

10.4.5. The Permittee shall submit to the Los Angeles Water Board, together with the first monitoring report required by this Order, a list of all chemicals and proprietary additives which could affect this waste discharge, including quantities of each. Any subsequent changes in types and/or quantities shall be reported promptly.

10.4.6. Outfall Inspection Report

By August 1 following the year of each outfall inspection, the Permittee shall prepare and submit a summary report of the outfall inspection findings for the previous calendar year. This written report, augmented with videographic and/or photographic images, shall provide a description of the observed external condition of the discharge pipe from shallow water to its respective terminus.

The first summary report shall be due August 1, 2026, covering the monitoring period from July 2024 – August 31, 2025.

10.4.7. Technical Report on Preventive and Contingency Plans

The Permittee is required to file with the Los Angeles Water Board a technical report on its preventive (failsafe) and contingency (cleanup) plans for controlling accidental discharges and for minimizing the effect of such events within 90 days after the effective date of this Order. This technical report can be combined with the Spill Clean-up Contingency Plan specified in section 6.3.3.b. of the Order. The technical report shall:

- a. Identify the possible sources of accidental loss, untreated waste bypass, and contaminated drainage. Loading and storage areas, power outage, waste treatment unit outage, and failure of process equipment, tanks, and pipes should be considered.
- b. Evaluate the effectiveness of present facilities and procedures and state when they become operational.
- c. Describe facilities and procedures needed for effective preventive and contingency plans.
- d. Predict the effectiveness of the proposed facilities and procedures and provide an implementation schedule contingent interim and final dates when they will be constructed, implemented, or operational.

10.4.8. Climate Change Effects Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan

The Permittee shall develop and submit a Climate Change Effects Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan (Climate Change Plan), as specified in section 6.3.4.c. of the Order.

10.4.9. Annual Volumetric Reporting of Wastewater and Recycled Water

The Permittee shall electronically submit annual volumetric reports to the State Water Board by April 30 each year covering data collected during the previous calendar year using the State Water Board's GeoTracker [website](http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov) (geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov) under site-specific global identification number WDR100000593. The annual volumetric report shall include information specified in section 9.4, above. A report upload confirmation from the GeoTracker data system, or other indication of completed submittals, shall be included in the annual summary report and submitted to CIWQS.

10.4.10. Initial Investigation TRE Work Plan

The Permittee shall update and submit a copy of the Permittee's initial investigation TRE work plan to the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board for approval within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. If the Executive Officer does not disapprove the work plan within 60 days, the work plan shall become effective. The Permittee shall use USEPA manual EPA/833B-99/002 (municipal) as guidance, or the most current version, or the USEPA manual *Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations* (EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989). At a minimum, the TRE Work Plan must contain the provisions in Attachment G. This work plan shall describe the steps that the Permittee intends to follow if toxicity is detected. Refer to MRP section 5.6 for detailed requirements.

**ATTACHMENT F. FACT SHEET**

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**ATTACHMENT F. FACT SHEET**

As described in section 2.2 of this Order, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) incorporates this Fact Sheet as findings of the Los Angeles Water Board supporting the issuance of this Order. This Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this Order.

This Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this Permittee. Sections or subsections of this Order not specifically identified as “not applicable” are fully applicable to this Permittee.

**1. PERMIT INFORMATION**

The following table summarizes administrative information related to the Facility.

**Table F-1. Facility Information**

<b>WDID</b>	4B190703003
<b>Permittee</b>	United States Navy (Navy)
<b>Name of Facility</b>	San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (SCI WWTP)
<b>Facility Address</b>	Navy Auxiliary Landing Field, San Clemente Island, CA, Los Angeles County
<b>Facility Contact, Title and Phone</b>	Christina Kasprovich, Environmental Compliance Branch Manager, (619) 545-7187
<b>Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports</b>	Same as Above
<b>Mailing Address</b>	Department of the Navy, Environmental Division, Naval Base Coronado, Building 3, P.O. Box 357088, San Diego, CA 92135-7088
<b>Billing Address</b>	Same as mailing address
<b>Type of Facility</b>	Federally-owned Treatment Works (FOTW)
<b>Major or Minor Facility</b>	Minor
<b>Threat to Water Quality</b>	1
<b>Complexity</b>	B
<b>Pretreatment Program</b>	No
<b>Recycling Requirements</b>	Producer and User
<b>Facility Permitted Flow</b>	0.025 million gallons per day (MGD) monthly average
<b>Facility Design Flow</b>	0.06 MGD – Secondary Treatment Process 0.03 MGD – Tertiary Treatment Process
<b>Watershed</b>	San Clemente Island Watershed
<b>Receiving Water</b>	Pacific Ocean
<b>Receiving Water Type</b>	Ocean waters

- 1.1. The Navy (hereinafter Permittee) owns and operates an FOTW comprised of the SCI WWTP (hereinafter Facility) and its associated wastewater collection system and outfalls. For the purposes of this Order, references to “Discharger” or “Permittee” in applicable federal and state laws, regulation, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.
- 1.2. The Facility discharges wastewater to the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States. The Permittee was previously regulated by Order R4-2018-0156 and NPDES Permit Number CA0110175, adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on November 8, 2018. This Order expired on December 31, 2023.

Regulations at title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) section 122.46 limit the duration of NPDES permits to a fixed term not to exceed five years. Accordingly, Table 3 of this Order limits the duration of the discharge authorization. However, pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 23, section 2235.4, the terms and conditions of an expired permit are automatically continued pending reissuance of the permit if the Permittee complies with all federal NPDES requirements for continuation of expired permits. The Permittee filed a report of waste discharge and applied for reissuance of its WDRs and NPDES permit on July 27 and August 14, 2023. Supplemental information was requested by the Los Angeles Water Board on August 15 and October 11, 2023, and was received on September 17, and November 9, 2023, respectively. The application was deemed complete on December 13, 2023. A site visit was conducted on March 6, 2024, to observe operations and to collect additional data to develop permit limitations and conditions. The terms and conditions of the current NPDES order have been automatically continued and remain in effect until the new WDRs and NPDES permit are adopted pursuant to this Order. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

- 1.3. The Permittee is authorized to discharge subject to waste discharge requirements in this Order at the discharge location described in Table 1 of this Order.

**1.4. Dilution Credits**

California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Ocean Standards Unit staff applied data from the California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations nearshore stations surveyed in the summers 2010 and 2011 to evaluate the minimum initial dilution for Discharge Point 002. Based on the results, State Water Board staff agreed with the original Navy report suggesting 136 as the value for minimum initial dilution as defined in the California Ocean Plan for use in the Order. On August 29, 2019, the Permittee submitted a dilution study work plan and the Los Angeles Water Board provided comments on the dilution study work plan on November 8, 2019. On December 20, 2023, the Permittee submitted a report for the dilution study indicating that the current minimum initial dilution of 136 is appropriate based on actual receiving water conditions. However, since the work plan was never finalized and

the report submitted did not address the Los Angeles Water Board's comments provided to the Permittee on November 8, 2019, this Order requires the discharger to submit a revised work plan for approval and to rerun the model to confirm the current dilution ratio continues to be appropriate.

## **2. FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

### **2.1. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls**

2.1.1. The Permittee owns and operates the SCI WWTP, which is located approximately 1,500 feet east of Wilson Cove and discharges a maximum monthly average of 0.025 MGD of treated wastewater to the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States. This maximum permitted flow is a result of discussions between the Navy and the State Water Board regarding discharge to a designated Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). The SCI WWTP has a secondary treatment capacity of 0.06 MGD and a tertiary treatment capacity of 0.03 MGD. For the period from January 2019 to September 2023, the average monthly discharge was 0.015 MGD with a maximum monthly average discharge of 0.026 MGD in February 2019.

The Facility receives sewage from a separated sanitary sewer serving a population of approximately 500 people, except in cases when extra personnel are present due to training on the island. In those cases, wastewater from portable toilets may be delivered directly to the headworks of the treatment system. Only residential wastes are discharged to the sanitary sewer, and all industrial drains have been capped with concrete. Industrial wastes (used oil, used antifreeze, used batteries, etc.) are stored onsite and are transported off the island via barge and properly disposed of in accordance with federal and state regulations. There is no industry on the island and most of the industrial waste generated is associated with facility and vehicle maintenance. Septage from the 22 septic tanks on the island may also be delivered directly to the headworks on an emergency basis to avoid or mitigate overflows. The septic tanks are routinely pumped by a contractor and septage transported offsite by barge to a City of San Diego treatment works pump station.

2.1.2. The Facility's treatment system consists of a package-type secondary-23 wastewater treatment process, built in 1979, and a recently installed package-type tertiary wastewater treatment process which started operation in July 2021. The influent flows through a comminutor and then into a primary equalization tank. The two plants are hydraulically connected at this point and the flow may be directed to either plant. The secondary-23 treatment process has a design capacity of 0.060 MGD and consists of comminution, equalization, activated sludge extended aeration, clarification, chlorination, and dechlorination. The tertiary treatment

process has a design capacity of 0.030 MGD and consists of the Smith and Loveless Titan Membrane Bio Reactor Package, which includes fine screening, flow equalization, sludge storage, anoxic zones, an aeration zone including an immersion-type membrane module of flat sheet polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF), a filtration zone, chlorine contact, and dechlorination. The membrane is the Membray® brand manufactured by Toray and is listed as an approved technology by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW), in their *Alternative Treatment Technology Report for Recycled Water* published in 2014. Treated wastewater, prior to dechlorination, is pumped to either a tertiary or a secondary-23 recycled water storage tank, depending on water quality. The sludge is either dried in drying beds or bagged for dewatering over plastic pallets. The dried solids are sent to the landfill on San Clemente Island for disposal and regulated under Order No. R4-2010-0045, adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on March 04, 2010. A process flow diagram of the Facility consisting of both treatment processes is depicted in Attachment C.

The Navy intends to operate the tertiary treatment process exclusively, except during startup and maintenance of the tertiary process, and during emergencies. The secondary process will only be operated in emergency situations or when the tertiary process must be shut down for maintenance. A membrane failure in the Tertiary MBR process caused by foreign debris clogging on June 7, 2023. Since that time, the wastewater treatment process has been switched over to the secondary treatment process. The Permittee is currently working to repair the tertiary process.

- 2.1.3. **Recycled Water.** In 2022, approximately 2,700 gallons per day (GPD) of disinfected secondary-23 recycled water was used for dust control and soil compaction, and 64 GPD of disinfected tertiary recycled water were used for toilet flushing. These uses are regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements and Title 22 Water Recycling Requirements (WRRs), Order No. R4-2015-0107.

## 2.2. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

The Facility historically has had two discharge points located 250 feet east of the Facility on the northeast end of the island approximately 1,000 feet south of Wilson Cove. Discharge Point 001 is a shoreline discharge and has been decommissioned. Discharge Point 002 is a submerged, 450-foot long, 3.6-inch diameter, outfall located 70 feet below the ocean's surface. Discharge Point 002 is within the ASBS exclusion area because it is within a 1,000-foot radius from the original end-of-pipe (State Water Board Resolution 77-11).

## 2.3. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data

Effluent limitations contained in the previous Order Number R4-2018-0156 for discharges from Discharge Point 002 (Monitoring Location EFF-001) and

representative monitoring data collected from January 1, 2019 to September 30, 2023 are summarized in Table F-2.

**Table F-2. Effluent Limitations in Order Number R4-2018-0156 and Historical Monitoring Data at EFF-001**

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limit (AMEL)	Average Weekly Effluent Limit (AWEL)	Maximum Daily Effluent Limit (MDEL)	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limit	Maximum Monthly Average Reported	Maximum Weekly Average Reported	Daily Maximum Reported	Instantaneous Maximum Reported	Notes
Five-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand at 20 °C (BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C)	mg/L	30	45	--	--	20.3	20.3	--	--	--
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	30	45	--	--	30.9	30.9	--	--	--
Removal Efficiency for TSS	%	≥85	--	--	--	50	--	--	--	a
Removal Efficiency for BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	%	≥85	--	--	--	72	--	--	--	a
Temperature	°F	--	--	--	100	--	--	--	78.4	--
pH	standard unit (SU)	--	--	--	6.0 - 9.0	--	--	--	4.6 - 8.3	b
Oil and Grease (O&G)	mg/L	25	40	--	75	9.8	9.8	--	9.8	

Parameter	Unit	Average Monthly Effluent Limit (AMEL)	Average Weekly Effluent Limit (AWEL)	Maximum Daily Effluent Limit (MDEL)	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limit	Maximum Monthly Average Reported	Maximum Weekly Average Reported	Daily Maximum Reported	Instantaneous Maximum Reported	Notes
Settleable Solids	mL/L	1.0	1.5	--	3.0	1	1	--	1	
Turbidity	NTU	75	100	--	225	21.4	21.4	--	21.4	
Copper	µg/L	139	--	1,370	3,840	42	--	42	43	
Zinc	µg/L	1,650	--	9,870	26,310	163	--	163	169	
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.274	--	0.1	8.2	8.95	--	8.95	9.2	
Chronic Toxicity	Pass or Fail	--	--	Pass	--	--	--	Pass (40 of 40)	--	
Tetrachloro-dibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) Equivalents	pg/L	0.53	--	--	--	3.36	--	--	--	



## 2.4. Compliance Summary

The following table lists the Facility's exceedances of effluent limitations in Order No. R4-2018-0156 that occurred between January 2019 and September 2023.

**Table F-3. List of Non-compliance**

<b>Date of Occurrence</b>	<b>Description</b>
03/04/19	TCDD Equivalents AMEL is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 1 pg/L at EFF-001.
06/24/19	TCDD Equivalents AMEL is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 0.66 pg/L at EFF-001.
07/08/19	TCDD Equivalents AMEL is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 1.25 pg/L at EFF-001.
08/19/19	TCDD Equivalents AMEL is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 1.733 pg/L at EFF-001.
08/19/19	pH Instantaneous Minimum limit is 6.0 SU and reported value was 5.74 SU at EFF-001.
09/16/19	pH Instantaneous Minimum limit is 6.0 SU and reported value was 5.9 SU at EFF-001.
01/06/20	pH Daily Minimum limit is 6.0 SU and reported value was 5.82 SU at EFF-001.
02/03/20	pH Daily Minimum limit is 6.0 SU and reported value was 4.72 SU at EFF-001.
05/04/20	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.021 lbs/day and reported value was 0.962 lbs/day at EFF-001.
05/04/20	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.1 mg/L and reported value was 7.62 mg/L at EFF-001.
05/31/20	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.274 mg/L and reported value was 7.62 mg/L at EFF-001.
05/31/20	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.06 lbs/day and reported value was 0.962 lbs/day at EFF-001.
07/07/20	pH Instantaneous Minimum limit is 6.0 SU and reported value was 5.85 SU at EFF-001.
08/03/20	pH Instantaneous Minimum limit is 6.0 SU and reported value was 4.87 SU at EFF-001.

Date of Occurrence	Description
08/04/20	TCDD Equivalents 30-Day Average limit is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 1.444 pg/L at EFF-001.
12/07/20	BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C, Percent Removal Percent Reduction limit is 85% and reported value was 83% at EFF-001.
02/08/21	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.1 mg/L and reported value was 6.10 mg/L at EFF-001.
02/08/21	Chlorine, Total Residual MDLE is 0.021 lbs/day and reported value was 1.25 lbs/day at EFF-001.
02/28/21	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.274 mg/L and reported value was 6.10 mg/L at EFF-001.
02/28/21	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.06 lbs/day and reported value was 1.25 lbs/day at EFF-001.
04/05/21	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.06 lbs/day and reported value was 0.79 lbs/day at EFF-001.
04/05/21	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.021 lbs/day and reported value was 0.79 lbs/day at EFF-001.
04/05/21	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.1 mg/L and reported value was 6.30 mg/L at EFF-001.
04/05/21	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.274 mg/L and reported value was 6.30 mg/L at EFF-001.
05/03/21	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.1 mg/L and reported value was 8.70 mg/L at EFF-001.
05/03/21	Chlorine, Total Residual Instantaneous Maximum limit is 8.20 mg/L and reported value was 9.20 mg/L at EFF-001.
05/03/21	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL limit is 0.274 mg/L and reported value was 8.70 mg/L at EFF-001.
05/03/21	Chlorine, Total Residual AMEL is 0.06 lbs/day and reported value was 0.83 lbs/day at EFF-001.
05/03/21	Chlorine, Total Residual MDEL is 0.021 lbs/day and reported value was 0.83 lbs/day at EFF-001.
12/06/21	TCDD Equivalents 30-Day Average limit is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 3.358 pg/L at EFF-001.

