CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

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ORDER R5-2018-0075

NPDES NO. CA0079464

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SAN ANDREAS SANITARY DISTRICT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT CALAVERAS COUNTY

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements (WDR's) set forth in this Order:

Table 1. Discharger Information

Discharger	**San Andreas Sanitary District**
Name of Facility	**Wastewater Treatment Plant**
Facility Address	**675 Gold Oak Road**
	San Andreas, Ca 95249
	Calaveras County

Table 2. Discharge Location

Discharge Point	Effluent Description	Discharge Point Latitude (North)	Discharge Point Longitude (West)	Receiving Water
001	**Treated municipal wastewater**	**38º 12' 39" N**	**120º 42' 20" W**	**North Fork Calaveras River**

Table 3. Administrative Information

This Order was adopted on:	**5 October 2018**
This Order shall become effective on:	**1 December 2018**
This Order shall expire on:	**30 November 2023**
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge as an application for reissuance of WDR's in accordance with title 23, California Code of Regulations, and an application for reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit no later than:	**30 November 2022**
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region have classified this discharge as follows:	**Minor**

I, Patrick Pulupa, 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, Central Valley Region, on 5 October 2018.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer

CONTENTS

TABLES

ATTACHMENTS

I. FACILITY INFORMATION

Information describing the San Andreas Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) is summarized in Table 1 and in sections I and II of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F). Section I of the Fact Sheet also includes information regarding the Facility's permit application.

II. FINDINGS

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereinafter Central Valley Water Board), finds:

E. Legal Authorities. This Order serves as waste discharge requirements (WDR's) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California 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 U.S. EPA 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 Discharger to discharge into waters of the United States at the discharge location described in Table 2 subject to the WDR's in this Order.

F. Background and Rationale for Requirements. The Central Valley 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, G, and H are also incorporated into this Order.

G. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law. The provisions/requirements in subsections IV.B, IV.C, and V.B are included to implement state law only. These provisions/requirements 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.

H. Monitoring and Reporting. 40 C.F.R. section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and State requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program is provided in Attachment E.

The technical and monitoring reports in this Order are required in accordance with Water Code section 13267, which states the following in subsection (b)(1), *"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."*

The Discharger owns and operates the Facility subject to this Order. The monitoring reports required by this Order are necessary to determine compliance with this Order. The need for the monitoring reports is discussed in the Fact Sheet.

I. Notification of Interested Parties. The Central Valley Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDR's 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.

J. Consideration of Public Comment. The Central Valley 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 R5-2014-0104-01 is rescinded 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 Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order. This action in no way prevents the Central Valley Water Board from taking enforcement action for past violations of the previous Order.

III. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

A. Discharge of wastewater from the Facility, as the Facility is specifically described in the Fact Sheet in section II.B, in a manner different from that described in this Order is prohibited.

B. The by-pass or overflow of wastes to surface waters is prohibited, except as allowed by Federal Standard Provisions I.G. and I.H. (Attachment D).

C. Neither the discharge nor its treatment shall create a nuisance as defined in section 13050 of the Water Code.

D. The Discharger shall not allow pollutant-free wastewater to be discharged into the treatment or disposal system in amounts that significantly diminish the system's capability to comply with this Order. Pollutant-free wastewater means rainfall, groundwater, cooling waters, and condensates that are essentially free of pollutants.

E. Discharge of waste classified as 'hazardous', as defined in the California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66261.1 et seq., is prohibited.

F. Average Daily Flow. Discharges exceeding an average daily flow of 1.5 million gallons per day (MGD) are prohibited.

G. The discharge of treated effluent to the North Fork Calaveras River in quantities that do not receive a minimum of 20:1 dilution as a daily average (receiving water flow; effluent flow) is prohibited.

H. The discharge of wastewater to surface waters or surface water drainage courses from the Dedicated Land Disposal Area (DLDA) is prohibited.

IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point No. 001

1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point No. 001

The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point No. 001. Unless otherwise specified compliance shall be measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001, as described in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E:

a. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the effluent limitations specified in Table 4:

Table 4. Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	24	--	47	--	--
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	5.1	11	--	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	64	140	--	--	--

1. Based on an average daily discharge flow of 1.5 MGD.

b. **Percent Removal:** The average monthly percent removal of 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5) and total suspended solids (TSS) shall not be less than 85 percent.

c. **Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity.** Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than:

i. 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and

ii. 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

d. **Total Residual Chlorine.** Effluent total residual chlorine shall not exceed:

i. 0.011 mg/L, as a 4-day average; and.

ii. 0.019 mg/L, as a 1-hour average.

e. **Total Coliform Organisms.** Effluent total coliform organisms shall not exceed:

i. 23 most probable number (MPN) per 100 mL, as a 7-day median; and.

ii. 240 MPN/100 mL, more than once in any 30-day period.

2. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

B. Land Discharge Specifications – Discharge Point LND-001

1. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations for discharge to the Designated Land Disposal Area (DLDA), with compliance measured at Monitoring Location LND-001 as described in the attached MRP.

Table 5. Land Discharge Specifications

Parameter	Units	Discharge Specifications			
		Annual Average	Average Monthly	Monthly Median	Maximum Daily
Biochemical oxygen Demand (5-day @ 25°C)	mg/L	--	40	--	80
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	--	--	23	240

C. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations

The discharge shall not cause the following in the North Fork Calaveras River.

1. **Bacteria.** The fecal coliform concentration, based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period, to exceed a geometric mean of 200 MPN/100 mL, nor more than 10 percent of the total number of fecal coliform samples taken during any 30-day period to exceed 400 MPN/100 mL.
2. **Biostimulatory Substances.** Water to contain biostimulatory substances which promote aquatic growths in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
3. **Chemical Constituents.** Chemical constituents to be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
4. **Color.** Discoloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. **Dissolved Oxygen:**
    a. The monthly median of the mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 85 percent of saturation in the main water mass;
    b. The 95 percentile dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 75 percent of saturation; nor
    c. The dissolved oxygen concentration to be reduced below 7.0 mg/L at any time.
6. **Floating Material.** Floating material to be present in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
7. **Oil and Grease.** Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.
8. **pH.** The pH to be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5**.**
9. **Pesticides:**
    a. Pesticides to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
    b. Pesticides to be present in bottom sediments or aquatic life in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;

c. Total identifiable persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides to be present in the water column at concentrations detectable within the accuracy of analytical methods approved by USEPA or the Executive Officer;

d. Pesticide concentrations to exceed those allowable by applicable antidegradation policies (see State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and 40 CFR 131.12.);

e. Pesticide concentrations to exceed the lowest levels technically and economically achievable;

f. Pesticides to be present in concentration in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) set forth in CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 15 [for water bodies in the Sac/SJ Basins with MUN); nor

g. Thiobencarb to be present in excess of 1.0 µg/L.

10. **Radioactivity:**

    a. Radionuclides to be present in concentrations that are harmful to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life nor that result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

11. **Suspended Sediments.** The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters to be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

12. **Settleable Substances.** Substances to be present in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

13. **Suspended Material.** Suspended material to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

14. **Taste and Odors.** Taste- or odor-producing substances to be present in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

15. **Temperature.** The natural temperature to be increased by more than 5°F. Compliance to be determined based on the difference in temperature at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002.

16. **Toxicity.** Toxic substances to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

17. **Turbidity.**

    a. Shall not exceed 2 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) where natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU;

    b. Shall not increase more than 1 NTU where natural turbidity is between 1 and 5 NTUs;

    c. Shall not increase more than 20 percent where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs;

    d. Shall not increase more than 10 NTU where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs; nor

    e. Shall not increase more than 10 percent where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs.

B. Groundwater Limitations

Release of waste constituents from any portion of the Facility shall not cause groundwater to:

1. Contain waste constituents in concentrations statistically greater than background groundwater quality.

2. Exceed a total coliform organism level of 2.2 MPN/100mL.

3. Exhibit a pH of less than 6.5 or greater than 8.4 pH units.

4. Contain taste or odor-producing constituents, toxic substances, or any other constituents in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Compliance with these limitations shall be determined annually based on comparison of downgradient well concentrations to background groundwater quality using historical monitoring data, using approved statistical methods.

VI. PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D.
2. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions. In the event that there is any conflict, duplication, or overlap between provisions specified by this Order, the more stringent provision shall apply:
   a. If the Discharger's wastewater treatment plant is publicly owned or subject to regulation by California Public Utilities Commission, it shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certificates of appropriate grade according to Title 23, CCR, division 3, chapter 26.
   b. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Order may be terminated or modified 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 failing to disclose fully all relevant facts;
      iii. a change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge; and
      iv. a material change in the character, location, or volume of discharge.

      The causes for modification include:

      i. *New regulations.* New regulations have been promulgated under section 405(d) of the CWA, or the standards or regulations on which the permit was based have been changed by promulgation of amended standards or regulations or by judicial decision after the permit was issued.
      ii. *Land application plans.* When required by a permit condition to incorporate a land application plan for beneficial reuse of sewage sludge, to revise an existing land application plan, or to add a land application plan.
      iii. *Change in sludge use or disposal practice.* Under 40 CFR section 122.62(a)(1), a change in the Discharger's sludge use or

disposal practice is a cause for modification of the permit. It is cause for revocation and reissuance if the Discharger requests or agrees.

The Central Valley Water Board may review and revise this Order at any time upon application of any affected person or the Central Valley Water Board's own motion.

c. If a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any scheduled compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under section 307(a) of the CWA, or amendments thereto, for a toxic pollutant that is present in the discharge authorized herein, and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation upon such pollutant in this Order, the Central Valley Water Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such toxic effluent standard or prohibition.

