

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

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**ORDER NO. R9-2025-0002**

**AMENDING ORDER NO. R9-2023-0011**

**NPDES NO. CA0109282**

**Waste Discharge Requirements  
For Southern California Edison Company  
Discharge To The Pacific Ocean Related To The Decommissioning Of San Onofre  
Nuclear Generating Station, San Diego County**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) finds:

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Southern California Edison Company (Discharger) is the principal owner and operator of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS or Facility), a nuclear-fueled electrical power generating facility which permanently ceased power operations on June 7, 2013, and is undergoing decommissioning, decontamination, and dismantlement.
- 1.2. The San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2023-0011, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) No. CA0109282, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Southern California Edison Company Discharge to the Pacific Ocean Related to the Decommissioning of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, San Diego County* (2023 Order) on April 12, 2023, establishing waste discharge requirements for the Discharger for the discharge of ocean water, treated domestic wastewater, and other low-volume waste stream to the Pacific Ocean through the SONGS Unit 2 diffuser.
- 1.3. The North Industrial Area (NIA) Sewage Treatment Plant was located within the NIA of SONGS and treated sewage from SONGS. The treated domestic wastewater was discharged to the SONGS Unit 2 diffuser, which starts at 5,888 feet offshore, less than one nautical mile offshore.

The California Ocean Plan, Appendix III, section 4 requires core monitoring in receiving water on the shoreline for indicator bacteria for any point sources discharging treated sewage effluent within one nautical mile of shore. The discharges from the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant to the Pacific Ocean through the SONGS Unit 2 diffuser was a point source discharge within one nautical mile of shore. Thus, the 2023 Order added monitoring requirements in the receiving water for fecal coliform and enterococci.

- 1.4. By letter dated November 17, 2023, the Discharger stated it plans to take the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant permanently offline and thus stop discharging treated domestic wastewater from the internal Monitoring Location INT-001-A to the SONGS Unit 2 diffuser. In the letter, the Discharger also stated that it plans to replace the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant with self-containing restroom facilities which the Discharger will pump out on a regular frequency. In the November 2023 letter, the Discharger requested an amendment to the 2023 Order to remove Discharge Point 001-A and the monitoring requirements in the receiving water for fecal coliform and enterococci. Discharge Point 001-A (Monitoring Location INT-001-A) is described in 2023 Order, Attachment E, Table E-1 as, **“NIA Internal Waste streams Routed to Discharge Point 002: A location where a representative sample of the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent can be obtained.”**
- 1.5. By letter dated April 2, 2024, the Discharger confirmed that it closed the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant on March 28, 2024, and no longer discharges treated domestic wastewater to the Pacific Ocean through the SONGS Unit 2 diffuser. With the confirmed closure, the Discharger requested a permit amendment as detailed in its November 2023 letter.
- 1.6. Eliminating the discharge of treated domestic wastewater reduced the total permitted flow to the SONGS Unit 2 diffuser from 42.252 to 42.202 MGD. This resulted in an insignificant change in the calculated mass emission rates for the final effluent limitations – ocean outfall Discharge Point No. 002 (Table 5).
- 1.7. The definition of Tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (TCDD) Equivalents in the 2023 Order do not match the Ocean Plan.

## **2. PURPOSE OF ORDER NO. R9-2025-0002 (ORDER)**

This Order is the amending order for the 2023 Order and removes discharge, monitoring, and reporting requirements for the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant. This Order also corrects the definition of TCDD Equivalents to match the Ocean Plan.

## **3. LEGAL AUTHORITIES**

- 3.1. California Water Code (Water Code) section 13263(e) provides that the San Diego Water Board may, upon application by any affected person, or on its own motion, review, and revise waste discharge requirements.
- 3.2. The 2023 Order is not being reopened for any other purpose than the revisions contained herein. Except as contradicted or superseded by the findings and directives set forth in this Order, all the previous findings and directives of the 2023 Order shall remain in full force and effect.

## **4. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

This action is exempt from the requirement of preparation of environmental documents under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources

Code, division 13, chapter 3, section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with section 13389 of the Water Code.