Date of Occurrence	Description
05/09/22	TCDD Equivalents Monthly Average limit is 0.53 pg/L and reported value was 0.543 pg/L at EFF-001.
07/11/23	TSS Monthly Average (Mean) limit is 30 mg/L and reported value was 30.9 mg/L at EFF-001.
07/11/23	TSS, Percent Removal Monthly Average (Mean) limit is 85% and reported value was 78% at EFF-001.

On November 20, 2020, the USEPA and the Navy entered into a federal facility compliance agreement (FFCA) to address exceedances of TCDD equivalents, total residual chlorine, pH and percent removal of BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, and deficient monitoring. Under this agreement, the Navy is expected to address these non-compliance issues by December 31, 2024. Summary of the exceedances of Order No. R4-2018-0156 are as follows:

**TCDD Equivalents**

In March, June, July, and August 2019, August 2020, December 2021, and May 2022 the monthly average TCDD exceeded the AMEL of 0.53 pg/L. The Permittee attributed these TCDD exceedances to large bonfires that are occurring upwind from the treatment plant. The burning of organic materials and natural deposition of the burnt materials can cause elevated TCDD concentrations. The Navy worked with the tenants on SCI to minimize and/or eliminate these bonfires.

**Total Residual Chlorine**

In May 2020, as well as February, April and May 2021, the maximum daily and monthly average total residual chlorine exceeded the MDEL and AMEL. The Permittee believes the effluent total residual chlorine value for the splitter box recycled water (prior to dechlorination) was mistakenly measured and reported instead of the value for the ocean discharge. As the corrective action, the Permittee reviewed the sampling and documentation protocols with the operators.

**pH**

In August and September 2019, as well as January, February, July and August 2020, the effluent pH exceeded the instantaneous minimum effluent limit due to operator error. The Permittee has provided refresher training to the operators on wastewater sampling, instrument calibration, and permit limitations for pH and implemented practices to maintain pH levels within the permit limits.

### **Percent Removal BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C**

In December 2020, the monthly average removal efficiency for BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C exceeded the AMEL. The Permittee attributed this exceedance to inefficiencies with the secondary treatment process, but the tertiary process has improved the treatment efficiency.

### **Deficient Monitoring**

There was also deficient monitoring due to lack of personnel training and miscommunication among the contracted laboratories during the permit cycle. The Permittee has since worked with SCI WWTP operators to ensure they receive proper training.

### **TSS**

In July 2023, the average monthly TSS and average monthly removal efficiency exceeded the AMEL. This was the first sample pulled from the secondary process after it was put back into service following the failure of the tertiary MBR process in June 2023. The secondary process sat idle since the tertiary process came online in July 2021 and the exceedance was likely a result of the secondary process sitting idle for an extended period. The Los Angeles Water Board and USEPA enforcement units are reviewing these exceedances and assessing the need for potential enforcement actions.

## **2.5. Receiving Water Description**

SCI WWTP discharges to the Pacific Ocean. On March 21, 1974, the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) designated the ocean waters off San Clemente Island to a depth of 300 feet or a distance of one nautical mile, whichever is greater, as an ASBS. This designation required the Navy to phase out its existing discharges to the ASBS. At the time, the Navy's relevant waste discharge was regulated by an NPDES permit issued by USEPA in 1973. In lieu of ceasing its discharge, the Navy requested that the State Water Board modify the ASBS boundaries to exclude certain zones. On November 01, 1976, the State Water Board held a public hearing to consider the Navy's request. Evidence presented at the hearing did not support exclusion of any zones identified by the Navy, but it did support an action by the State Water Board to allow waste disposal at the existing location under limited conditions. The State Water Board adopted Resolution Number 77-11 on February 17, 1977, to authorize its Executive Officer to request that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) modify the Navy's NPDES permit to allow the discharge under the following conditions:

- a. Provide secondary treatment;
- b. Comply with the Water Quality Control Plan – Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan);

- c. Comply with effluent limits based on the existing monthly average daily flow [0.025 million gallons per day (MGD)], rather than treatment plant capacity, including a daily maximum for five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) not to exceed 19 pounds per day (lbs/day).
- d. Demonstrate through monitoring that the effluent: 1) does not alter natural water quality (that is, it is undetectable) beyond a radius of 1,000 feet from the outfall's terminus and 2) complies with Ocean Plan-based limitations; and
- e. Comply with Resolution No. 77-11.

The Navy has complied with the Ocean Plan exception to date, except for effluent violations as described in section 2.4 of this Fact Sheet. By December 31, 2024, if the Navy cannot comply with the conditions “a through e” above, the Navy is subject to the existing Ocean Plan prohibition of discharges to an ASBS. Section III.J.1 of the Ocean Plan allows the State Water Board to grant exceptions provided that the exception “will not compromise protection of ocean waters for beneficial uses, and the public interest will be served.” Prior to granting an exception, the State Water Board must hold a public hearing and comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Exceptions also require USEPA concurrence. On March 20, 2012, the State Water Board issued Resolution No. 2012-0012, *Approving Exceptions to the California Ocean Plan for Selected Discharges into Areas of Special Biological Significance, Including Special Protections for Beneficial Uses, and Certifying a Program Environmental Impact Report*. This resolution provided an exception to the general prohibition to discharging to an ASBS for the SCI WWTP, provided specific conditions are met. This Order includes conditions and monitoring requirements consistent with Resolution No. 2012-0012 to authorize discharges from the SCI WWTP to an ASBS and implements the conditions in State Water Board Resolution No. 77-11.

## **2.6. Planned Changes**

There are no planned changes within the next five years for SCI WWTP. The Permittee is currently working to develop a scope of work to initiate a task order to repair the tertiary WWTP. The filters for the original MBR package plant are no longer available and a retrofit of the plant is required to accommodate the new design in filters. The timeline for repair is contingent on the task order award. Once this has occurred, the Permittee will provide an update to Los Angeles Water Board regarding the expected time for repair.

## **3. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS**

The requirements contained in this Order are based on the requirements and authorities described in this section.

### **3.1. Legal Authorities**

This Order serves as WDRs pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (Water Code) (commencing with section 13260). This

Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the USEPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit authorizing the Permittee to discharge into waters of the United States at the discharge locations described in Table 2 subject to the WDRs in this Order.

**3.2. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

Under Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit for an existing facility is exempt from CEQA, (commencing with section 21100) of division 13 of the Public Resources Code. Additionally, this Facility is exempt from CEQA pursuant to 14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15301, Existing Facilities.

**3.3. State and Federal Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Plans**

**3.3.1. Water Quality Control Plan**

The *Water Quality Control Plan: Los Angeles Region Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties* (Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives (WQOs), and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. Requirements in this Order implement the Basin Plan. Beneficial uses applicable to the receiving water are as follows:

**Table F-4. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses**

Water Body Designation	Receiving Water	Beneficial Uses
180701070004 (Formerly Hydro. Unit Number 406.50)	Pacific Ocean, San Clemente Island, Los Angeles Coastal Feature	<p><u>Existing:</u> Water Contact Recreation (REC-1), Non-contact Water Recreation (REC-2), Navigation (NAV), Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM), Marine Habitat (MAR), Wildlife Habitat (WILD) (Note a), Preservation of Biological Habitats (BIOL) (Note b), Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE), Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL).</p> <p><u>Potential:</u> Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN)</p>

Water Body Designation	Receiving Water	Beneficial Uses
--	Pacific Ocean Nearshore Zone	<p><u>Existing:</u> Industrial Service Supply (IND), NAV, REC-1, REC-2, COMM, MAR, WILD, BIOL (Note c), RARE (Note d), Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR) (Note e), SPWN (Note e), and SHELL (Note f).</p> <p><u>Potential:</u> None.</p>
--	Pacific Ocean Offshore Zone	<p><u>Existing:</u> IND, NAV, REC-1, REC-2, COMM, MAR, WILD, RARE (Note d), MIGR (Note e), SPWN (Note e), and SHELL (Note f).</p> <p><u>Potential:</u> None.</p>

**Footnotes for Table F-4**

- a. Marine Habitats of the Channel Islands and Mugu Lagoon serve as pinniped haul-out areas for one or more species (I.e., sea lions).
- b. Areas of Special Biological Significance or ecological reserves.
- c. Areas of Special Biological Significance (along coast from Latigo Point to Laguna Point) and Big Sycamore Canyon and Abalone Cove Ecological Reserves and Point Fernin Marine Life Refuge.
- d. One or more rare species utilizes all ocean, bays, estuaries, and coastal wetlands for foraging and/or nesting.
- e. Aquatic organisms utilize all bays, estuaries, lagoons, and coastal wetlands, to a certain extent, for spawning and early development. This may include migration into areas which are heavily influenced by freshwater inputs.
- f. Areas exhibiting large shellfish populations include Malibu, Point Dume, Point Fermin, White Point and Zuma Beach.

**End of Footnotes for Table F-4**

**3.3.2. California Thermal Plan**

The State Water Board adopted *the Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California* (Thermal Plan) on January 7, 1971, and amended this plan on September 18, 1975. This plan contains temperature objectives for coastal and inland surface waters. Requirements of this Order implement the Thermal Plan.

### 3.3.3. California Ocean Plan

The State Water Board adopted the *Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California* (Ocean Plan) in 1972. The State Water Board adopted the latest amendment on August 7, 2018, and it became effective on February 4, 2019. The Ocean Plan is applicable, in its entirety, to point source discharges to the ocean waters of the State. The Ocean Plan identifies beneficial uses of ocean waters of the State to be protected as summarized below:

**Table F-5. Ocean Plan Beneficial Uses**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water	Beneficial Uses
002	Pacific Ocean	IND, REC-1 and REC-2 (including aesthetic enjoyment), NAV, COMM, mariculture, preservation and enhancement of designated ASBS, RARE, MAR, MIGR, SPWN, and SHELL

To protect the beneficial uses, the Ocean Plan establishes water quality objectives and a program of implementation. Requirements of this Order implement the Ocean Plan, as amended in 2019.

### 3.3.4. Compliance Schedule Policy

On April 15, 2008, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2008-0025, *Policy for Compliance Schedules in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits* (Compliance Schedule Policy). The Compliance Schedule Policy became effective on December 17, 2008. The Compliance Schedule Policy is a statewide water quality control policy that authorizes compliance schedules in NPDES permits that implement Clean Water Act section 301(b)(1)(C). The Compliance Schedule Policy supersedes all existing provisions authorizing NPDES compliance schedules except for: (1) existing compliance schedule provisions in Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plans in Regional Water Quality Control Plans; and (2) the provisions authorizing compliance schedules for the Ocean Plan. Existing compliance schedules in NPDES permits are generally not required to be modified to comply with the Compliance Schedule Policy.

### 3.3.5. Alaska Rule

On March 30, 2000, USEPA revised its regulation that specifies when new and revised state and tribal water quality standards become effective for CWA purposes (40 CFR § 131.21, 65 Federal Register 24641 (April 27, 2000)). Under the revised regulation (also known as the Alaska Rule), new and revised standards submitted to USEPA after May 30, 2000, must be approved by USEPA before being used for CWA purposes. The final rule also provides that standards already in effect and submitted to USEPA by



May 30, 2000, may be used for CWA purposes, whether or not approved by USEPA.

### **3.3.6. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants**

This Order contains both technology-based effluent limitations (TBELs) and water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) for individual pollutants. The TBELs consist of restrictions on BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and percent removal of BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C and TSS, which implement the minimum applicable federal technology-based requirements for Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs). The Permittee operates an FOTW that treats wastewater of similar quality to POTWs and includes similar treatment processes as POTWs. Since the operation of the Facility is comparable to a POTW, it is required to implement the minimum applicable federal technology-based requirements. In addition, effluent limitations more stringent than federal technology-based requirements consisting of restrictions on oil and grease, settleable solids, turbidity, and pH are necessary to implement State treatment standards in Table 4 of the Ocean Plan. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements.

WQBELs for chlorine residual and TCDD equivalents have been scientifically derived to implement WQOs that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the WQOs have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. All beneficial uses and WQOs contained in the Basin Plan and the Ocean Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by USEPA prior to May 30, 2000. Any WQOs and beneficial uses submitted to USEPA prior to May 30, 2000, but not approved by USEPA before that date, are nonetheless "applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA" pursuant to 40 CFR section 131.21(c)(1).

### **3.3.7. Antidegradation Policy**

Federal regulations at 40 CFR section 131.12 require that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution 68-16 ("Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California"). Resolution 68-16 is deemed to incorporate the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Los Angeles Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies. The permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provision at 40 CFR section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16 and is further described in section 4.4.2 of the Fact Sheet.

### **3.3.8. Anti-backsliding Requirements**

Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 CFR section 122.44(l) restrict backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed. The applicability of these requirements to this Order is discussed in detail in section 4.4.1 of this Fact Sheet.

### **3.3.9. Endangered Species Act Requirements**

This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (ESA) (Fish and Game Code, sections 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. sections 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state, including protecting rare and endangered species. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable ESA.

### **3.3.10. Water Recycling**

In accordance with statewide policies concerning water reclamation [See, e.g., CWC sections 13000 and 13550-13557, State Water Board Resolution Number 77-1 (Policy with Respect to Water Reclamation in California), and State Water Board Resolution Numbers 2009-0011, 2013-0003, and 2018-0057 [*Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water* (Recycled Water Policy)]], the Los Angeles Water Board strongly encourages, wherever practicable, water recycling, water conservation, and use of stormwater and dry-weather urban runoff. The Permittee shall investigate the feasibility of recycling, conservation, and/or alternative disposal methods of wastewater (such as groundwater injection), and/or the use of stormwater and dry-weather runoff.

Section 4.3 of the Order requires the Permittee to submit an update to this feasibility study as part of the submittal of the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for the next permit renewal.

The State Water Board adopted the Recycled Water Policy on February 3, 2009 and amended it most recently on December 11, 2018. The most recent amendments became effective on April 8, 2019. The Recycled Water Policy requires wastewater and recycled water dischargers to annually report monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. As applicable, dischargers are additionally required to annually report recycled water use by volume and category of reuse. This order implements the Recycled Water Policy by incorporating the volumetric monitoring reporting requirements in accordance with Section 3 of the [Recycled](#)

[Water Policy](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/121118_7_final_amendment_oal.pdf)

([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2018/121118\\_7\\_final\\_amendment\\_oal.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/121118_7_final_amendment_oal.pdf)) in section 10.4.9 of the MRP in this Order.

**3.3.11. Monitoring and Reporting**

40 CFR section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code section 13383 authorizes the Los Angeles Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements. This MRP is provided in Attachment E.

**3.3.12. Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Requirements**

This Order does not authorize any act that results in violation of requirements administered by USEPA to implement 40 CFR Part 503, *Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge*. These standards regulate the final use or disposal of sewage sludge that is generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a municipal wastewater treatment facility. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 503 that are under USEPA's enforcement authority.

**3.3.13. Domestic Water Quality**

In compliance with Water Code section 106.3, it is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.

**3.3.14. Pretreatment Requirements.**

There are currently no industrial users in the FOTW's service area; therefore, no pretreatment requirements are included in this Order.

**3.3.15. Standard and Special Provisions**

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to FOTWs in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The Los Angeles Water Board also included in this Order Special Provisions applicable to the Permittee. The rationale for the Special Provisions contained in this Order is provided in section 7 of this Fact Sheet.