   The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards and prohibitions within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified.

d. This Order shall be modified, or alternately revoked and reissued, to comply with any applicable effluent standard or limitation issued or approved under sections 301(b)(2)(C) and (D), 304(b)(2), and 307(a)(2) of the CWA, if the effluent standard or limitation so issued or approved:

   i. Contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the Order; or

   ii. Controls any pollutant limited in the Order.

   The Order, as modified or reissued under this paragraph, shall also contain any other requirements of the CWA then applicable.

e. The provisions of this Order are severable. If any provision of this Order is found invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected.

f. The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse effects to waters of the State or users of those waters resulting from any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order. Reasonable steps shall include such accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the non-complying discharge or sludge use or disposal.

g. The Discharger shall ensure compliance with any existing or future pretreatment standard promulgated by USEPA under section 307 of the CWA, or amendment thereto, for any discharge to the municipal system.

h. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the discharge facility and be available at all times to operating personnel. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its content.

i. Safeguard to electric power failure:

   i. The Discharger shall provide safeguards to assure that, should there be reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the discharge shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order.

   ii. Upon written request by the Central Valley Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a written description of safeguards. Such safeguards may include alternate power sources, standby generators, retention capacity, operating procedures, or other means. A description of the safeguards provided shall

include an analysis of the frequency, duration, and impact of power failures experienced over the past 5 years on effluent quality and on the capability of the Discharger to comply with the terms and conditions of the Order. The adequacy of the safeguards is subject to the approval of the Central Valley Water Board.

iii. Should the treatment works not include safeguards against reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, or should the Central Valley Water Board not approve the existing safeguards, the Discharger shall, within 90 days of having been advised in writing by the Central Valley Water Board that the existing safeguards are inadequate, provide to the Central Valley Water Board and USEPA a schedule of compliance for providing safeguards such that in the event of reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the Discharger shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order. The schedule of compliance shall, upon approval of the Central Valley Water Board, become a condition of this Order.

j. The Discharger, upon written request of the Central Valley Water Board, shall file with the Board a technical report on its preventive (failsafe) and contingency (cleanup) plans for controlling accidental discharges, and for minimizing the effect of such events. This report may be combined with that required under the Central Valley Water Board Standard Provision contained in section VI.A.2.i of this Order.

The technical report shall:

i. Identify the possible sources of spills, leaks, untreated waste by-pass, and contaminated drainage. Loading and storage areas, power outage, waste treatment unit outage, and failure of process equipment, tanks and pipes should be considered.

ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of present facilities and procedures and state when they became operational.

iii. Predict the effectiveness of the proposed facilities and procedures and provide an implementation schedule containing interim and final dates when they will be constructed, implemented, or operational.

The Central Valley Water Board, after review of the technical report, may establish conditions which it deems necessary to control accidental discharges and to minimize the effects of such events. Such conditions shall be incorporated as part of this Order, upon notice to the Discharger.

k. A publicly owned treatment works whose waste flow has been increasing, or is projected to increase, shall estimate when flows will reach hydraulic and treatment capacities of its treatment and disposal facilities. The projections shall be made in January, based on the last 3 years' average dry weather flows, peak wet weather flows and total annual flows, as appropriate. When any projection shows that capacity of any part of the facilities may be exceeded in 4 years, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by 31 January. A copy of the notification shall be sent to appropriate local elected officials, local permitting agencies and the press. Within 120 days of the notification, the Discharger shall submit a technical report showing how it will prevent flow volumes from exceeding capacity or how it will increase capacity to handle the larger flows. The Central Valley Water Board may extend the time for submitting the report.

l. The Discharger shall submit technical reports as directed by the Executive Officer. All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. To demonstrate compliance with Title 16, CCR, sections 415 and 3065, all technical reports must contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.

m. The Central Valley Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

n. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board.

To assume operation under this Order, the succeeding owner or operator must apply in writing to the Executive Officer requesting transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the state of incorporation if a corporation, address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Central Valley Water Board and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory and certification requirements in the federal Standard Provisions (Attachment D, section V.B) and state that the new owner or operator assumes full responsibility for compliance with this Order. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without requirements, a violation of the Water Code. Transfer shall be approved or disapproved in writing by the Executive Officer.

p. 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 Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities.

q. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, average monthly effluent limitations, average weekly effluent limitations, maximum daily effluent limitations, instantaneous minimum, instantaneous maximum, or receiving water limitation of this Order, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by telephone (916) 464-3291 within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing within five days, unless the Central Valley 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. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.

B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements

The Discharger shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E.

C. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

a. Conditions that necessitate a major modification of a permit are described in 40 CFR section 122.62, including, but not limited to:

i. If new or amended applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to section 303 of the CWA, or amendments thereto, this permit may be reopened and modified in accordance with the new or amended standards.

ii. When new information, that was not available at the time of permit issuance, would have justified different permit conditions at the time of issuance.

b. This Order may be reopened for modification, or revocation and reissuance, as a result of the detection of a reportable priority pollutant generated by special conditions included in this Order. These special conditions may be, but are not limited to, fish tissue sampling, whole effluent toxicity, monitoring requirements on internal waste stream(s), and monitoring for surrogate parameters. Additional requirements may be included in this Order as a result of the special condition monitoring data.

c. **Mercury.** If mercury is found to be causing toxicity based on acute or chronic toxicity test results, or if a TMDL program is adopted, this Order shall be reopened and the mass effluent limitation modified (higher or lower) or an effluent concentration limitation imposed. If the Central Valley Water Board determines that a mercury offset program is feasible for Dischargers subject to a NPDES permit, then this Order may be reopened to reevaluate the mercury mass loading limitation(s) and the need for a mercury offset program for the Discharger.

d. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** As a result of a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) or Toxicity Evaluation Study (TES), this Order may be reopened to include a chronic toxicity effluent limitation, a revised acute toxicity effluent limitation, and/or an effluent limitation for a specific toxicant identified in a TRE. Additionally, if the State Water Board revises the SIP's toxicity control provisions, this Order may be reopened to implement the new provisions.

e. **Water Effects Ratios (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating criteria for applicable inorganic constituents, except copper. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable when developing effluent limitations for metals. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WERs and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.

f. **Drinking Water Policy.** On 26 July 2013 the Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution No. R5-2013-0098 amending the Basin Plan and establishing a Drinking Water Policy. The State Water Board approved the Drinking Water Policy on 3 December 2013. This Order may be reopened to incorporate monitoring of drinking water constituents to implement the Drinking Water Policy.

g. **Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS).** On 31 May 2018, as part of the CV-SALTS initiative, the Central Valley Water Board approved Basin Plan Amendments to incorporate new strategies for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley. If approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and US EPA, the Amendments would impose certain new requirements on salt and nitrate discharges. More information regarding these Amendments can be found at the following link: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/ If the Amendments ultimately go into effect, this Order may be amended or modified to incorporate any newly-applicable requirements.

2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements

a. **Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Requirements.** This Provision requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge exceeds the chronic toxicity thresholds defined in this Provision, the Discharger is required to initiate a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) in accordance with an approved TRE Work Plan, and take actions to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent recurrence of toxicity. A TRE is a site-specific study conducted in a stepwise process to identify the source(s) of toxicity and the effective control measures for effluent toxicity. TREs are designed to identify the causative agents and sources of whole effluent toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of the toxicity control options, and confirm the reduction in effluent toxicity. Alternatively, under certain conditions as described in this provision below, the Discharger may participate in an approved Toxicity Evaluation Study (TES) in lieu of conducting a site-specific TRE.

i. **Numeric Toxicity Monitoring Trigger.** The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is 12 TUc (where TUc = 100/NOEC). The monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to initiate additional actions to evaluate effluent toxicity as specified in subsection ii, below.

ii. **Chronic Toxicity Monitoring Trigger Exceeded.** When a chronic whole effluent toxicity result during routine monitoring exceeds the chronic toxicity monitoring trigger, the Discharger shall proceed as follows:

(a) **Evaluate 6-week Median**. The Discharger may take two additional samples within 6 weeks of the initial routine sampling event exceeding the chronic toxicity monitoring trigger to evaluate compliance using a 6-week median. If the 6-week median is greater than 12 TUc (as 100/NOEC), proceed with subsection (c). Otherwise, the Discharger shall check for any operation or sample collection issues and return to routine chronic toxicity monitoring.

(b) **Toxicity Source Easily Identified.** If the source(s) of the toxicity is easily identified (e.g., temporary plant upset), the Discharger shall make necessary corrections to the facility and shall resume routine chronic toxicity monitoring; If the source of toxicity is not easily identified the Discharger shall conduct a site-specific TRE as described in the following subsection.

(c) **Toxicity Reduction Evaluation.** If the 6-week median is greater than 12 TUc (as 100/NOEC) the Discharger shall initiate a site-specific TRE as follows:

(1) **Within thirty (30) days** of exceeding the chronic toxicity monitoring trigger, the Discharger shall submit a TRE Action Plan to the Central Valley Water Board including, at minimum:

- Specific actions the Discharger will take to investigate and identify the cause(s) of toxicity, including a TRE WET monitoring schedule;
- Specific actions the Discharger will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and
- A schedule for these actions.

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. **Pollution Prevention Plan for Mercury.** The Discharger shall continue to implement a pollution prevention plan for mercury to identify and address sources of mercury discharged from the Facility.

b. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** The Discharger shall continue to implement a salinity evaluation and minimization plan to identify and address sources of salinity discharged from the Facility.

