

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF APRIL 11, and 12, 2001  
Lancaster**

**ITEM: 10**

**SUBJECT: REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS – NEIL AND MARY DE VRIES, N & M DAIRY, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**

**CHRONOLOGY:** January 12, 1984 Waste Discharge Requirements Adopted Board Order No. 6-84-03  
July 11, 1985 Revised Waste Discharge Requirements Adopted Board Order No. 6-85-88  
May 19, 1994 Updated Waste Discharge Requirements Adopted Board Order No. 6-94-062

**ISSUES:** Should the Regional Board adopt Revised Waste Discharge Requirements for the N&M Dairy?

**DISCUSSION:** The N&M Dairy is located adjacent to the Mojave River within the Mojave River Floodplain approximately five miles northeast of the community of Helendale. The dairy includes 904 acres and the dairy facilities (barn and corrals) are located on approximately 45 acres. Most of the remaining land is used to grow fodder crops. The dairy is designed for up to 2,300 cows.

The Lahontan Regional Board's regulatory focus since the early 1980's has been on dairies located within and immediately adjacent to the Mojave River Floodplain. This regulatory strategy was developed in consideration of recommendations made by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The DWR recommended that the Regional Board focus efforts on the floodplain area because, without proper waste management techniques, shallow ground water and coarse soils of the floodplain could allow salts and nitrates associated with manure and wash water to migrate very quickly to the ground water.

At design capacity, N&M Dairy would generate and discharge approximately 0.05 mgd of dairy wash water and 8.9 tons of manure per day. Wash water is disposed by irrigating adjacent cropland. A portion of the manure is applied to adjacent cropland. The remainder is shipped to neighboring farmers for fertilizer. The requirements limit the amount of manure disposed of on the dairy site to 3.60 tons dry manure per acre per year. This is estimated to be equivalent to the agronomic rate for cropland application.

The requirements also require the Discharger to prepare and implement a Water Quality Protection Plan. The plan shall contain the following elements: 1) an Updated Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for stormwater control; 2) a Best Management Practices Plan describing pollutant prevention controls; 3) an Engineered Waste Management Plan to quantify the agronomic rate for cropland application; and 4) a work plan to construct four ground water monitoring wells to monitor the upper-most ground water.

Comments have been solicited from the Discharger, Milk Producers Council, county and state agencies, and the California Department of Fish and Game. No adverse comments were received.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adoption of the Order as proposed.

Enclosures: 1. Proposed Order