**3.4. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA Section 303(d) list**

The State Water Board adopted the California 2020 – 2022 Integrated Report based on a compilation of the Regional Water Boards' Integrated Reports. These Integrated Reports contain both the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 305(b) water

quality assessment and section 303(d) list of impaired waters. In developing the Integrated Reports, the Water Boards solicit data, information, and comments from the public and other interested persons. On January 19, 2022, the State Water Board approved the CWA Section 303(d) List portion of the State's 2020 – 2022 Integrated Report (State Water Board Resolution Number 2022-0006). On May 11, 2022, USEPA approved California's 2020 – 2022 Integrated Report. The [CWA section 303\(d\) list](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2020_2022_integrated_report.html) can be found at the following link:  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/water\\_quality\\_assessment/2020\\_2022\\_integrated\\_report.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2020_2022_integrated_report.html).

### **3.5. Other Plans, Policies, and Regulations**

#### **3.5.1. Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation**

On March 7, 2017, the State Water Board adopted a resolution in recognition of the challenges posed by climate change that requires a proactive approach to climate change in all State Water Board actions, including drinking water regulation, water quality protection, and financial assistance (Resolution Number 2017-0012). The resolution lays the foundation for a response to climate change that is integrated into all State Water Board actions, by giving direction to the State Water Board divisions and encouraging coordination with the Los Angeles Water Board. The Los Angeles Water Board also adopted "A Resolution to Prioritize Actions to Adapt to and Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change on the Los Angeles Region's Water Resources and Associated Beneficial Uses" (Resolution Number R18-004) on May 10, 2018. The resolution summarizes the steps taken so far to address the impacts of climate change within the Los Angeles Water Board's programs, and lists a series of additional steps, including the identification of potential regulatory adaptation and mitigation measures that could be implemented on a short-term and long-term basis by each of the Los Angeles Water Board's programs to mitigate the effects of climate change on water resources and associated beneficial uses where possible. This kind of study and management is an important part of planning for the future, as "[m]unicipalities across the country are facing the challenging obligation to manage their aging sewer and stormwater systems at a time of urban population growth, more stringent water quality protection requirements, and increased exposure to climate change-related risks." USEPA, *Asset Management: Incorporating Asset Management Planning Provisions into NPDES Permits* (December 2014). This Order contains provisions to require planning and actions to address climate change impacts in accordance with both the State and Los Angeles Water Board's resolutions, including a requirement to submit a Climate Change Effects Vulnerability Assessment and Management Plan (Climate Change Plan).

These requirements are consistent with 40 CFR section 122.41(e), requiring permittees to ensure compliance through proper operation and

maintenance of facilities, including installation and operation of appropriate auxiliary and backup facilities; and they are authorized pursuant to Water Code section 13383. (*In re the City of Oceanside, Fallbrook Public Utilities Dist. And the Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works*, State Water Board Order WQ 2021-0005, February 12, 2021 at p. 26.) The Los Angeles Water Board understands that the cost of preparing such a plan could be significant (estimated cost range of \$25,000-\$60,000), but "the costs of ensuring resilient infrastructure to protect water quality against the effects of climate change is warranted." (*Fallbrook*, at p. 27.).

### **3.5.2. Secondary Treatment Regulations**

40 CFR part 133 establishes the minimum levels of effluent quality to be achieved by secondary treatment. These limitations, established by USEPA, are implemented in this Order, except where more stringent limitations are required by other applicable plans, policies, or regulations or to prevent backsliding.

### **3.5.3. Stormwater**

CWA section 402(p), as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, requires NPDES permits for stormwater discharges. Pursuant to this requirement, in 1990, USEPA promulgated 40 CFR section 122.26 that established requirements for stormwater discharges under an NPDES program. To facilitate compliance with federal regulations, on November 1991, the State Water Board issued a statewide general permit, *General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities* (Order Number 2014-0057-DWQ amended by Order 2015-0122-DWQ and Order 2018-0028-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001). General NPDES Permit Number CAS000001 has been amended and reissued several times since 1991, and most recently on November 6, 2018. The latest amendment became effective on July 1, 2020.

SCI WWTP is not considered an industrial facility that is subject to the IGP because it has a design flow of less than 1 MGD and it is not required to have a pretreatment program. Therefore, stormwater from SCI WWTP is not regulated under the IGP.

### **3.5.4. Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)**

On December 6, 2022, the State Water Board issued the *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems* (SSS WDRs, State Water Board Order No. WQ 2022-0103-DWQ). Order No. WQ 2022-0103-DWQ supersedes the previous SSS WDRs (Order 2006-0003-DWQ and its subsequent amendments). The SSS WDRs require public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems with greater than one mile of sewer lines to enroll for coverage, comply with requirements to develop and implement sewer system management plans,

and report all SSOs to the State Water Board's online SSO database. Consistent with section 1 of the SSS WDRs, since this is a federal facility and does not have a history of sanitary sewer overflows, the Facility is not currently enrolled in the SSS WDRs. Instead, reporting requirements for sanitary sewer overflows are included in this Order and Attachment I.

Regardless of the coverage obtained under the SSS WDRs, the Permittee's collection system is part of the Facility that is subject to this NPDES permit. As such, pursuant to federal regulations, the Permittee must properly operate and maintain its collection system (40 CFR section 122.41 (e)), report any noncompliance (40 CFR section 122.41(1)(6) and (7)), and mitigate any discharge from the collection system in violation of this NPDES permit (40 CFR section 122.41(d)).

The requirements contained in this Order in sections 6.3.3.b (Spill Cleanup Contingency Plan section), 6.3.4 (Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications section), and 6.3.6 (Spill Reporting Requirements section) are consistent with the requirements of the SSS WDRs. The Los Angeles Water Board recognizes that there may be some overlap between these NPDES permit provisions and SSS WDRs requirements, related to the collection systems. The requirements of the SSS WDRs are considered the minimum thresholds. To encourage efficiency, the Los Angeles Water Board will accept the Permittee's documentation prepared and submitted prepared by the permittees under in compliance with the SSS WDRs for compliance purposes as satisfying the requirements in sections 6.3.3.b, 6.3.4, and 6.3.6 of this Order, provided the more stringent provisions contained in this NPDES permit are also addressed in the SSS WDRs submission. Pursuant to the SSS WDRs, Order No. WQ 2022-0103-DWQ section 6.2, the provisions of this NPDES permit supersede the SSS WDRs, for all purposes, including enforcement, to the extent the requirements may be deemed duplicative. The requirements of this Order are more stringent than the SSS WDRs because in addition to the SSS WDRs requirements, this NPDES permit requires water quality monitoring of the receiving water when a spill reaches the surface water.

### **3.5.5. Watershed Management**

The Los Angeles Water Board has been implementing a Watershed Management Approach (WMA) to address water quality protection in the Los Angeles Region, as detailed in the Watershed Management Initiative (WMI). The WMI is designed to integrate various surface and groundwater regulatory programs while promoting cooperative, collaborative efforts within a watershed. It is also designed to focus limited resources on key issues and use sound science. Information about watersheds in the region can be obtained at the [Los Angeles Water Board's website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regiona) at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/regiona](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/regiona)

I\_program/watershed/index.shtml. The WMA emphasizes cooperative relationships between regulatory agencies, the regulated community, environmental groups, and other stakeholders in the watershed to achieve the greatest environmental improvements with the resources available.

This Order fosters implementation of the WMA by protecting beneficial uses in the watershed and requiring the Permittee to participate with other stakeholders in the development and implementation of a watershed-wide monitoring program.

### **3.5.6. Environmental Justice and Advancing Racial Equity**

The Los Angeles Water Board must make findings when issuing or reissuing individual waste discharge requirements that regulate activity or a facility that may have water quality impacts on a disadvantaged or tribal community, and that includes a time schedule in accordance with subdivision (c) of section 13263 for achieving an applicable water quality objective, an alternative compliance path that allows time to come into compliance with water quality objectives, or a water quality variance. Under Water Code section 13149.2, subdivision (c), for permit reissuances, “the finding may be limited to considerations related to any changes to the requirements of the prior waste discharge requirements . . . .” Water Code section 189.7 requires the Los Angeles Water Board to conduct outreach in disadvantaged and/or tribal communities when considering proposed discharges of waste that may have disproportionate impacts on water quality in those communities. This Order does not include a time schedule and will not have disproportionate impacts on water quality in disadvantaged or tribal communities, and therefore, the requirements in Water Code sections 189.7 and 13149.2 do not apply. Nevertheless, in accordance with the Water Boards’ efforts to advance racial equity and environmental justice, this Order requires all Permittees to meet water quality standards that protect public health and the environment, thereby benefitting all persons and communities within the Region. The Los Angeles Water Board is committed to developing and implementing policies and programs to advance racial equity and environmental justice so that race can no longer be used to predict life outcomes, and outcomes for all groups are improved.

## **4. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations: 1) 40 CFR section 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable TBELs and standards; and 2) 40 CFR section 122.44(d) requires that permits include WQBELs to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative

water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. Where numeric water quality objectives have not been established, 40 CFR § 122.44(d) specifies that WQBELs may be established using USEPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a); proposed State criteria or a State policy interpreting narrative criteria supplemented with other relevant information may be used; or an indicator parameter may be established.

The variety of potential pollutants present in the Facility's discharge presents a potential for aggregate toxic effects to occur. Whole effluent toxicity (WET) is an indicator of the combined effect of pollutants contained in the discharge. Chronic toxicity is a more stringent requirement than acute toxicity. Therefore, chronic toxicity is considered a pollutant of concern for protection and evaluation of narrative Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives for toxicity.

#### **4.1. Discharge Prohibitions**

This permit implements discharge prohibitions that are applicable under section III.I of the Ocean Plan.

#### **4.2. TBELs**

##### **4.2.1. Scope and Authority**

Technology-based effluent limits require a minimum level of treatment for industrial/municipal point sources based on currently available treatment technologies while allowing the Permittee to use any available control techniques to meet the effluent limits. The 1972 CWA required POTWs to meet performance requirements based on available wastewater treatment technology. Section 301 of the CWA established a required performance level (referred to as "secondary treatment") that all POTWs were required to meet by July 1, 1977. More specifically, section 301(b)(1)(B) of the CWA required that USEPA develop secondary treatment standards for POTWs as defined in section 304(d)(1). Based on this statutory requirement, USEPA developed national secondary treatment regulations which are specified in 40 CFR part 133. These technology-based regulations apply to all POTWs and identify the minimum level of effluent quality to be attained by secondary treatment in terms of BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and pH. The Permittee operates an FOTW that treats wastewater of similar quality to POTWs and includes similar treatment processes as POTWs. Since the operation of the Facility is comparable to a POTW, the Los Angeles Water Board used best professional judgement (BPJ) to apply the secondary treatment standards to this Facility. The secondary treatment standards were included in the previous order as technology-based effluent limitations and are therefore carried over in this Order.

##### **4.2.2. Applicable TBELs**

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing USEPA permit regulations at 40 CFR § 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting



applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Secondary Standards at 40 CFR § 133 and BPJ in accordance with 40 CFR § 125.3. Secondary treatment is defined in terms of three parameters – BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and pH. The removal efficiency for BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C and TSS is set at the minimum level attainable by secondary treatment technology. The following table summarizes the technology-based requirements for secondary treatment, which are applicable to the Facility:

**Table F-6. Summary of TBELs in 40 CFR §133.102**

Parameter	Unit	30-day Average	7-day Average	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	30	45	--	--
TSS	mg/L	30	45	--	--
Removal Efficiency for BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C and TSS	%	≥85	--	--	--
pH	pH Unit	--	--	6.0	9.0

Table 4 of the Ocean Plan also establishes the following TBELs, which are applicable to SCI WWTP:

**Table F-7. Summary of TBELs for POTWs Established by the Ocean Plan**

Parameter	Unit	30-day Average	7-day Average	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	Note
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25	40	--	75	--
Settleable Solids	mL/L	1.0	1.5	--	3.0	--
Turbidity	NTU	75	100	--	225	--
Removal Efficiency for TSS	%	75	--	--	--	a
pH	pH Unit	--	--	6.0	9.0	--

**Footnote for Table F-7:**

a. Permittees shall, as a 30-day average, remove 75% of suspended solids from the influent stream before discharging wastewaters to the ocean, except that the effluent limitation to be met shall not be lower than 60 mg/L.

**End of Footnote for Table F-7**

All TBELs from Order Number R4-2018-0156 for BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, oil and grease, settleable solids, pH, and turbidity, are retained in this Order.

Limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and pH are based on secondary treatment standards established by the USEPA at 40 CFR § 133. Limitations for oil and grease, settleable solids, pH and turbidity are based on requirements in the Ocean Plan. All TBELs are independent of the dilution ratio for the discharge outfall. In addition to the concentration-based effluent limitations and consistent with Order No. R4-2018-0156, mass-based effluent limitations based on a flow rate of 0.025 MGD are also included in this Order to prevent backsliding.

The following table summarizes the TBELs for discharges from the SCI WWTP:

**Table F-8. Summary of TBELs for Discharge Point 002**

Parameter	Unit	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	Note
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--	--
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	lbs/day	6.3	9.4	19	--	--	a
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	% removal	85	--	--	--	--	--
TSS	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--	--
TSS	lbs/day	6.3	9.4	19	--	--	a
TSS	% removal	85	--	--	--	--	--
Oil and Grease	mg/L	25	40	--	--	75	--
Oil and Grease	lbs/day	5.2	8.3	--	--	15	a
Settleable Solids	mL/L	1.0	1.5	--	--	3.0	--
Turbidity	NTU	75	100	--	--	225	--
pH	pH unit	--	--	--	6.0	9.0	--

**Footnote for Table F-8**

a. The mass emission rates are calculated using the maximum permitted flow rate of 0.025 MGD, consistent with the water quality-based effluent limits in the previous permit: lbs/day = 0.00834 x C<sub>e</sub> (effluent concentration, ug/L) x Q (flow rate, MGD).

**End of Footnote for Table F-8**

### **4.3. WQBELs**

#### **4.3.1. Scope and Authority**

CWA section 301(b) and 40 CFR section 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards. This Order contains more stringent requirements than technology-based requirements, including secondary-treatment requirements, which are necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The rationale for these requirements is discussed beginning in section 4.3.2. of this Fact Sheet.

40 CFR section 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential (RP) to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where RP has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, WQBELs must be established using (1) USEPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in section 122.44(d)(1)(vi). WQBELs must also be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of TMDL WLAs approved by USEPA.

The process for determining RP and calculating WQBELs when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan and achieve applicable WQOs and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criterion contained in the Ocean Plan.

#### **4.3.2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives**

The Basin Plan and Ocean Plan establish the beneficial uses and WQOs for ocean waters of the State. The beneficial uses of the receiving waters affected by the discharge have been described previously in this Fact Sheet. The Basin Plan contains WQOs for bacteria for water bodies designated for water contact recreation and the Ocean Plan contains water WQOs for bacterial, physical, chemical, and biological characteristics, and radioactivity. The WQOs from the Ocean Plan and Basin Plan were incorporated into this Order as either final effluent limitations (based on RP) or receiving water limitations.

As discussed in section 3.3.2. of this Fact Sheet, this Order implements the Thermal Plan. The Thermal Plan states that for existing discharges into coastal waters, "Elevated temperature wastes shall comply with limitations

necessary to assure protection of the beneficial uses and areas of special biological significance.” The temperature effluent limitation has been carried over from the previous permit and there has been no indication that the temperature of the wastes discharged from this facility has impacted the beneficial uses of the receiving water or areas of special biological significance.

#### **4.3.3. Expression of WQBELs**

Pursuant to 40 CFR § 122.45(d)(2), for continuous discharges other than POTWs, all permit effluent limitations, standards, and prohibitions, including those necessary to achieve water quality standards, shall, unless impracticable, be stated as maximum daily and average monthly discharge limitations. This order includes maximum daily and average monthly effluent limitations for certain constituents, as referenced in 40 CFR § 122.45(d).