The Discharger shall evaluate the effectiveness of the salinity evaluation and minimization plan and provide a summary with the Report of Waste Discharge, due 1 year prior to the permit expiration date. Furthermore, if the effluent annual average calendar year electrical conductivity concentration exceeds 700 µmhos/cm during the term of this Order, the salinity evaluation and minimization plan shall be reviewed and updated. The updated salinity evaluation and minimization plan shall be submitted by 1 April following the calendar year in which the electrical conductivity concentration exceeded 700 µmhos/cm.

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications

a. **Storage Pond and DLDA Operating Requirements.**

i. The treatment facilities shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

ii. Public contact with wastewater shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, and other acceptable alternatives.

iii. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular,

(a) An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.

(b) Weeds shall be minimized.

(c) Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.

iv. Freeboard shall never be less than 1 foot (measured vertically to the lowest point of overflow.

v. Ponds shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow and design seasonal precipitation and ancillary inflow and infiltration during the non-irrigation season. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.

vi. Prior to the onset of the rainy season of each year, available pond storage capacity shall at least equal the volume necessary to comply with the Land Discharge Specification at section VI.C.4.a.v. above.

vii. The discharge of waste classified as "hazardous" as defined in section 2521(a) of Title 23, California Code of Regulations (CCR), or "designated", as defined in section 13173 of the Water Code, to the treatment ponds is prohibited.

viii. Objectionable odors originating at this Facility shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the wastewater treatment and disposal areas (or property owned by the Discharger).

ix. As a means of discerning compliance with Provision IV.C.4.a.viii., the dissolved oxygen content in the upper zone (1 foot) of wastewater in ponds shall not be less than 1.0 mg/L.

x. Pond D shall not have a pH less than 6.5 or greater than 9.0 averaged over a 24-hour period.

xi. Irrigation runoff (tailwater) shall be completely contained within the DLDA irrigation areas or be returned to the Facility, and shall not enter any surface water drainage course.

xii. Application of effluent to the DLDA irrigation areas shall comply with the following setback requirements:

Setback Definition[1]	Minimum Irrigation Setback (feet)
Edge of DLDA to domestic well	100
Edge of DLDA to manmade or natural surface water drainage course [2] or spring	50

1. As defined by the wetted area produced during irrigation.
2. Excluding ditches used exclusively for tailwater return and drainages that do not discharge to surface waters.

xiii. The discharge of treated wastewater to the DLDA shall be at reasonable irrigation application rates designed to minimize irrigation runoff.

xiv. Irrigation of effluent shall not be performed within 24 hours of a forecasted precipitation event, during precipitation, within 24 hours after any measurable precipitation event, or when the ground is saturated.

xv. Spray irrigation of effluent is prohibited when wind velocities exceed 30 mph.

xvi. The DLDA shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular:

(a) There shall be no standing water 72 hours after irrigation ceases;

Low-pressure and unpressurized pipelines and ditches accessible to mosquitoes shall not be used to store effluent.

5. Special Provisions for Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)

a. **Sludge/Biosolids Treatment or Discharge Specifications.** Sludge in this document means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes. Solid waste refers to grit and screening material generated during preliminary treatment. Residual sludge means sludge that will not be subject to further treatment at the wastewater treatment plant. Biosolids refer to 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 C.F.R. part 503.

i. Collected screenings, residual sludge, biosolids, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer, and consistent with Consolidated Regulations for Treatment, Storage, Processing, or Disposal of Solid Waste, as set forth in Title 27, CCR, division 2, subdivision 1, section 20005, et seq. Removal for further treatment, storage, disposal, or reuse at sites (e.g., landfill, composting sites, soil amendment sites) that are operated in accordance with valid waste discharge requirements issued by a Regional Water Board will satisfy these specifications.

Sludge and solid waste shall be removed from screens, sumps, ponds, clarifiers, etc. as needed to ensure optimal plant performance.

The treatment of sludge generated at the Facility shall be confined to the Facility property and conducted in a manner that precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations in section V.B. of this Order. In addition, the storage of residual sludge, solid waste, and biosolids on Facility property shall be temporary and controlled, and contained in a manner that minimizes leachate formation and precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations included in section V.B. of this Order.

ii. The use, disposal, storage, and transportation of biosolids shall comply with existing federal and state laws and regulations, including permitting requirements and technical standards included in 40 C.F.R. part 503. If the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board are given the authority to implement regulations contained in 40 C.F.R. part 503, this Order may be reopened to incorporate appropriate time schedules and technical standards. The Discharger must comply with the standards and time schedules contained in 40 C.F.R. part 503 whether or not they have been incorporated into this Order.

iii. The onsite sludge/biosolids treatment, processing, and storage for the Facility is described in the Fact Sheet (Attachment F, Section II.A). Any proposed change in the onsite treatment, processing, or storage of sludge/biosolids shall be reported to the Executive Officer at least **90 days** in advance of the change, and shall not be implemented until written approval by the Executive Officer.

b. **Collection System.** The Discharger is subject to the requirements of, and must comply with, State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order 2006-0003-DWQ, Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary

Sewer Systems as amended by State Water Board Order WQ 2013-0058-EXEC and any subsequent order.