**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 5.1. The San Diego Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to adopt this Order and provided them with an opportunity to submit written comments.
- 5.2. The San Diego Water Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the adoption of this Order.
- 5.3. Any person aggrieved by this action of the San Diego Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 et seq. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the adoption date of this Amending Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request. For instructions on how to file a petition for review, see the State Water Board website at: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality/wqpetition\\_instr.shtml](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml)

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, pursuant to Water Code section 13263 and title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations section 122.62, Order No. R9-2023-0011, NPDES No. CA0109282 is amended as follows:

- 1 This Order amends the 2023 Order as shown in the revised version included as Attachment 1 to this Order and summarized in Table 1 below. Added text to the 2023 Order is displayed in red-underline text and deleted text is displayed as ~~red-strikeout~~ text. The following sections of the 2023 Order are modified by this Order:

**Table 1. Tables/Sections of the 2023 Order Modified by This Order**

Page Number	Table or Section Number	Modification
1	Table 1	Remove treated domestic wastewater from Effluent Description for Discharge Point 002
1	Table 1	Remove Discharge Point 001-A
2	Text before Signature Block	Add text for amending Order
6	Section 3.4	Change total permitted flow from 42.252 to 42.202 MGD

<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Table or Section Number</b>	<b>Modification</b>
6	Section 3.6	Remove Discharge Prohibition applicable to NIA Sewage Treatment Plant discharge
7	Section 4.1.1.1. and Table 2	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Limitations
11	Table 5	Modify Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation for lbs/day of Chromium (hexavalent), Total Recoverable and Lead, Total Recoverable for reduced permitted flow
12	Table 5 footnote 2	Change total permitted flow from 42.252 to 42.202 MGD
24	Section 7.9	Remove Percent Removal TSS calculation requirement for NIA Sewage Treatment Plant
A-13 through A-14	Definition for TCDD Equivalents	Change TCDD Equivalents definition to match Ocean Plan definition
C-1	Flow Schematic 1	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Flow Schematic 1
C-2	Flow Schematic 2	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant flow to Outfall 002
E-1	Contents	Add Tables heading
E-4	Table E-1	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Influent Monitoring Location
E-5	Table E-1	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Monitoring Location
E-8 through E-9	Section 3.1 and Table E-2	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Influent Monitoring Requirements
E-9 through E-10	Section 3.2.1.and Table E-3	Remove NIA Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Monitoring Requirements
E-27	Section 4.7	Remove Indicator Bacteria Monitoring
F-3	Table F-1	Change Facility Permitted Flow from 42.252 to 42.202 MGD
F-3	Table F-1	Update to Facility Contacts

<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Table or Section Number</b>	<b>Modification</b>
F-6 through F-7	Section 2.1.1.	Update NIA Sewage Treatment Plant description with removal from operation
F-12	Section 2.1.7.	Update Discontinued Discharges to include removal of NIA Sewage Treatment Plant
F-12	Section 2.1.8.	Update Total Flows description with removal of NIA Sewage Treatment Plant
F-31	Section 4.1.6	Remove description of discharge prohibition applicable to NIA Sewage Treatment Plant
F-33 through F-34	Section 4.2.2.1. and Table F-10	Remove description of Applicable Technology Based Effluent Limitations for discharges from the NIA Sewage Treatment Plant
F-43	Table F-14	Corrected HCH RPA Endpoint
F-44	Section 4.3.3.	Update findings regarding effluent limitations for bacterial indicator to account for removal of NIA Sewage Treatment Plant
F-46	Section 4.3.4.7.	Change flow rate from 42.252 to 42.202 MGD
F-48 through F-49	Section 4.4.1.	Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements for removal of effluent limitations for NIA Sewage Treatment Plant

- 2 The amended version of the 2023 Order, included as Attachment 1 to this Order, shall become effective on March 12, 2025.
- 3 San Diego Water Board staff is directed to prepare and post a conformed copy of Order No. R9-2023-0011, incorporating the revisions made by this Order.

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the San Diego Water Board, on March 12, 2025.

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David W. Gibson, Executive Officer