The WQBELs for marine aquatic life toxics contained in this Order are based on Table 3 Water Quality Objectives contained in the Ocean Plan that are expressed as six-month median, daily maximum, and instantaneous maximum water quality objectives. However, in the existing Order (Order Number R4-2018-0156), many of the calculated effluent limitations based on 6-month median objectives for marine aquatic life toxics in the Ocean Plan were prescribed as monthly average limitations. Applying the anti-backsliding regulations, this Order retains the same approach and sets effluent limitations derived from six-month median WQOs for marine aquatic life toxics in the Ocean Plan as average monthly limitations for those pollutants that previously had average monthly limitations and continue to have RP to cause or contribute to exceedances of WQOs. In addition, the Ocean Plan specifies that for the six-month median for intermittent discharges, the daily value shall be considered to equal zero for days on which no discharge occurred. To be consistent with the Ocean Plan, maximum daily and instantaneous maximum limitations are also prescribed in this Order.

#### **4.3.4. Determining the Need for WQBELs**

Order Number R4-2018-0156 contains effluent limitations for non-conventional and toxic pollutant parameters in Table 3 of the Ocean Plan. For this Order, the need for effluent limitations based on water quality objectives in Table 3 of the Ocean Plan was reevaluated in accordance with the RP Analysis (RPA) procedures contained in Appendix VI of the Ocean Plan. This statistical RPA method (using RPcalc version 2.2) accounts for the averaging period of the water quality objective, accounts for and captures the long-term variability of the pollutant in the effluent, accounts for limitations associated with sparse data sets, accounts for uncertainty associated with censored data sets, and assumes a lognormal distribution of the facility-specific effluent data. RPcalc calculates the upper

confidence bound (UCB) of an effluent population percentile after complete mixing. The UCB is calculated as the one-sided, upper 95 percent confidence bound for the 95th percentile of the effluent distribution after complete mixing. The calculated  $UCB_{95/95}$  is then compared to the appropriate objective to determine the potential for an exceedance of that objective and the need for an effluent limitation. For constituents that have an insufficient number of monitoring data or a substantial number of non-detected data with a reporting limit higher than the respective water quality objective, the RPA result is likely to be inconclusive. The Ocean Plan requires that the existing effluent limitations for these constituents be retained in the new Order, otherwise the permit shall include a reopener clause to allow for subsequent modification of the permit to include an effluent limitation if monitoring establishes that the discharge causes, has the RP to cause, or contributes to an excursion above a WQO.

Los Angeles Water Board staff used RPSCalc to calculate RP using the procedure described above. The analysis included effluent data provided by the Permittee from January 2019 to September 2023 for Discharge Point 002, and a minimum initial dilution ratio of 136:1. Los Angeles Water Board staff determined that the following constituents have RP to exceed Ocean Plan WQOs and therefore require effluent limitations for the following pollutants at Discharge Point 002: total residual chlorine and TCDD equivalents.

For Discharge Point 002, inconclusive results were reported for the following pollutants: 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, 1,1-dichloroethylene, 1,2-dichloroethane, 1,2-diphenylhydrazine, 1,3-dichloropropene, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, 2,4,6-trichlorophenol, 2,4-dinitrophenol, 2,4-dinitrotoluene, 3,3-dichlorobenzidine, 4,6-dinitro-2-methylphenol, acrolein, acrylonitrile, aldrin, benzene, benzidine, beryllium, bis(2-chloroethoxy)methane, bis(2-chloroethyl)ether, bis(2-chloroisopropyl)ether, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, cadmium, carbon tetrachloride, chlorobenzene, chlordane, chromium (III), chromium (VI), dichlorobenzenes, dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), dichloromethane, DDT, diethyl phthalate, dieldrin, dimethyl phthalate, di-n-butyl phthalate, endrin, endosulfan, ethylbenzene, fluoranthene, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, hexachlorocyclopentadiene, hexachloroethane, isophorone, lead, nitrobenzene, N-nitrosodimethylamine, N-nitrosodi-n-propylamine, N-nitrosodiphenylamine, phenolics (chlorinated), phenolics (non-chlorinated), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) as aroclors, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), selenium, silver, tetrachloroethene, thallium, toluene, toxaphene, tributyltin, trichloroethene, and vinyl chloride. Since the previous permit did not include effluent limits for these pollutants and this Order includes a reopener clause, no effluent limits were included in this Order for these pollutants.

In general, for those constituents that have no RP to cause, or contribute to excursions of water quality objectives, no numeric limits are prescribed; instead, a narrative statement to comply with all Ocean Plan requirements is provided and the Permittee is required to monitor for these constituents to gather data for use in RPAs for future Order renewals and/or updates. The effluent limitations for copper and zinc were not carried over from the previous permit because these pollutants did not exhibit RP to exceed the Ocean Plan WQOs.

**4.3.5. WQBEL Calculations**

From the Table 3 water quality objectives in the Ocean Plan, effluent limitations are calculated according to the following equation for all pollutants, except for chronic toxicity and radioactivity:

$$C_e = C_o + D_m (C_o - C_s)$$

Where

$C_e$  is the effluent limitation ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )

$C_o$  is the WQO to be met at the completion of initial dilution ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ );

$C_s$  is the background seawater concentration ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) (see Table F-9 below); and

$D_m$  is the minimum probable initial dilution expressed as parts seawater per part wastewater.

The  $D_m$  is based on observed waste flow characteristics, receiving water density structure, and the assumption that there are no currents of sufficient strength to influence the initial dilution process flow across the discharge structure. In this Order, dilution ratio of 136:1 has been applied to Discharge Point 002.

Initial dilution is the process that results in the rapid and irreversible turbulent mixing of wastewater with ocean water around the point of discharge. For a submerged buoyant discharge, characteristic of most municipal and industrial wastes that are released from the submarine outfalls, the momentum of the discharge and its initial buoyancy act together to produce turbulent mixing. Initial dilution in this case is completed when the diluting wastewater ceases to rise in the water column and first begins to spread horizontally. As site-specific water quality data is not available for pollutants without TMDLs, in accordance with Ocean Plan Table 3 implementing procedures,  $C_s$  equals zero for all pollutants, except the following:

**Table F-9. Background Seawater Concentrations ( $C_s$ )**

Parameter	$C_s$ ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )
Arsenic	3

Parameter	C <sub>s</sub> (µg/L)
Copper	2
Mercury	0.0005
Silver	0.16
Zinc	8

The effluent data collected between January 2019 and September 2023 used for RPcalc indicated that total residual chlorine and TCDD equivalents contributed to an exceedance of the seawater WQOs specified in the Ocean Plan. Effluent limitations must be developed for total residual chlorine and TCDD equivalents. Therefore, the calculation of WQBELs for total residual chlorine and TCDD equivalents are provided below for Discharge Point 002.

**Table F-10. Ocean Plan WQOs (C<sub>o</sub>)**

Parameter	Unit	6-month Median	30-day Average	Daily Maximum	Instantaneous Maximum
Total residual chlorine	µg/L	2	--	8	60
TCDD equivalents	µg/L	--	3.9x10 <sup>-9</sup>	--	--

Using the equation,  $C_e = C_o + D_m (C_o - C_s)$ , effluent limitations are calculated as follows for discharge through Discharge Point 002, with a dilution ratio ( $D_m$ ) of 136:1.

**Total chlorine residual**

$C_e = 2 + 136 (2 - 0) = 274 \text{ µg/L}$  (6-month median as monthly average)

$C_e = 8 + 136 (8 - 0) = 1,096 \text{ µg/L}$  (daily maximum)

$C_e = 60 + 136 (60 - 0) = 8,220 \text{ µg/L}$  (instantaneous maximum)

**TCDD equivalents**

$C_e = 3.9 \times 10^{-9} + 136 (3.9 \times 10^{-9} - 0) = 5.3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ µg/L}$  (monthly average)

Based on the implementing procedures described above, effluent limitations have been calculated for all Table 3 pollutants (excluding radioactivity and chronic toxicity) from the Ocean Plan that have RP to cause, or contribute to an excursion above the WQOs, and the calculated effluent limitations are incorporated into this Order when applicable.

**4.3.6. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)**

WET testing protects receiving waters from the aggregate toxic effect of a mixture of pollutants in the effluent or pollutants that are not typically monitored. An acute toxicity test is conducted over a short time period and

measures mortality. A chronic toxicity test is conducted over a longer time period and may measure mortality, reproduction, and growth. Chronic toxicity is a more stringent requirement than acute toxicity. A constituent present at low concentrations may exhibit a chronic effect; however, a higher concentration of the same constituent may be required to produce an acute effect.

A total of 40 chronic WET tests were conducted on SCI WWTP effluent between January 2019 and September 2023. No exceedances of the Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL) were reported for chronic toxicity. However, because of the nature of discharges into the Facility sewershed, it is possible that toxic constituents could be present in the SCI WWTP influent or could have synergistic or additive effects. As previously stated in this Order, TCDD equivalents is a toxic pollutant, is present in the effluent, and has RP to cause or contribute to an excursion above the WQO. Los Angeles Water Board staff determined that, pursuant to step 13 of the RPA procedures in the Ocean Plan (i.e., best professional judgement), RP exists for chronic toxicity. Thus, this Order carries over the chronic toxicity MDEL for Discharge Point 002 from the existing permit.

The Ocean Plan addresses the application of chronic and acute toxicity requirements based on minimum probable dilutions ( $D_m$ ) for ocean discharges. Following the Ocean Plan, dischargers are required to conduct chronic toxicity monitoring for ocean discharges with  $D_m$  factors ranging from 99 to 349 and the Los Angeles Water Board may require acute toxicity monitoring in addition to chronic toxicity monitoring. Dischargers with  $D_m$  factors below 99 are required to conduct only chronic toxicity testing. The  $D_m$  for Discharge Point 002 is 136. Since the  $D_m$  is greater than 99 and because the discharge exhibits RP to exceed the water quality objectives for chronic toxicity, a chronic toxicity effluent limitation has been assigned to Discharge Point 002 and routine chronic toxicity monitoring is required. No acute toxicity effluent limitations have been assigned to Discharge Point 002 because the chronic toxicity effluent limitation is protective of both chronic and acute toxicity, consistent with 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(v).

The Ocean Plan establishes a chronic toxicity objective of  $1.0 TU_c$   $\{TU_c = 100 / [\text{No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC)}]\}$ , using a 5-concentration hypothesis test, and a daily maximum acute toxicity objective of  $0.3 TU_a$   $[TU_a = 100 / \text{Lethal Concentration 50\% (LC50)}]$ , using a point estimate model. This Order includes an effluent limitation using the Test of Significant Toxicity (TST) hypothesis testing approach. This statistical approach is consistent with the Ocean Plan in that it provides maximum protection to the environment since it more reliably identifies acute and chronic toxicity than the NOEC hypothesis-testing approach (See California Ocean Plan, section III.F and Appendix I).



Compliance with the chronic toxicity requirements contained in this Order shall be determined in accordance with section 7.9 of this Order. Nevertheless, this Order contains a reopener to allow the Los Angeles Water Board to modify the permit in the future, if necessary, to make it consistent with any new policy, plan, law, or regulation.

For this Order, chronic toxicity in the discharge is evaluated using an MDEL that utilizes USEPA's 2010 TST hypothesis testing approach. The chronic toxicity effluent limitations are expressed as "Pass" for each maximum daily individual result.

In January 2010, USEPA published a guidance document *titled EPA Regions 8, 9 and 10 Toxicity Training Tool*, which among other things discusses permit limit expression for chronic toxicity. The document acknowledges that NPDES regulations at 40 CFR § 122.45(d) require that all permit limits be expressed, unless impracticable, as an MDEL and an Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL) for all dischargers other than POTWs. For an ocean discharge, only an MDEL is appropriate because the Ocean Plan only includes a maximum daily objective for chronic toxicity (See California Ocean Plan, section II.D.7.).

The MDEL is the highest allowable value for the discharge measured during a calendar day or 24-hour period representing a calendar day. The AMEL is the highest allowable value for the average of daily discharges obtained over a calendar month. For WET, this is the average of individual WET test results for that calendar month. In June 2010, USEPA published another guidance document titled *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Test of Significant Toxicity Implementation Document* (EPA 833-R-10-003, June 2010), in which they recommend the following: "Permitting authorities should consider adding the TST approach to their implementation procedures for analyzing valid WET data for their current NPDES WET Program." The TST approach is another statistical option for analyzing valid WET test data. Use of the TST approach does not result in any changes to USEPA's WET test methods. Section 9.4.1.2 of USEPA's *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms* (EPA/600/R-95/0136, 1995), recognizes that, "the statistical methods recommended in this manual are not the only possible methods of statistical analysis." The TST approach can be applied to acute (survival) and chronic (sublethal) endpoints and is appropriate to use for both freshwater and marine USEPA WET test methods.

The interpretation of the measurement result from USEPA's TST statistical approach (Pass/Fail) for effluent and receiving water samples is, by design, independent from the concentration-response patterns of the toxicity tests for samples when it is required. Therefore, when using the TST statistical approach, application of USEPA's *Method Guidance and*

*Recommendations for Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing* (2000 guidance) on effluent and receiving waters concentration-response patterns will not improve the appropriate interpretation of TST results as long as all Test Acceptability Criteria and other test review procedures – including those related to Quality Assurance for effluent and receiving water toxicity tests, reference toxicant tests, and control performance (mean, standard deviation, and coefficient of variation) – described by the WET test methods manual and TST guidance, are followed. The 2000 guidance may be used to identify reliable, anomalous, or inconclusive concentration-response patterns and associated statistical results to the extent that the guidance recommends review of test procedures and laboratory performance already recommended in the WET test methods manual. The guidance does not apply to single concentration (IWC) and control statistical t-tests and does not apply to the statistical assumptions on which the TST is based. The Los Angeles Water Board and USEPA will not consider a concentration-response pattern as sufficient basis to determine that a TST t-test result for a toxicity test is anything other than valid, absent other evidence. In a toxicity laboratory, unexpected concentration-response patterns should not occur with any regular frequency and consistent reports of anomalous or inconclusive concentration-response patterns or test results that are not valid will require an investigation of laboratory practices.

Any data quality objectives or standard operating procedures used by the toxicity testing laboratory to identify and report valid, invalid, anomalous, or inconclusive effluent or receiving water toxicity test measurement results from the TST statistical approach which include a consideration of concentration-response patterns and/or Percent Minimum Significant Differences (PMSDs) must be submitted for review by the Los Angeles Water Board, in consultation with USEPA and the State Water Board's Quality Assurance Officer and Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program [40 CFR § 122.44(h)]. The PMSD criteria only apply to compliance for the NOEC and the sublethal endpoints of the NOEC, and therefore are not used to interpret TST results.

#### **4.4. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations**

##### **4.4.1. Anti-Backsliding Requirements**

Section 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions where limitations may be relaxed. The effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order, except for copper and zinc because the discharge did not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the applicable water quality

criteria for these pollutants based on data collected between January 2018 and September 2023.

Section 303(d)(4)(B) of the CWA allows relaxation of effluent limitations where the quality of the receiving water equals or exceeds the levels necessary to protect the designated uses of the water or otherwise required by applicable water quality standards, if the revision is subject to and consistent with the State's Antidegradation Policy. According to the 2020-2022 303(d) list, the Pacific Ocean is not impaired for copper or zinc where the SCI WWTP discharges. The monitoring data, collected from January 2019 to September 2023, shows that the effluent copper and zinc concentrations were below 43.1 µg/L and 169 µg/L which were below the WQOs in the Ocean Plan after dilution factor of 136 is considered. As described below, relaxation or removal of effluent limitations for these pollutants is consistent with the state and federal antidegradation policies. Therefore, the exception to the prohibition on relaxation of effluent limitations found in CWA section 303(d)(4)(B) allows the removal of the effluent limitations for copper and zinc.