6. Other Special Provisions – Not Applicable

7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable

VII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

A. Average Daily Flow Prohibition (Section III.F). The average daily discharge flow represents the mean of all daily flow values obtained within a calendar day (i.e., midnight through 11:59 PM).

B. BOD_5 and TSS Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.a). Compliance with the final effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS required in Waste Discharge Requirements section VI.A.i.a shall be ascertained by 24-hour composite samples. Compliance with effluent limitations required in Waste Discharge Requirements section VI.A.i.a. for percent removal shall be calculated using the arithmetic mean of BOD_5 and TSS in effluent samples collected over a monthly period as a percentage of the arithmetic mean of the values for influent samples collected at approximately the same times during the same period.

C. Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.e.). For each day that an effluent sample is collected and analyzed for total coliform organisms, the 7-day median shall be determined by calculating the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the effluent utilizing the bacteriological results of the last 7 days. For example, if a sample is collected on a Wednesday, the result from that sampling event and all results from the previous 6 days (i.e., Tuesday, Monday, Sunday, Saturday, Friday, and Thursday) are used to calculate the 7-day median. If the 7-day median of total coliform organisms exceeds a most probable number (MPN) of 23 per 100 milliliters, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance.

D. Total Residual Chlorine Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.d). Continuous monitoring analyzers for chlorine residual or for dechlorination agent residual in the effluent are appropriate methods for compliance determination. A positive residual dechlorination agent in the effluent indicates that chlorine is not present in the discharge, which demonstrates compliance with the effluent limitations. This type of monitoring can also be used to prove that some chlorine residual exceedances are false positives. Continuous monitoring data showing either a positive dechlorination agent residual or a chlorine residual at or below the prescribed limit are sufficient to show compliance with the total residual chlorine effluent limitations, as long as the instruments are maintained and calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Any excursion above the 1-hour average or 4-day average total residual chlorine effluent limitations is a violation. If the Discharger conducts continuous monitoring and the Discharger can demonstrate, through data collected from a back-up monitoring system, that a chlorine spike recorded by the continuous monitor was not actually due to chlorine, then any excursion resulting from the recorded spike will not be considered an exceedance, but rather reported as a false positive. Records supporting validation of false positives shall be maintained in accordance with Section IV Standard Provisions (Attachment D).

E. Mass Effluent Limitations. The mass effluent limitations contained in the Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a are based on the permitted average daily flow and calculated as follows:

Mass (lbs/day) = Flow (MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34 (conversion factor)

If the effluent flow exceeds the permitted average daily flow, the effluent mass limitations contained in Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a shall not apply. If the effluent flow is below the permitted average daily flow, the effluent mass limitations do apply.

F. Priority Pollutant Effluent Limitations. Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined in accordance with Section 2.4.5 of the SIP, as follows:

1. Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation, 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).

2. Dischargers shall be required to conduct a Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP) in accordance with section 2.4.5.1 of the SIP when there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and either:

   a. A sample result is reported as detected, but not quantified (DNQ) and the effluent limitation is less than the RL; or

   b. A sample result is reported as non-detect (ND) and the effluent limitation is less than the method detection limit (MDL).

3. When determining compliance with an average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) and more than one sample result is available in a month, the discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the discharger 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, 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 of the 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.

4. If a sample result, or the arithmetic mean or median of multiple sample results, is below the RL, and there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and the discharger conducts a PMP (as described in section 2.4.5.1), the discharger shall <u>not</u> be deemed out of compliance.

ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

Arithmetic Mean (μ)
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:

Arithmetic mean = $\mu = \Sigma x / n$ where: Σx 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.

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

Coefficient of Variation (CV)
CV is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

Daily Discharge
Daily Discharge is defined as 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.

Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)
DNQ are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL. Sample results reported as DNQ are estimated concentrations.

Dilution Credit
Dilution Credit is 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.

Effect Concentration (EC)
A point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause an observable adverse effect (e.g. death, immobilization, or serious incapitation) in a given percent of the test organisms, calculated from a continuous model (e.g. Probit Model). EC_{25} is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause an observable adverse effect in 25 percent of the test organisms.

Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)
ECA is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as waste load allocation (WLA) as used in U.S. EPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

Enclosed Bays
Enclosed Bays means 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.

Endpoint
An effect that is measured in a toxicity study. Endpoints in toxicity tests may include, but are not limited to survival, reproduction, and growth.

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
Estuaries means waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouths of streams that serve as areas of mixing for fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and 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 a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and seawater. Estuarine waters included, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in 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.