#### **4.4.2. Antidegradation Policies**

40 CFR § 131.12 requires that state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal antidegradation policy. On October 28, 1968, the State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy when it adopted Resolution No. 68-16, *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining the Quality of the Waters of the State*. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The State Water Board has, in State Water Board Order No. 86-17 and an October 7, 1987 guidance memorandum, interpreted Resolution No. 68-16 to be fully consistent with the federal antidegradation policy contained in 40 CFR section 131.12. Similarly, CWA section 303(d)(4)(B) and 40 CFR section 131.12 require that all permitting actions be consistent with the federal antidegradation policy. Together, the state and federal antidegradation policies are designed to ensure that a water body will not be degraded resulting from the permitted discharge. The Los Angeles Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the state and federal antidegradation policies.

The renewal of this Order is consistent with the state and federal antidegradation policies because the Order is not expected to allow degradation of receiving water quality due to no reduction in the existing level of wastewater treatment is anticipated. In addition, the renewal of the Order is not expected to lower the surface water quality because the conditions in this Order are at least as stringent as the previous Order except for the effluent limits described in section 4.4.1 of the Fact Sheet. Although this Order does not retain the effluent limitations for copper and

zinc as described in section 4.4.1, water quality standards where the receiving water is not impaired for those pollutants will continue to be attained and those receiving waters will not become degraded.

This Order includes both narrative and numeric final effluent limitations, receiving water limitations and performance goals (PGs) to maintain the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics, and to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. These requirements ensure that all WQOs are being met outside the zone of initial dilution, thereby maintaining the beneficial uses. The Ocean Plan allows for minimal degradation within the zone of initial dilution if the WQOs are maintained just outside the zone of initial dilution. The State Water Board has already determined that the minimal degradation permitted by the Ocean Plan is consistent with the antidegradation policy because it maintains maximum benefit to the people of the State, it will not unreasonably affect the present and anticipated beneficial uses, and it will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in the policies.

This Order includes a reopener provision that permits the Los Angeles Water Board to reopen the Order if the effluent exhibits RP to exceed the objectives during the Order cycle. The Los Angeles Water Board may modify the terms of this Order to prevent degradation of high-quality waters based on any change in the concentration of these constituents in the effluent or receiving water that indicates that a degradation of receiving water quality may occur. The treatment required by this Order is the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that a pollution or nuisance will not occur and the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained.

The mass-based final effluent limitations continue to be based on the maximum permitted discharge flow rate of 0.025 MGD, even though the design flow rates are 0.06 MGD for secondary treatment process and 0.03 MGD for tertiary treatment process. The additional treatment capacity was accompanied by a significant improvement in the effluent quality; therefore, the treatment plant is able to continue meeting the mass-based final effluent limitations. Since the mass-based final effluent limitations continue to be based on a lower flow rate than the design capacities, the quantity of pollutants discharged, and the quality of the discharge are expected to remain relatively constant or improve during the permit term. No additional degradation is expected based on the stringent limits in this Order.

#### **4.4.3. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants**

This Order contains both TBELs and WQBELs for individual pollutants. The TBELs consist of restrictions on BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and pH. Restrictions on BOD<sub>5</sub>20°C, TSS, and pH are discussed in section 4.2.2 of this Fact

Sheet. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements.

WQBELs have been scientifically derived to implement WQOs that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the WQOs have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. The scientific procedures for calculating individual WQBELs are based on the Ocean Plan, which became effective on February 4, 2019. All beneficial uses and WQOs contained in the Basin Plan and Ocean Plan were approved under State law and approved by USEPA. Collectively, this Order's restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA and applicable water quality standards.

**Table F-11. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations for Discharge Point 002**

Parameter	Unit	AMEL	AWEL	MDEL	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly PG	Basis	Notes
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--	Existing, secondary treatment standard, Best Professional Judgement (BPJ)	a
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	lbs/day	6.3	9.4	19	--	--	Existing, secondary treatment standard, BPJ	b
TSS	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--	Existing, secondary treatment standard, BPJ	a
TSS	lbs/day	6.3	9.4	19	--	--	Existing, secondary treatment standard, BPJ	b
O&G	mg/L	25	40	--	75	--	Existing, Ocean Plan	a, c
O&G	lbs/day	5.2	8.3	--	15	--	Existing, Ocean Plan	b, c

Parameter	Unit	AMEL	AWEL	MDEL	Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation	Average Monthly PG	Basis	Notes
Settleable Solids	mL/L	1.0	1.5	--	3.0	--	Existing, Ocean Plan	a, c
Turbidity	NTU	75	100	--	225	--	Existing, Ocean Plan	a, c
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.274	--	0.1	8.2	--	RP, existing, Ocean Plan	a, c, d
Total Residual Chlorine	lbs/day	0.06		0.021	1.7	--	RP, existing, Ocean Plan	b
Chronic Toxicity <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> Germination and Growth	Pass or Fail (TST)	--	--	Pass	--	--	RP, existing, Ocean Plan	a, e
TCDD equivalents	pg/L	0.53	--	--	--	--	RP, existing, Ocean Plan	a, e, f
TCDD equivalents	lbs/day	1.1x 10 <sup>-10</sup>	--	--	--	--	RP, existing, Ocean Plan	b, f

**Footnotes for Table F-11**

- a. The maximum daily, average weekly, and average monthly effluent limitations shall apply to flow-weighted 24-hour composite samples. They may apply to grab samples if the collection of composite samples for those constituents is not appropriate because of the instability of the constituents.
- b. The mass emission rates are calculated using 0.025 MGD, consistent with the water-quality based effluent limits in the previous permit: lbs/day = 0.00834 x C<sub>e</sub> (effluent concentration in µg/L) x Q (flow rate in MGD).
- c. The instantaneous maximum effluent limitations shall apply to grab samples.

- d. The minimum dilution ratio used to calculate effluent limitations for all nonconventional and toxic pollutants for Discharge Point 002 is 136:1 (i.e., 136-parts seawater to one-part effluent).
- e. The Chronic Toxicity effluent limitation is protective of both the numeric acute and chronic toxicity Ocean Plan water quality objectives. The effluent limitation will be implemented using *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to West Coast Marine and Estuarine Organisms* (EPA/600/R-95/136, 1995), current USEPA guidance in the [National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Test of Significant Toxicity Implementation Document](#) (EPA 833-R-10-003, June 2010) ([http://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/wet\\_final\\_tst\\_implementation2010.pdf](http://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/wet_final_tst_implementation2010.pdf)) and *EPA Regions 8, 9, and 10, Toxicity Training Tool* (January 2010).
- f. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definitions of terms.

**End of Footnotes for Table F-11**



- a. Temperature:** The temperature of wastes discharged shall not exceed 100°F. As discussed in section 3.3.2. of this Fact Sheet, this Order implements the Thermal Plan. The Thermal Plan states that for existing discharges into coastal waters, “Elevated temperature wastes shall comply with limitations necessary to assure protection of the beneficial uses and areas of special biological significance.” This effluent limitation has been carried over from the previous permit since there has been no indication that the temperature of the wastes discharged from the Facility has impacted the beneficial uses of the receiving water or areas of special biological significance.
- b. pH:** The effluent values for pH shall be maintained within the limits of 6.0 standard units and 9.0 standard units at all times. This effluent limitation is based on Table 4 of the Ocean Plan.
- c. Radioactivity:** Not to exceed limits specified in title 17, division 1, chapter 5, subchapter 4, group 3, article 1, section 30253 of the CCR. Reference to section 30253 is prospective, including future changes to any incorporated provisions of federal law, as the changes take effect. This narrative effluent limitation is based on Table 3 of the Ocean Plan.

#### **4.5. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable**

#### **4.6. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable**

#### **4.7. Recycling Specifications**

Approximately 98,000 gallons of recycled water were used for dust control, soil compaction and control and 23,000 gallons of recycled water were used for toilet flushing in 2022. The permit requires the Permittee to continue to investigate the feasibility of recycling, conservation, and/or alternative disposal methods for wastewater (such as groundwater injection), and/or beneficial use of stormwater and dry-weather urban runoff. The permit also requires the Permittee to submit an update to this feasibility study as part of the submittal of the ROWD for the next permit renewal.

### **5. PERFORMANCE GOALS**

Section III.F.1, of the Ocean Plan allows the Los Angeles Water Board to establish more restrictive WQOs and effluent limitations than those set forth in the Ocean Plan as necessary for the protection of the beneficial uses of ocean waters.

Pursuant to this provision and to implement the recommendation of the Water Quality Advisory Task Force (*Working Together for an Affordable Clean Water Environment, A final report presented to the California Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region by Water Quality Advisory Task Force, September 30, 1993*) that was adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on November 1, 1993, performance goals that are more stringent than those based on Ocean Plan objectives are prescribed in this Order. This approach is consistent with the antidegradation policy in that it

requires the Permittee to maintain its treatment level and effluent quality, recognizing normal variations in treatment efficiency and sampling and analytical techniques. However, this approach does not address substantial changes in treatment plant operations that could significantly affect the quality of the treated effluent.

While performance goals were previously placed in many POTW permits in the Region, they have been discontinued for inland surface water discharges. For inland surface waters, the California Toxics Rule (40 CFR § 131.38) has resulted in effluent limitations as stringent as many performance goals. However, the Ocean Plan allows for significant dilution, and the continued use of performance goals serves to maintain existing treatment levels and effluent quality and supports State and federal antidegradation policies.

The performance goals are based upon the actual performance of SCI WWTP and are specified only as an indication of the treatment efficiency of the Facility. Performance goals are intended to minimize pollutant loading (primarily for toxics), while maintaining the incentive for future voluntary improvement of water quality whenever feasible, without the imposition of more stringent limits based on improved performance. Performance goals for Discharge Point 002 are prescribed in this Order and are not enforceable effluent limitations or standards. The Permittee shall maintain, if not improve, its treatment efficiency. Any two exceedances of the performance goals shall trigger an investigation into the cause of the exceedance. If the exceedance persists in three successive monitoring periods, the Permittee shall submit a written report to the Los Angeles Water Board on the nature of the exceedance, the results of the investigation as to the cause of the exceedance, and the corrective actions taken or proposed corrective measures with a timetable for implementation, if necessary.

#### **5.1. Procedures for the Determination of Performance Goals (Detectable Rate $\geq$ 20%)**

For constituents that have been routinely detected in the effluent (at least 20 percent detectable data), performance goals are based on the one-sided, upper 95 percent confidence bound for the 95th percentile of the effluent performance data ( $UCB_{95/95}$ ) from January 2019 through September 2023 using the RPA protocol contained in the Ocean Plan. Effluent data are assumed log normally distributed. Performance goals are calculated according to the equation  $C_{PG} = C_o + D_m (C_o - C_s)$  and setting  $C_o = UCB_{95/95}$ .

- 5.1.1. If the maximum detected effluent concentration (MEC) is greater than the calculated performance goal, then the calculated performance goal is used as the performance goal;
- 5.1.2. If the maximum detected effluent concentration is less than the calculated performance goal, then the MEC is used as the performance goal;
- 5.1.3. If the performance goal determined in section 5.1.1 or 5.1.2 is greater than the WQO in the Ocean Plan before mixing, then the WQO is used as the performance goal; and

5.1.4. For constituents with effluent limitations, if the performance goal of a constituent determined in section 5.1.1, 5.1.2, and 5.1.3 is equal or above the most stringent effluent limitation, the performance goal is not prescribed for that constituent.

Table F-12 summarizes the performance goal determinations for Discharge Point 002, based on criteria section 5.1.1 to 5.1.4. specified above.

**Table F-12. Summary of Performance Goals for Discharge Point 002 (Detectable Rate ≥ 20%)**

Parameter	Detectable Rate	Unit	UCB <sub>95/95</sub>	C <sub>s</sub>	Calculated Monthly Average PG	MEC	WQO before Mixing	AMEL	Final Monthly Average PG	Note
Arsenic	78%	µg/L	3.1533	3	24	13.5	688	--	13.5	a
Copper	100%	µg/L	2.2044	2	30	43.1	139	--	30	a
Mercury	94%	µg/L	0.0006	0.0005	0.0142	0.0148	5.412	--	0.014	a
Nickel	89%	µg/L	0.0751	0	10.29	5.09	685	--	5.1	a
Selenium	22%	µg/L	--	0	--	1.28	2,055	--	1.3	a
Zinc	99%	µg/L	8.8736	8	127.68	169	1,652	--	128	a
Cyanide	33%	µg/L	0.4881	0	66.87	16.7	137	--	17	--
Ammonia as Nitrogen	74%	mg/L	0.1534	0	21.02	25.4	82.2	--	21	
Antimony	33%	µg/L	0.0159	0	2.18	1.4	164,400	--	1.4	a
Total residual Chlorine	44%	mg/L	0.0129	0	1.77	9.2	0.274	0.274	--	--
Radiation, Gross Alpha	100%	pCi/L	--	0	--	8	--	--	8	--
Radiation, Gross Alpha	100%	pCi/L	--	0	--	13	--	--	13	--
Chlorodibromomethane	89%	µg/L	1.2748	0	174.65	60	1,178	--	60	--
Chloroform	89%	µg/L	2.3159	0	317.28	120	17,810	--	120	--
Dichlorobromomethane	89%	µg/L	2.2386	0	306.69	120	849	--	120	--
Halomethanes	33%	µg/L	1.5136	0	207.36	60	17,810	--	60	b
TCDD equivalents	37%	pg/L	0.0126	0	1.73	3.356	0.5343	0.53	--	b

**Footnotes for Table F-12**

- a. Values are expressed as total recoverable concentrations.
- b. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definitions of terms.

**End of Footnotes for Table F-12**

**5.2. Procedures for the Determination of Performance Goals (Detectable Rate < 20%)**

For constituents where monitoring data have consistently shown nondetectable levels (less than 20 percent detectable data), performance goals are set at five times the Minimum Levels (MLs) listed in the Ocean Plan (or listed in the laboratory report for those pollutants without MLs listed in the Ocean Plan). If the MEC is less than the calculated value based on the ML, then the MEC is used as the performance goal. For constituents with effluent limitations, if the performance goal of a constituent is equal or above the most stringent effluent limitation, the performance goal is not prescribed for that constituent.

Table F-13 summarizes the performance goal determinations for Discharge Point 002, based on criteria section 5.2.