Inhibition Concentration
Inhibition Concentration (IC) is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause a given percent reduction in a non-lethal biological measurement (e.g., reproduction or growth), calculated from a continuous model (i.e., Interpolation Method). IC25 is a point estimate of the toxic concentration that would cause a 25-percent reduction in a non-lethal biological measurement.

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).

Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)
The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

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)
MDL is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in in 40 C.F.R. part 136, Attachment B, revised as of July 3, 1999.

Minimum Level (ML)
ML is 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 that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

Mixing Zone
Mixing Zone is 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.

No-Observed-Effect-Concentration (NOEC)
The highest concentration of toxicant to which organisms are exposed in a full life-cycle or partial life-cycle (short-term) test, that causes no observable adverse effects on the test organisms (i.e., the highest concentration of toxicant in which the values for the observed responses are not statistically significantly different from the controls).

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. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Water Board's California Ocean Plan.

Percent Effect
The percent effect at the instream waste concentration (IWC) shall be calculated using untransformed data and the following equation:

$$\text{Percent Effect of the Sample} = \frac{\text{Mean Control Response} - \text{Mean Sample Response}}{\text{Mean Control Response}} \cdot 100$$

Persistent Pollutants
Persistent pollutants are substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

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 Central Valley 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
Pollution Prevention means 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 Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Central Valley Water Board.

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 that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

Source of Drinking Water
Any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in a Central Valley Water Board Basin Plan.

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

$$\sigma = (\sum[(x - \mu)^2]/(n - 1))^{0.5}$$

where:
- x is the observed value;
- μ is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and
- n is the number of samples.

Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)
TRE is a study conducted in a step-wise 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 Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate. (A TIE is a 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.)