**Table F-13. Summary of Performance Goals for Discharge Point 002 (Detectable Rate < 20%)**

Parameter	Detectable Rate	Unit	MEC	ML	5XML	Monthly Average PG	AMEL	Final Monthly Average PG	Note
Cadmium	0%	µg/L	0.39	0.2	1	0.39	--	0.4	a
Lead	0%	µg/L	0.41	0.5	2.5	0.41	--	0.4	a
Silver	0%	µg/L	--	0.2	1	1.0	--	1.0	a
Chromium (VI)	11%	µg/L	0.25	0.5	3	0.25	--	0.25	a
Phenolic Compounds (non-chlorinated)	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	b
Phenolic Compounds (chlorinated)	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	b
Endosulfan	0%	µg/L	--	0.01	0.05	0.05	--	0.05	b
Endrin	0%	µg/L	--	0.01	0.05	0.05	--	0.05	--
HCH	0%	µg/L	--	0.005	0.025	0.025	--	0.025	b
Acrolein	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
Bis(2-chloroethoxy) methane	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Chlorobenzene	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Chromium (III)	0%	µg/L	0.96	0.5	2.5	0.96	--	0.96	a
Di-n-butyl phthalate	0%	µg/L	--	10	50	50	--	50	--
Dichlorobenzenes	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	b
Diethyl phthalate	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--

Parameter	Detectable Rate	Unit	MEC	ML	5XML	Monthly Average PG	AMEL	Final Monthly Average PG	Note
Dimethyl phthalate	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
4,6-dinitro-2-methylphenol	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
2,4-dinitrophenol	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
Ethylbenzene	0%	µg/L	1	2	10	1	--	1	--
Fluoranthene	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
Nitrobenzene	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Thallium	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	a
Toluene	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Tributyltin	0%	µg/L	--	0.0029	0.0145	0.0145	--	0.0145	--
1,1,1-trichloroethane	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Acrylonitrile	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Aldrin	0%	µg/L	--	0.005	0.025	0.025	--	0.025	--
Benzene	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Benzidine	0%	µg/L	110	5	25	25	--	25	--
Beryllium	0%	µg/L	--	0.5	2.5	2.5	--	2.5	a
Bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	0%	µg/L	39	5	25	25	--	25	--
Carbon tetrachloride	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--



Parameter	Detectable Rate	Unit	MEC	ML	5XML	Monthly Average PG	AMEL	Final Monthly Average PG	Note
DDT	0%	µg/L	--	0.01	0.05	0.05	--	0.05	b
Chlordane	0%	µg/L	--	0.1	0.5	0.5	--	0.5	b
1,4-dichlorobenzene	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
3,3-dichlorobenzidine	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
1,2-dichloroethane	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
1,1-dichloroethylene	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Dichloromethane	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
1,3-dichloropropene	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
Dieldrin	0%	µg/L	--	0.01	0.05	0.05	--	0.05	--
2,4-dinitrotoluene	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
1,2-diphenylhydrazine	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Heptachlor	0%	µg/L	--	0.01	0.05	0.05	--	0.05	--
Heptachlor epoxide	0%	µg/L	--	0.01	0.05	0.05	--	0.05	--
Hexachlorobenzene	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Hexachlorobutadiene	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Hexachloroethane	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
Isophorone	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
N-nitrosodimethylamine	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--
N-nitrosodi-n-propylamine	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	--

Parameter	Detectable Rate	Unit	MEC	ML	5XML	Monthly Average PG	AMEL	Final Monthly Average PG	Note
N-nitrosodiphenylamine	0%	µg/L	--	1	5	5	--	5.0	--
PAHs	0%	µg/L	--	5	25	25	--	25	b
PCBs as aroclors	0%	µg/L	--	0.5	2.5	2.5	--	2.5	b
1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Tetrachloroethylene	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
Toxaphene	0%	µg/L	--	0.5	2.5	2.5	--	2.5	--
Trichloroethylene	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
1,1,2-trichloroethane	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--
2,4,6-trichlorophenol	0%	µg/L	--	10	50	50	--	50	--
Vinyl chloride	0%	µg/L	--	2	10	10	--	10	--

**Footnotes for Table F-13**

- a. Values are expressed as total recoverable concentrations.
- b. See section 7 of this Order and Attachment A for definitions of terms.

**End of Footnotes for Table F-13**

## **6. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

### **6.1. Surface Water**

The Ocean Plan and Basin Plan contain numeric and narrative water quality standards applicable to surface waters within the Los Angeles Region. WQOs include a policy to maintain high-quality waters pursuant to federal regulations (40 CFR § 131.12) and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Receiving water limitations in section 5 of the Order are included to ensure protection of beneficial uses of the receiving water.

### **6.2. Groundwater – Not Applicable**

## **7. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS**

### **7.1. Standard Provisions**

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 CFR section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 CFR section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D of the Order. Sections 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) of 40 CFR establish conditions that apply to all State-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) of 40 CFR allows the State to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with 40 CFR section 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in 40 CFR section 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference Water Code section 13387(e).

### **7.2. Special Provisions**

#### **7.2.1. Reopener Provisions**

These provisions are based on 40 CFR part 123.25. The Los Angeles Water Board may reopen the permit to modify permit conditions and requirements. Causes for modifications include the promulgation of new regulations, modification in sludge/biosolids use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the State Water Board or Los Angeles Water Board, including revisions to the Ocean Plan or Basin Plan.

#### **7.2.2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements**

**a. Antidegradation Analysis and Engineering Report for Any Proposed Plant Expansion.** This provision is based on the State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, which requires the Los Angeles Water Board to regulate the discharge of waste to maintain high quality waters of the state. The Permittee must demonstrate that it has implemented

adequate controls (e.g., adequate treatment capacity) to ensure that high quality waters will be maintained. If the Permittee increases plant capacity, this provision requires the Permittee to demonstrate that treatment systems are effective in preventing violations of effluent limitations. This provision requires the Permittee to report specific time schedules for SCI WWTP's projects and to submit a report to the Los Angeles Water Board for approval.

- b. Operations Plan for Proposed Expansion.** This provision is based on section 13385(j)(1)(D) of the Water Code and allows period not to exceed 90 days in which the Permittee may adjust and test the treatment system(s). This provision requires the Permittee to submit an Operations Plan describing the actions the Permittee will take during the period of adjusting and testing to prevent violations.
- c. Treatment Plant Capacity.** The treatment plant capacity study required by this Order shall serve as an indicator for the Los Angeles Water Board regarding the Facility's increasing hydraulic capacity and growth in the service area.
- d. Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Requirements.** If the discharge consistently exceeds an effluent limitation for toxicity as specified in this Order, the Permittee shall conduct a TRE as detailed in section 5 of the MRP (Attachment E). The TRE will help the Permittee identify the possible source(s) of toxicity. The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to reduce toxicity to the required level.

#### **7.2.3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention**

- a. Spill Clean-Up Contingency Plan (SCCP):** Since spills or overflows are a common event at the POTWs or FOTWs, this Order requires the Permittee to review and update, if necessary, its SCCP after each incident. The Permittee shall ensure that the updated SCCP is readily available to the sewage system personnel at all times and that the sewage personnel are familiar with it.
- b. Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP).** This provision is based on the requirements of section III.C.9 of the Ocean Plan.

#### **7.2.4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications**

This provision is based on the requirements of 40 CFR section 122.41(e) and the previous Order. 40 CFR section 122.41(e) also requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the Order. For proper and effective operation of such facilities or systems, routine maintenance and operational testing of emergency infrastructure/equipment is necessary. Major sewage spills can cause harm to residents of the Los Angeles Region, such as the closure of

beaches, and harm to wildlife and benthic life. The impact of any such incident to the receiving waters can be minimized or prevented if the operation of emergency infrastructure occurs unimpeded by operational challenges and in a timely fashion. Thus, this Order contains requirements for routine maintenance and operational testing of emergency infrastructure/equipment in section 6.3.4.d.

### **7.2.5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (FOTWs)**

- a. **Biosolids Requirements.** To implement CWA section 405(d), on February 19, 1993, USEPA promulgated 40 CFR part 503 to regulate the use and disposal of municipal sewage sludge. This regulation was amended on September 3, 1999. The regulation requires that producers of sewage sludge meet certain reporting, handling, and disposal requirements. It is the Permittee's responsibility to comply with said regulations that are enforceable by USEPA because California has not been delegated the authority to implement this program. The Permittee is also responsible for compliance with WDRs and NPDES permits for the generation, transport and application of biosolids issued by the State Water Board, other Regional Water Boards, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, or USEPA, to whose jurisdiction the Facility's biosolids will be transported and applied.
- b. **Spill Reporting Requirements.** This Order establishes a reporting protocol for how different types of spills, overflows or bypasses of raw or partially treated sewage from its collection system or treatment plant covered by this Order shall be reported to regulatory agencies. Although State and Los Angeles Water Board staff do not have duties as first responders, the Initial Notification requirement in section 6.3.6.a of this Order is an appropriate mechanism to ensure that the agencies that do have first responder duties are notified in a timely manner to protect public health and beneficial uses.

As discussed in section 3.5.4. of the Fact Sheet, the Permittee is required to comply with the SSS WDRs. The SSS WDRs require public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems with greater than one mile of pipes or sewer lines to enroll for coverage under the SSS WDRs. The SSS WDRs require agencies to develop sanitary sewer management plans (SSMPs) and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), among other requirements and prohibitions.

Furthermore, the SSS WDRs contain requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows. Since the Permittee's collection system is part of the Facility that is subject to this Order, certain standard provisions are applicable as specified in Provisions, section 6.3.5. For instance, the 24-hour reporting requirements in this Order are not included in the SSS WDRs. The Permittee must comply with both the SSS WDRs and this

Order. The Permittee and public agencies that are discharging wastewater into the Facility were required to obtain enrollment for regulation under the SSS WDRs by December 1, 2006.

In the past, the Los Angeles Water Board has experienced loss of recreational use in coastal beaches and in recreational areas because of major sewage spills. The SSS WDRs requirements are intended to prevent or minimize impacts to receiving waters due to spills.

The requirements of this Order are more stringent than the SSS WDRs because, in addition to the SSS WDRs requirements, this NPDES permit requires receiving water monitoring when the spill reaches the surface water.

## **8. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

CWA section 308(a) and 40 CFR sections 122.41(h), (j)-(l), 122.44(i), and 122.48 require that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code section 13383 also authorizes the Los Angeles Water Board to establish monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements. The MRP of this Order establishes monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements that implement federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this Facility.

### **8.1. Influent Monitoring**

Influent monitoring is required to determine compliance with the permit conditions and to assess treatment plant performance. Influent monitoring in this Order follows the influent monitoring requirements in the previous Order with minor changes. The monitoring frequencies for some parameters have been increased due to RP for those parameters.

### **8.2. Effluent Monitoring**

The Permittee is required to conduct monitoring of the permitted discharge to evaluate compliance with permit conditions. Monitoring requirements are included in the MRP Attachment E. This provision requires compliance with the MRP, and is based on 40 CFR sections 122.44(i), 122.62, 122.63, and 124.5. The MRP is a standard requirement in almost all NPDES permits (including this Order) issued by the Los Angeles Water Board. In addition to containing definition of terms, it specifies general sampling/analytical protocols and the requirements for reporting spills, violations, and routine monitoring data in accordance with NPDES regulations, the Water Code, and Los Angeles Water Board policies. The MRP also contains a sampling program specific for the Permittee's wastewater treatment plant. It defines the sampling stations and frequency, pollutants to be monitored, and additional reporting requirements. Pollutants to be monitored include all pollutants for which effluent limitations are specified.

Monitoring for those pollutants expected to be present in the discharge from the Facility is required as set forth in the MRP and as required in the Ocean Plan.

Monitoring frequencies for the constituents are based on historic monitoring frequency, Best Professional Judgment, and the following criteria:

Criterion 1: Monthly monitoring will be considered for those pollutants with reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives (monitoring has shown an exceedance of the objectives);

Criterion 2: Quarterly monitoring will be considered for those pollutants in which some or all the historic effluent monitoring data detected the pollutants, but without reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives; and

Criterion 3: Semiannual monitoring will be considered for those pollutants in which all the historic effluent monitoring data have had non-detected concentrations of the pollutants and without current reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives.

The proposed monitoring requirements for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are consistent with USEPA’s PFAS Action Plan (dated June 15, 2022), PFAS Strategic Roadmap (October 2021) that describe that EPA’s goals of reducing PFAS discharges to waterways, and USEPA’s memo dated December 5, 2022 updating guidance for addressing PFAS discharges in NPDES permits and/or in pretreatment programs.

**Table F-14. Monitoring Frequency Comparison**

Parameter	Monitoring Frequency (2018 Permit)	Monitoring Frequency (2024 Permit)	Note
Flow	Continuous	No change	--
BOD <sub>5</sub> 20°C	Monthly	No change	--
TSS	Monthly	No change	--
pH	Monthly	No change	--
Oil and Grease	Monthly	No change	--
Temperature	Monthly	No change	--
Settleable Solids	Monthly	No change	--
Dissolved Oxygen	Monthly	No change	--
Turbidity	Monthly	No change	--
Total Coliform	Monthly	-	c
<i>Enterococcus</i>	Monthly	-	c
Fecal Coliform	Monthly	-	c

Parameter	Monitoring Frequency (2018 Permit)	Monitoring Frequency (2024 Permit)	Note
Nitrate Nitrogen	Semiannually	No change	--
Nitrite Nitrogen	Semiannually	No change	--
Organic Nitrogen	Semiannually	No change	--
Total Phosphorus	Semiannually	No change	--
Arsenic	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Copper	Monthly	Quarterly	a
Mercury	Quarterly	No change	--
Nickel	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Zinc	Monthly	Quarterly	a
Cyanide	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Total Residual Chlorine	Monthly	No change	--
Ammonia Nitrogen	Quarterly	No change	--
Chronic Toxicity <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> Germination and Growth	Quarterly	No change	--
HCH	Quarterly	Semiannually	b
Radioactivity (including gross alpha, gross beta, combined radium-226 & radium- 228, tritium, strontium- 90 and uranium)	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Antimony	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Chlorodibromomethane	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Chloroform	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Dichlorobromomethane	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Halomethanes	Semiannually	Quarterly	a
Heptachlor	Quarterly	Semiannually	b
Heptachlor Epoxide	Quarterly	Semiannually	b
TCDD Equivalentents	Monthly	No change	--



Parameter	Monitoring Frequency (2018 Permit)	Monitoring Frequency (2024 Permit)	Note
PFAS	--	Semiannually	--
Remaining Pollutants in Ocean Plan Table 3 except acute toxicity	Semiannually	No change	--

**Footnotes for Table F-14**

- a. Based on Criterion 2 specified in section 9.2 above.
- b. Based on Criterion 3 specified in section 9.3 above.
- c. The Ocean Plan includes receiving water quality objectives for fecal coliform, total coliform, and *Enterococcus*. Compliance with the receiving water objectives for fecal coliform, total coliform, and *Enterococcus* is determined through receiving water monitoring conducted by the Permittee around the outfall, and therefore effluent monitoring for fecal coliform, total coliform, and *Enterococcus* is not needed to assess compliance with the water quality objectives.

**End of Footnotes for Table F-14**

**8.3. Whole Effluent Toxicity Requirements**

The rationale for WET monitoring has been discussed extensively in section 4.3.6 of this Fact Sheet.

**8.4. Receiving Water Monitoring**

**8.4.1. Surface Water**

Receiving water monitoring is required to determine compliance with receiving water limitations and to characterize the water quality of the receiving water. Requirements are based on the Ocean Plan and the Basin Plan. The conceptual framework for the receiving water program has three components that comprise a range of spatial and temporal scales: (a) core monitoring; (b) regional monitoring; and (c) special studies. Detailed information can be found in section 8 of Attachment E.

The receiving water monitoring program contains the following core and regional components: Inshore and offshore water quality monitoring; benthic infauna and sediment chemistry monitoring; local and regional survey questions, sampling designs, monitoring locations, and other specific monitoring requirements are detailed in the MRP.

**8.4.2. Groundwater – Not Applicable**

## **8.5. Other Monitoring Requirements**

### **8.5.1. Outfall and Diffuser Inspection**

This survey investigates the condition of the outfall structures to determine if the structures are in serviceable condition to ensure their continued safe operation. The data collected will be used for a periodic assessment of the integrity of the outfall pipes and ballasting system.

### **8.5.2. Biosolids and Sludge Management**

Attachment H establishes monitoring and reporting requirements for the storage, handling and disposal practices of biosolids/sludge generated from the operation of this Facility.

### **8.5.3. Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study Program**

Under the authority of section 308 of the CWA (33 USC. § 1318), USEPA requires major and selected minor dischargers under the NPDES Program to participate in the annual DMR-QA Study Program. The DMR-QA Study evaluates the analytical ability of laboratories that routinely perform or support self-monitoring analyses required by NPDES permits. There are two options to satisfy the requirements of the DMR-QA Study Program: (1) The Permittee can obtain and analyze a DMR-QA sample as part of the DMR-QA Study; or (2) Per the waiver issued by USEPA to the State Water Board, the Permittee can submit the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study from its own laboratories or its contract laboratories. A Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study is similar to the DMR-QA Study. Thus, it also evaluates a laboratory's ability to analyze wastewater samples to produce quality data that ensure the integrity of the NPDES Program. The Permittee shall ensure that the results of the DMR-QA Study or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study are submitted annually to the State Water Board. The State Water Board's Quality Assurance Program Officer will send the DMR-QA Study results or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study to USEPA's DMR-QA Coordinator and Quality Assurance Manager.

### **8.5.4. Monitoring of Volumetric Data for Wastewater and Recycled Water**

The State Water Board adopted the "Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water" (Recycled Water Policy) on February 3, 2009 and amended the Recycled Water Policy on January 22, 2013 and December 11, 2018. The most recent amendment became effective on April 8, 2019. The Recycled Water Policy requires wastewater and recycled water dischargers to annually report monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. As applicable, permittees are additionally required to annually report recycled

water use by volume and category of reuse. The State Water Board issued a Water Code Section 13267 and 13383 Order, Order WQ 2019-0037-EXEC, on July 24, 2019 to amend MRPs for all NPDES permits, WDRs, WRRs, Master Recycling permits, and General WDRs. Annual reports are due by April 30 of each year, and the report must be submitted to GeoTracker. This Order implements the Recycled Water Policy by incorporating the volumetric monitoring reporting requirements in accordance with [Section 3 of the Recycled Water Policy](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/121118_7_final_amendment_oal.pdf) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2018/121118\\_7\\_final\\_amendment\\_oal.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/121118_7_final_amendment_oal.pdf)). The State Water Board's Order WQ 2019-0037-EXEC will no longer be applicable to the Permittee upon the effective date of this Order.

## **9. CONSIDERATION OF NEED TO PREVENT NUISANCE AND WATER CODE SECTION 13241 FACTORS**

One of the provisions/requirements in this Order (section 4.3 of the Order) is included to implement state law only. This provision/requirement is not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of this provision/requirement are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations. As required by Water Code section 13263, the Los Angeles Water Board has considered the need to prevent nuisance and the factors listed in Water Code section 13241 in establishing the state law provisions/requirements. The Los Angeles Water Board finds, on balance, that the state law requirements in this Order are reasonably necessary to prevent nuisance and to protect beneficial uses identified in the Basin Plan, and the section 13241 factors are not sufficient to justify failing to protect those beneficial uses.

- 9.1. Need to prevent pollution or nuisance: In establishing effluent limitations in this Order, the Los Angeles Water Board has considered state law requirements to prevent pollution or nuisance as defined in section 13050, subdivisions (l) and (m), of the Water Code. The only requirement in this Order that is based on State law is a study to investigate the feasibility of recycling, conservation, and/or alternative disposal methods for wastewater (such as groundwater injection), and/or capture and treatment of dry-weather urban runoff and stormwater on a permissive basis for beneficial reuse. This investigation will allow the Los Angeles Water Board to determine if and how to prevent pollution from any recycling or conservation program that might be implemented in the future.
- 9.2. Past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of water: Chapter 2 of the Basin Plan identifies designated beneficial uses for water bodies in the Los Angeles Region. Beneficial uses of water relevant to this Order are also identified above in Table F-4.

The Los Angeles Water Board has taken this factor into account in establishing effluent limitations in the Order, including the requirement set forth in section 4.3. The feasibility investigation will not affect the past or present beneficial uses of

water, but it could affect the future beneficial uses of water. Should the Permittee be required to implement actions based on the feasibility investigation, any recycled water that may be produced will have to meet all legal requirements, including those set forth in CCR, title 22 to protect beneficial uses. The requirements herein protect the past, present and probable future beneficial uses of the water.

- 9.3. Environmental characteristics of the hydrographic unit under consideration, including the quality of water available thereto: The environmental characteristics are discussed in the Region's Watershed Management Initiative Chapter, as well as available in State of the Watershed reports and the State's CWA Section 303(d) List of impaired waters. The environmental characteristics of the hydrographic unit, including the quality of available water, will be improved by compliance with the requirements of this Order. Additional information on the Santa Monica Bay Watershed Management Area is available at: [Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board \(ca.gov\)](https://www.larwb.com/).
- 9.4. Water quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area: The water quality standards necessary to protect beneficial uses of the Santa Monica Bay Watershed Management Area can reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors that affect water quality in the area, including the conservation of water and/or the production of recycled water contemplated in the feasibility investigation. For example, the water quality in the watershed could be improved through the addition of recycled water which meets the CCR, title 22 standards. The Los Angeles Water Board has taken this factor into account in establishing effluent limitations in the Order.
- 9.5. Economic considerations: The Permittee did not present any evidence regarding economic considerations related to this Order. However, the Los Angeles Water Board has considered the economic impact of requiring certain provisions pursuant to state law, and in conjunction with the applicable TMDLs incorporated into the Order. The only cost here would be the cost of conducting the feasibility investigation. Any additional costs associated with producing the study are reasonably necessary to prevent nuisance and protect beneficial uses identified in the Basin Plan, and to increase the water supply. The failure to consider conservation or recycled water could result in the loss of, or impacts to, beneficial uses would have a detrimental economic impact, particularly given the effects on beneficial uses and supplies of water from the drought and climate change. Economic considerations related to costs of compliance are therefore not sufficient, in the Los Angeles Water Board's determination, to justify failing to prevent nuisance and protect beneficial uses.
- 9.6. Need for developing housing within the region: The Los Angeles Water Board does not anticipate that the state law requirements in this Order will adversely impact the need for housing in the area. The region generally relies on imported water to meet many of its water resource needs. Imported water makes up a vast

majority of the region's water supply, with local groundwater, local surface water, and reclaimed water making up the remaining amount. This Order helps address the need for housing by controlling pollutants in discharges, which will improve the quality of local surface and groundwater, as well as water available for recycling and reuse. This in turn may reduce the demand for imported water thereby increasing the region's capacity to support continued housing development. A reliable water supply for future housing development is required by law, and with less imported water available to guarantee this reliability, an increase in local supply is necessary. Therefore, the potential for developing housing in the area will be facilitated by the conservation of water, or reuse or production of, recycled water that may result from the feasibility investigation.

- 9.7. Need to develop and use recycled water: The State Water Board's Recycled Water Policy requires the Los Angeles Water Board to encourage the use of recycled water. In addition, as discussed immediately above, a need to develop and use recycled water exists within the region, especially during times of drought. To encourage recycling, the Permittee is required by this Order to continue to explore the feasibility of recycling to maximize the beneficial reuse of tertiary treated effluent and to report on its recycled water production and use. The Permittee shall submit an update to this feasibility investigation as part of the submittal of the ROWD for the next permit renewal.

## 10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Los Angeles Water Board has considered the issuance of WDRs that will serve as an NPDES permit for SCI WWTP. As a step in the WDRs adoption process, the Los Angeles Water Board staff has developed tentative WDRs and has encouraged public participation in the WDRs adoption process.

### 10.1. Notification of Interested Parties

The Los Angeles Water Board notified the Permittee and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDRs for the discharge and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. The public notice and Tentative Order were posted on the Los Angeles Water Board's website at [Tentative Orders / Permits | Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board \(ca.gov\)](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.html) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/index.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.html)) under the "Individual NPDES" heading. Permittee notification was provided by (to be provided in the Revised Tentative Order, after completion). In addition, interested agencies and persons are notified through transmittal email to the Permittee, being included in the email transaction, of the Los Angeles Water Board's intention to prescribe WDRs for the discharge.

The public had access to the agenda and any changes in dates and locations through the [Los Angeles Water Board's website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_info/agenda/) at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board\\_info/agenda/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_info/agenda/).

## 10.2. Written Comments

Interested persons were invited to submit written comments concerning the tentative WDRs as provided through the notification process. Comments were due either in person or by mail to the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer at the address on the cover page of this Order, or by email submitted to [Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov).

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Los Angeles Water Board, the written comments were due at the Los Angeles Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on March 18, 2024.

## 10.3. Public Hearing

The Los Angeles Water Board held a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: April 25, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: 320 W. 4th Street, Carmel Room Los Angeles, California 90013

A virtual platform was also available for those who wanted to join online. The directions were provided in the agenda to register or to view the Board meeting.

Additional information about the location of the hearing and options for participating were available 10 days before the hearing. Any person desiring to receive future notices about any proposed Board action regarding this Permittee, please contact [Xiaofei Cui](mailto:Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov) at [Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov), to be included on the email list.

Interested persons were invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Los Angeles Water Board heard testimony pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and NPDES permit. For accuracy of the record, important testimony was requested in writing.

## 10.4. Review of Waste Discharge Requirements

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Los Angeles Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and CCR, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., within 30 calendar days of the date of adoption of this Order at the following address, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Office of Chief Counsel  
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street

Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Or by email at [waterqualitypetitions@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:waterqualitypetitions@waterboards.ca.gov)

For [instructions on how to file a petition for review](#), see [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality/wqpetition\\_instr.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml). Filing a petition does not automatically stay any of the requirements of this Order.

#### **10.5. Information and Copying**

The ROWD, other supporting documents, and comments received are on file and may be inspected at the address below by appointment between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Los Angeles Water Board at the address below or by calling (213) 576-6600.

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-2343

#### **10.6. Register of Interested Persons**

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDRs and NPDES permit should contact the Los Angeles Water Board, reference this Facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

#### **10.7. Additional Information**

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this Order should be directed to [Xiaofei Cui](#) via email at [Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Xiaofei.Cui@waterboards.ca.gov).

## **ATTACHMENT G. TOXICITY REDUCTION EVALUATION (TRE) WORK PLAN**

1. Gather and Review Information and Data
  - 1.1. FOTW Operations and Performance
  - 1.2. FOTW Influent and Pretreatment Program
  - 1.3. Effluent Data, including Toxicity Results
  - 1.4. Sludge (Biosolids) Data
2. Evaluate Facility Performance
3. Conduct Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE)
4. Evaluate Sources and In-Plant Controls
5. Implement Toxicity Control Measures
6. Conduct Confirmatory Toxicity Testing



## **ATTACHMENT H. BIOSOLIDS AND SLUDGE MANAGEMENT**

[Note: "Biosolids" refers to non-hazardous sewage sludge as defined in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) §503.9. Sewage sludge that is hazardous, as defined in 40 CFR part 261, must be disposed of in accordance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).]

### **1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 1.1. All biosolids generated by the Permittee shall be reused or disposed of in compliance with the applicable portions of:
  - 1.1.1. 40 CFR part 503: for biosolids that are land applied, placed in surface disposal sites (dedicated land disposal sites or monofills), or incinerated; 40 CFR § 503 Subpart B (land application) applies to biosolids placed on the land for the purposes of providing nutrients or conditioning the soil for crops or vegetation. 40 CFR § 503 Subpart C (surface disposal) applies to biosolids placed on land for the purpose of disposal.
  - 1.1.2. 40 CFR part 258: for biosolids disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfills.
  - 1.1.3. 40 CFR part 257: for all biosolids use and disposal practices not covered under 40 CFR parts 258 or 503.
- 1.2. The Permittee is responsible for assuring that all biosolids from its Facility are used or disposed of in accordance with 40 CFR part 503, whether the Permittee uses or disposes of the biosolids itself or transfers their biosolids to another party for further treatment, reuse, or disposal. The Permittee is responsible for informing subsequent preparers, appliers, and disposers of requirements they must meet under 40 CFR part 503.
- 1.3. Duty to mitigate: The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to prevent or minimize any biosolids use or disposal which may adversely impact human health or the environment.
- 1.4. No biosolids shall be allowed to enter wetland or other waters of the United States.
- 1.5. Biosolids treatment, storage, and use or disposal shall not contaminate groundwater.
- 1.6. Biosolids treatment, storage, use or disposal shall not create a nuisance such as objectionable odors or flies.
- 1.7. The Permittee shall assure that haulers transporting biosolids off site for further treatment, storage, reuse, or disposal take all necessary measures to keep the biosolids contained.
- 1.8. If biosolids are stored for over two years from the time they are generated, the Permittee must ensure compliance with all the requirements for surface disposal

under 40 CFR part 503 Subpart C, or must submit a written request to United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) with the information in part 503.20(b), requesting permission for longer temporary storage.

- 1.9. Sewage sludge containing more than 50 mg/kg polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) shall be disposed of in accordance with 40 CFR part 761.
- 1.10. Any off-site biosolids treatment, storage, use, or disposal site operated by the Permittee within Region 4 (California Regional Water Quality Control, Los Angeles Region) that is not subject to its own Waste Discharge Requirements shall have facilities adequate to divert surface runoff from the adjacent area, to protect the site boundaries from erosion, and to prevent any conditions that would cause drainage from the materials in the disposal site to escape from the site. Adequate protection is defined as protected from a storm or flood having a 1-percent chance of occurring in a 24-hour period in any given year and from the highest tidal stage that may occur.
- 1.11. There shall be adequate screening at the plant headworks and/or at the biosolids treatment units to ensure that all pieces of metal, plastic, glass, and other inert objects with a diameter greater than 3/8 inches are removed.

## **2. INSPECTION AND ENTRY**

The Los Angeles Water Board, USEPA, or an authorized representative thereof, upon the presentation of credentials, shall be allowed by the Permittee, directly or through contractual arrangements with their biosolids management contractors, to:

- 2.1. Enter upon all premises where biosolids are produced by the Permittee and all premises where Permittee biosolids are further treated, stored, used, or disposed, either by the Permittee or by another party to whom the Permittee transfers the biosolids for further treatment, storage, use, or disposal;
- 2.3. Have access to and copy any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit or of 40 CFR part 503, by the Permittee or by another party to whom the Permittee transfers the biosolids for further treatment, storage, use, or disposal; and
- 2.4. Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations used in the production of biosolids and further treatment, storage, use, or disposal by the Permittee or by another party to whom the Permittee transfers the biosolids for further treatment, storage, use, or disposal.

## **3. MONITORING**

- 3.1. Biosolids shall be monitored for the metals required in 40 CFR § 503.16 (for land application) or § 503.26 (for surface disposal), using the methods in "Test Methods for Evaluating Solids Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods" (SW-846), as required in 503.8(b)(4), at the following minimum frequencies:

<b>Amount of Sewage Sludge (Metric Tons per 365 days)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Greater than 0 but less than 290	Once per year
Equal to or greater than 290 but less than 1,500	Once per quarter
Equal to or greater than 1,500 but less than 15,000	Once per 60 days
Equal to or greater than 15,000	Once per month

For accumulated, previously untested biosolids, the Permittee shall develop a representative sampling plan, which addresses the number and location of sampling points, and collect representative samples.

Test results shall be expressed in milligrams pollutant per kilogram biosolids on a 100% dry weight basis.

Biosolids used for land application shall be tested for organic nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen, and nitrate nitrogen at the frequencies required above.

- 3.2. Biosolids shall be monitored for the following constituents at the frequency stipulated in 40 CFR § 503.16: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, zinc, organic nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen, and total solids. If biosolids are removed for use or disposal on a routine basis, sampling should be scheduled for regular intervals throughout the year. If biosolids are stored for an extended period prior to use or disposal, sampling may occur at regular intervals, or samples of the accumulated stockpile may be collected prior to use or disposal, corresponding to the tons accumulated in the stockpile for that period.
- 3.3. Class 1 facilities (facilities with pretreatment programs or others designated as Class 1 by the Regional Administrator) and Federal facilities with >5 million gallons per day (MGD) influent flow shall sample biosolids for pollutants listed under section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act (as required in the pretreatment section of the permit for POTWs with pretreatment programs). Class 1 facilities and Federal Facilities with >5 MGD influent flow shall test dioxins/dibenzofurans using a detection limit of <1 pg/g during their next sampling period if they have not done so within the past 5 years and once per 5 years thereafter.
- 3.4. The biosolids shall be tested annually or more frequently if necessary, to determine hazardousness in accordance with title 22 of the CCR, Article 1, chapter 11, division 4.5 (section 66261.3).

#### **4. PATHOGEN AND VECTOR CONTROL**

- 4.1. Prior to land application, the Permittee shall demonstrate that the biosolids meet Class A or Class B pathogen reduction levels by one of the methods listed in 40 CFR § 503.32. Prior to disposal in a surface disposal site, the Permittee shall demonstrate that the biosolids meet Class B levels or shall ensure that the site is covered at the end of each operating day.

- 4.2. If pathogen reduction is demonstrated using a “Process to Further Reduce Pathogens,” the Permittee shall maintain daily records of the operating parameters used to achieve this reduction. If pathogen reduction is demonstrated by testing for fecal coliform and/or pathogens, samples must be collected at the frequency specified in Table 1 of 40 CFR § 503.16. If Class B is demonstrated using fecal coliform, at least seven grab samples must be collected during each monitoring period and a geometric mean calculated from these samples. The following holding times between sample collection and analysis shall not be exceeded: fecal coliform – 6 hours when cooled to <4 degrees Celsius (extended to 24 hours when cooled to <4 degrees Celsius for Class A composted, Class B aerobically digested, and Class B anaerobically digested sample types); Salmonella spp. Bacteria – 24 hours when cooled to <4 degrees Celsius (unless using Method 1682 – 6 hours when cooled to 10 degrees Celsius); enteric viruses – 6 hours when cooled to <10 degrees Celsius (extended to one month when cooled to <4 degrees Celsius).
- 4.3. For biosolids that are land applied or placed in a surface disposal site, the Permittee shall track and keep records of the operational parameters used to achieve Vector Attraction Reduction requirements in 40 CFR § 503.33(b).

## **5. LAND APPLICATION**

The Permittee shall ensure that Class A thermophilically digested biosolids are applied at a rate not to exceed the agronomic rate for the crop that is grown.

## **6. SURFACE DISPOSAL**

If biosolids are placed in a surface disposal site (dedicated land disposal site or monofill), a qualified groundwater scientist shall develop a groundwater monitoring program for the site or shall certify that the placement of biosolids on the site will not contaminate an aquifer.

## **7. NOTIFICATION**

The Permittee, either directly or through contractual arrangements with their biosolids management contractors, shall comply with the following 40 CFR part 503 notification requirements.

### **7.1. Notification of Non-compliance**

The Permittee shall require appliers of their biosolids to notify USEPA Region 9 and their state permitting agency of any noncompliance within 24 hours if the non-compliance may seriously endanger health or the environment. For other instances of non-compliance, the Permittee shall require appliers of their biosolids to notify USEPA Region 9 and their state permitting agency of the non-compliance in writing within 10 working days of becoming aware of the non-compliance.

## **7.2. Interstate Notification**

If bulk biosolids are shipped to another State or to Indian Lands, the Permittee must send written notice within 60 days of the shipment and prior to the initial application of bulk biosolids to the permitting authorities in the receiving State or Indian Land (the USEPA Regional Office for the area and the State/Indian authorities).

## **7.3. Land Application Notification**

A reuse/disposal plan shall be submitted to USEPA Region 9 Coordinator and, in the absence of other state or regional reporting requirements, to the state permitting agency, prior to the use or disposal of any biosolids from this facility to a new or previously unreported site. The plan shall be submitted by the land applier of the biosolids and shall include a description and a topographic map of the proposed site(s) for reuse or disposal, names and addresses of the applier(s) and site owner(s), and a list of any state or local permits which must be obtained. For land application sites, the plan shall include a description of the crops or vegetation to be grown, proposed nitrogen loadings to be used for the crops, a determination of agronomic rates, and a groundwater monitoring plan or a description of why groundwater monitoring is not required.

If the biosolids do not meet 40 CFR § 503.13 Table 3 metals concentration limits, the Permittee must require their land applier to contact the state permitting authority to determine whether bulk biosolids subject to the cumulative pollutant loading rates in 40 CFR § 503.12(b)(2) have been applied to the site since July 20, 1993, and, if so, the cumulative amount of pollutants applied to date, and background concentration, if known. The Permittee shall then notify USEPA Region 9 Coordinator of this information.

For biosolids that are land applied, the Permittee shall notify the applier in writing of the nitrogen content of the biosolids, and the applier's requirements under 40 CFR part 503, including the requirements that the applier certify that the requirement to obtain information in Subpart A, and that the management practices, site restrictions, and any applicable vector attraction reduction requirements Subpart D have been met. The Permittee shall require the applier to certify at the end of 38 months following application of Class B biosolids that those harvesting restrictions in effect for up to 38 months have been met.

## **7.4. Surface Disposal Notification**

Prior to disposal at a new or previously unreported site, the Permittee shall notify USEPA and the State. The notice shall include a description and topographic map of the proposed site, depth to groundwater, whether the site is lined or unlined, site operator and site owner, and any state or local permits. It shall also describe procedures for ensuring grazing and public access restrictions for three years following site closure. The notice shall include a groundwater monitoring plan or description of why groundwater monitoring is not required.

## 8. REPORTING

The Permittee shall submit an annual biosolids report to USEPA Region 9 Biosolids Coordinator and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board by February 19 of each calendar year. The report shall include:

- 8.1. The amount of biosolids generated that year, in dry metric tons, and the amount accumulated from previous years.
- 8.2. Results of all pollutant monitoring required in the Monitoring Section above. Results must be reported on a 100% dry weight basis.
- 8.3. Descriptions of pathogen reduction methods, and vector attraction reduction methods, as required in 40 CFR § 503.17 and 503.27, and certifications.
- 8.4. Results of any groundwater monitoring or certification by a groundwater scientist that the placement of biosolids in a surface disposal site will not contaminate an aquifer.
- 8.5. Names and addresses of land appliers and surface disposal site operators, and volumes applied (dry metric tons).
- 8.6. Names and addresses of persons who received biosolids for storage, further treatment, disposal in a municipal waste landfill, deep well injection, or other reuse/disposal methods not covered above, and volumes delivered to each.
- 8.7. The Permittee shall submit, or require all parties contracted to manage their biosolids to submit, an annual biosolids report to USEPA Region 9 Biosolids Coordinator by February 19 of each year for the period covering the previous calendar year. The report shall include:

Names and addresses of land appliers and surface disposal site operators, name, location (latitude/longitude), and size (hectares) of site(s), volumes applied/disposed (dry metric tons), results of any groundwater monitoring; for land application: biosolids loading rates (metric tons per hectare), nitrogen loading rates (kg/ha), calculated plant and certifications that the requirement to obtain information in 40 CFR § 503.12(e)(2), management practices in §503.14, site restrictions in § 503.32(b)(5) have been met; for biosolids exceeding 40 CFR §503.13 Table 3 metals concentrations, the locations of sites where the biosolids were applied and cumulative metals loading at the sites to date; and for closed sites, the date of site closure and certifications of management practiced for three years following site closure.

- 8.8. The annual biosolids report shall be submitted to USEPA using USEPA's NPDES [Central Data Exchange \(CDX\)](https://cdx.epa.gov/) and can be accessed at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.

## **ATTACHMENT I. SEWER SYSTEM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Consistent with the intent of the California Water Code (CWC) sections 13193, 13267 and 13271 and the Health and Safety Code section 5410-5416, the following establishes the monitoring, recordkeeping, reporting and notification requirements for sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) on San Clemente Island.

For purposes of these requirements, an SSO includes any spill, release, discharge or diversion of untreated or partially treated sewage or combined sewage and storm water from the sewer collection system. SSOs include:

- a. Overflows or releases of untreated sewage or combined sewage and storm water that reach waters of the United States;
- b. Overflows or releases of untreated or partially treated sewage or combined sewage and storm water that do not reach waters of the United States; and
- c. Sewage or combined sewage and storm water backups into buildings and on private property that are caused by blockages or flow conditions within the publicly-owned portion of the sewer system.

Revisions to the SSO reporting requirements may be made at any time by the Executive Officer, and may include a reduction or increase in the monitoring and reporting.

### **1. GENERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1.1. The Permittee shall request a Sanitary Sewer System Database account by registering through the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) (CWC section 13193) if feasible. This account will allow controlled and secure entry into the SSO Database. Additionally, within 30 days of receiving an account and prior to recording SSOs into the SSO Database, the Permittee shall complete the "Collection System Questionnaire", which collects pertinent information regarding an enrollee's collection system. The "Collection System Questionnaire" shall be updated at least every 12 months.
- 1.2. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 5411.5, any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits any untreated wastewater or other waste (e.g., combined wastewater and storm water) to be discharged in or on any waters of the State, or discharged in or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged in or on any surface waters of the State, as soon as that person has knowledge of the discharge, shall immediately notify the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board). It is also recommended that the Navy notify the local health officer of the discharge. Discharges of untreated or partially treated wastewater to separate storm drains and drainage channels, whether man-made or natural or concrete-lined, shall be reported as required above.
- 1.3. Any SSO greater than 1,000 gallons discharged in or on any waters of the State, or discharged in or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged in or on

any surface waters of the State shall also be reported to the Regional Water Board. It is recommended that the Navy also report this information to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) pursuant to California Water Code section 13271.

- 1.4. If the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in any report required herein, the Permittee shall promptly submit such facts or information by formally amending the report in the Online SSO Database.

## **2. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- 2.1. For any SSO that results in a discharge to a drainage channel or a surface water, the Discharger shall, as soon as possible, but not later than two (2) hours after becoming aware of the discharge, notify the Regional Water Board. It is recommended that the Navy also notify CAL OES, the local health officer or directors of environmental health with jurisdiction over affected waterbodies.
- 2.2. It is recommended that as soon as possible, but no later than twenty-four (24) hours after becoming aware of a SSO that results in a discharge to a drainage channel or a surface water, the Discharger provide to the appropriate Regional Water Board a certification that CAL OES and the local health officer or directors of environmental health with jurisdiction over the affected water bodies have been notified of the discharge.

## **3. SSO CATEGORIES**

- 3.1. Category 1 - All discharges of sewage or combined sewage and storm water resulting from a failure in the Discharger's combined sewer system that:
  - 3.1.1. Equal or exceed 1,000 gallons, or
  - 3.1.2. Result in a discharge to a drainage channel and/or surface water; or
  - 3.1.3. Discharge to a separate storm drainpipe that was not fully captured and returned to the sanitary sewer.
- 3.2. Category 2 - All other discharges of sewage or combined sewage and storm water resulting from a failure in the Permittee's sanitary sewer.

## **4. SSO REPORTING TIMEFRAMES**

- 4.1. Category 1 SSOs - Except as provided in 2 above, all SSOs that meet the above criteria for Category 1 SSOs shall be reported as soon as: (1) the Permittee has knowledge of the discharge, (2) reporting is possible, and (3) reporting can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures. Initial reporting of Category 1 SSOs shall be reported to the Online SSO System as soon as possible but no later than 3 business days after the Discharger is made aware of the SSO. Minimum information that must be contained in the 3-day report shall include all information identified in section 5.1 below, except item 5.1.11. A final certified report shall be completed through the Online SSO System



within 15 calendar days of the conclusion of SSO response and remediation. Additional information may be added to the certified report, in the form of an attachment, at any time.

The above reporting requirements do not preclude other emergency notification requirements, recommendations, and timeframes.

- 4.2. Category 2 SSOs - All SSOs that meet the above criteria for Category 2 SSOs shall be reported to the Online SSO Database within 30 days after the end of the calendar month in which the CSS outflow occurs (e.g., all SSOs occurring in the month of January shall be reported to the Los Angeles Water Board by March 1st).
- 4.3. If there are no SSOs during the calendar month, the Permittee will provide, within 30 days after the end of each calendar month, a statement through the Online SSO Database certifying that there were no SSOs for the designated month.
- 4.4. If the Online SSO Database is not available, the Permittee certify and email all required information along with CI Number 6432 to the Los Angeles Water Board office at [losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov) in accordance with the time schedules identified above. The Permittee shall also call the Los Angeles Water Board at (213) 576-6657 or for after hours and weekends: (213) 305-2284 and (213) 305-2253. In such event, the Permittee shall also enter all required information into the Online SSO Database as soon as practicable.

## **5. MANDATORY INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN SSO REPORTING**

- 5.1. Category 2 SSOs:
  - 5.1.1. Location of the SSO, including latitude and longitude coordinates, street address, city, state, zip code;
  - 5.1.2. Applicable Regional Water Board, i.e. identify the region in which the SSO occurred along with CI Number 6432;
  - 5.1.3. County where SSO occurred;
  - 5.1.4. If the SSO entered a drainage channel and/or surface water;
  - 5.1.5. If the SSO was discharged to a separate storm drain pipe that was not fully captured and returned to the sanitary sewer;
  - 5.1.6. Estimated SSO volume in gallons;
  - 5.1.7. SSO source (e.g. manhole, cleanout, surcharge, flooding, etc.);
  - 5.1.8. SSO cause (e.g. mainline blockage, roots, etc.);
  - 5.1.9. Time of SSO notification or discovery;
  - 5.1.10. Estimated operator arrival time;
  - 5.1.11. SSO destination;

5.1.12. Estimated SSO end date/time; and

5.1.13. Certification. Upon Certification, the SSO Database will issue a Final SSO Identification (ID) Number.

5.2. Category 1 SSOs:

5.2.1. All information listed for Category 2 SSOs, plus the following:

5.2.2. Estimated SSO volume that reached surface water, drainage channel, or not recovered from a separate storm drain;

5.2.3. Estimated SSO amount recovered;

5.2.4. Response and corrective action taken;

5.2.5. If samples were collected, identify which regulatory agencies received the sample results (if applicable). If no samples were collected, NA must be selected;

5.2.6. Parameters that samples were analyzed for (if applicable);

5.2.7. Status of posting health warnings;

5.2.8. Beaches impacted (if applicable). If no beach was impacted, NA must be selected;

5.2.9. If there is an ongoing investigation;

5.2.10. Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the SSO and a schedule of major milestones for those steps;

5.2.11. OES control number (if applicable);

5.2.12. Date OES was called (if applicable);

5.2.13. Time OES was called (if applicable);

5.2.14. Identification of if County Health Officers were called;

5.2.15. Date County Health Officer was called (if applicable); and

5.2.16. Time County Health Officer was called (if applicable).

## 6. REPORTING TO OTHER REGULATORY AGENCIES

These reporting requirements do not preclude the Discharger from reporting SSOs to other regulatory agencies pursuant to California state law.

6.1. It is recommended that the Discharger report SSOs to CALEMA, in accordance with California Water Code Section 13271.

Cal OES

Phone: (800) 852-7550

6.2. It is recommended that the Discharger report SSOs to County Health officials in accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 5410 et seq.

## 7. RECORD KEEPING

- 7.1. Individual SSO records shall be maintained by the Permittee for a minimum of 5 years from the date of the SSO. This period may be extended when requested by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer.
- 7.2. All records shall be made available for review upon State or Los Angeles Water Board staff's request.
- 7.3. All monitoring instruments and devices that are used by the Permittee to fulfill the prescribed monitoring and reporting program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy;
- 7.4. The Permittee shall retain records of all SSOs, such as, but not limited to and when applicable:
  - 7.4.1. Record of certified report, as submitted to the Online SSO Database;
  - 7.4.2. All original recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation;
  - 7.4.3. Service call records and complaint logs of calls received by the Discharger;
  - 7.4.4. SSO phone calls;
  - 7.4.5. SSO records;
  - 7.4.6. Steps that have been and will be taken to prevent the SSO from recurring and a schedule to implement those steps;
  - 7.4.7. Work orders, work completed, and any other maintenance records from the previous 5 years which are associated with responses and investigations of system problems related to SSOs;
  - 7.4.8. A list and description of complaints from customers or others from the previous 5 years; and
  - 7.4.9. Documentation of performance and implementation measures for the previous 5 years.
- 7.5. If water quality samples are required by an environmental or health regulatory agency or State law, or if voluntary monitoring is conducted by the Permittee or its agent(s), because of any SSO, records of monitoring information shall include:
  - 7.5.1. The date, location, and time of sampling or measurements;
  - 7.5.2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
  - 7.5.3. The date(s) analyses were performed;
  - 7.5.4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
  - 7.5.5. The analytical technique or method used; and
  - 7.5.6. The results of such analyses.
- 7.6. Certification

- 7.6.1. All final reports must be certified by a person designated, for a municipality, state, federal or other public agency, as either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. (For purposes of electronic reporting, an electronic signature and accompanying certification, which complies with the Online SSO Database procedures, meet this certification requirement.)
- 7.6.2. Registration of authorized individuals, who may certify reports, will be in accordance with the California Integrated Water Quality System's (CIWQS') protocols for reporting.