ATTACHMENT B – MAP

Figure B-1. Map of Facility Location

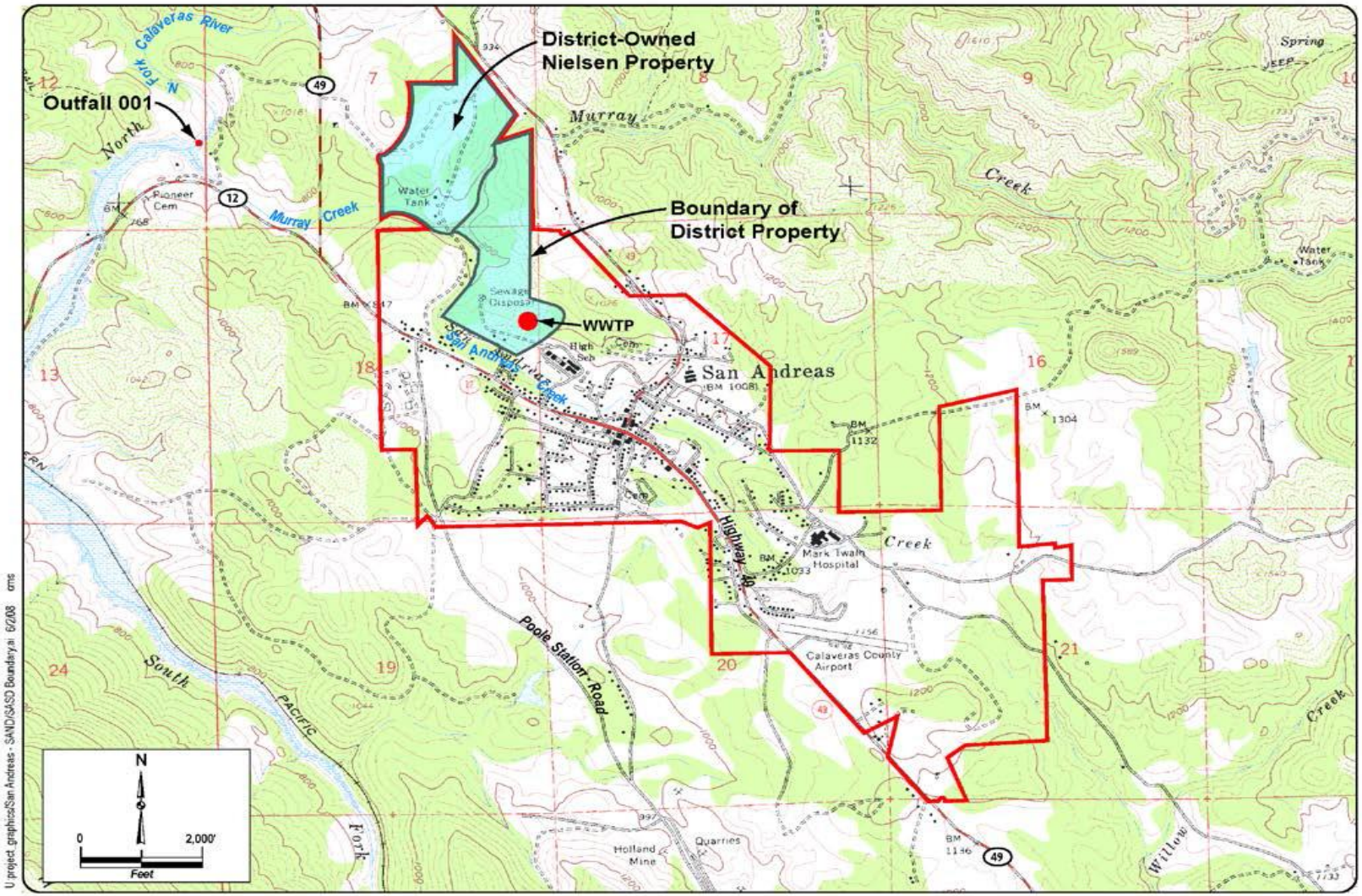
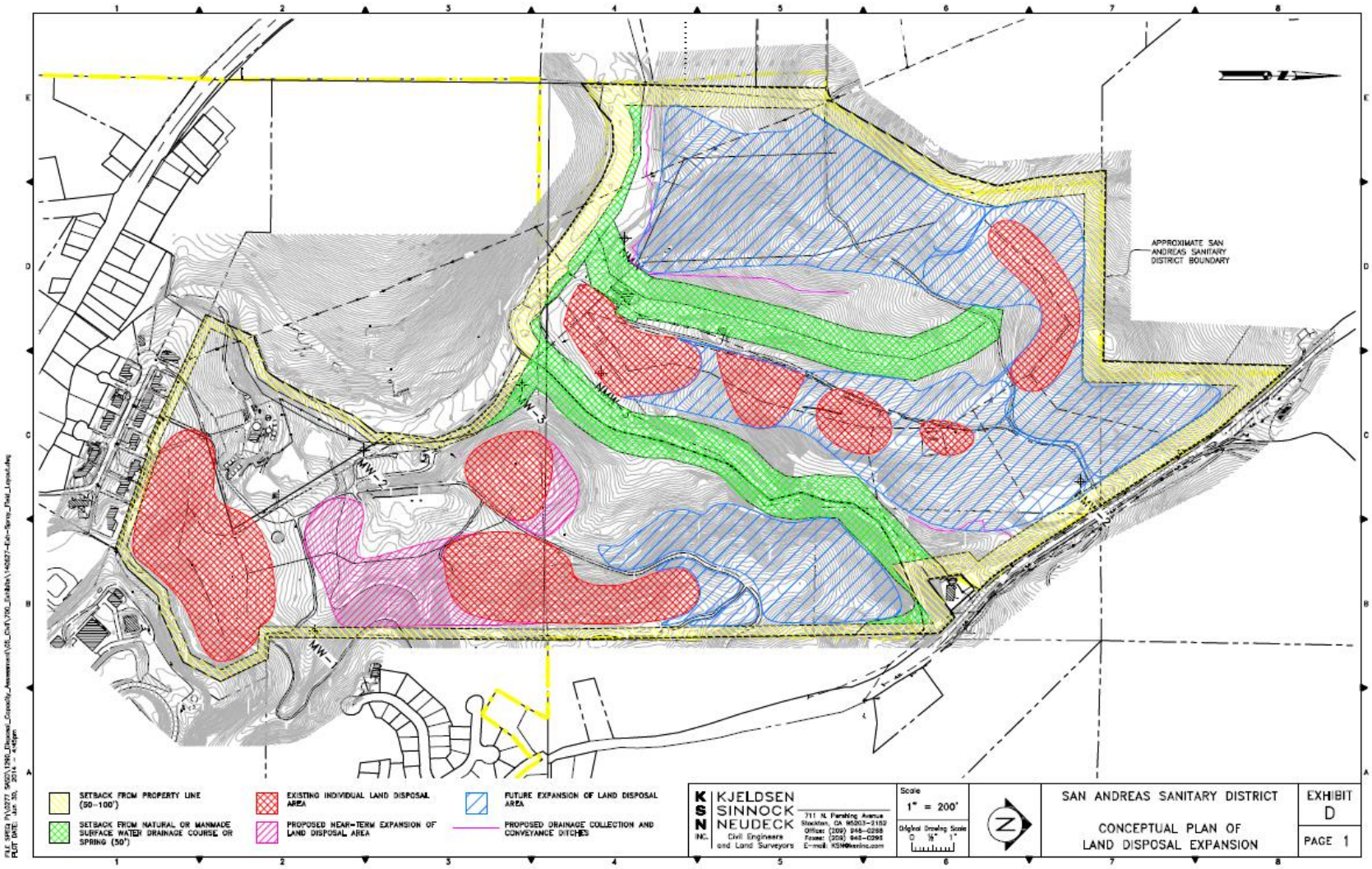
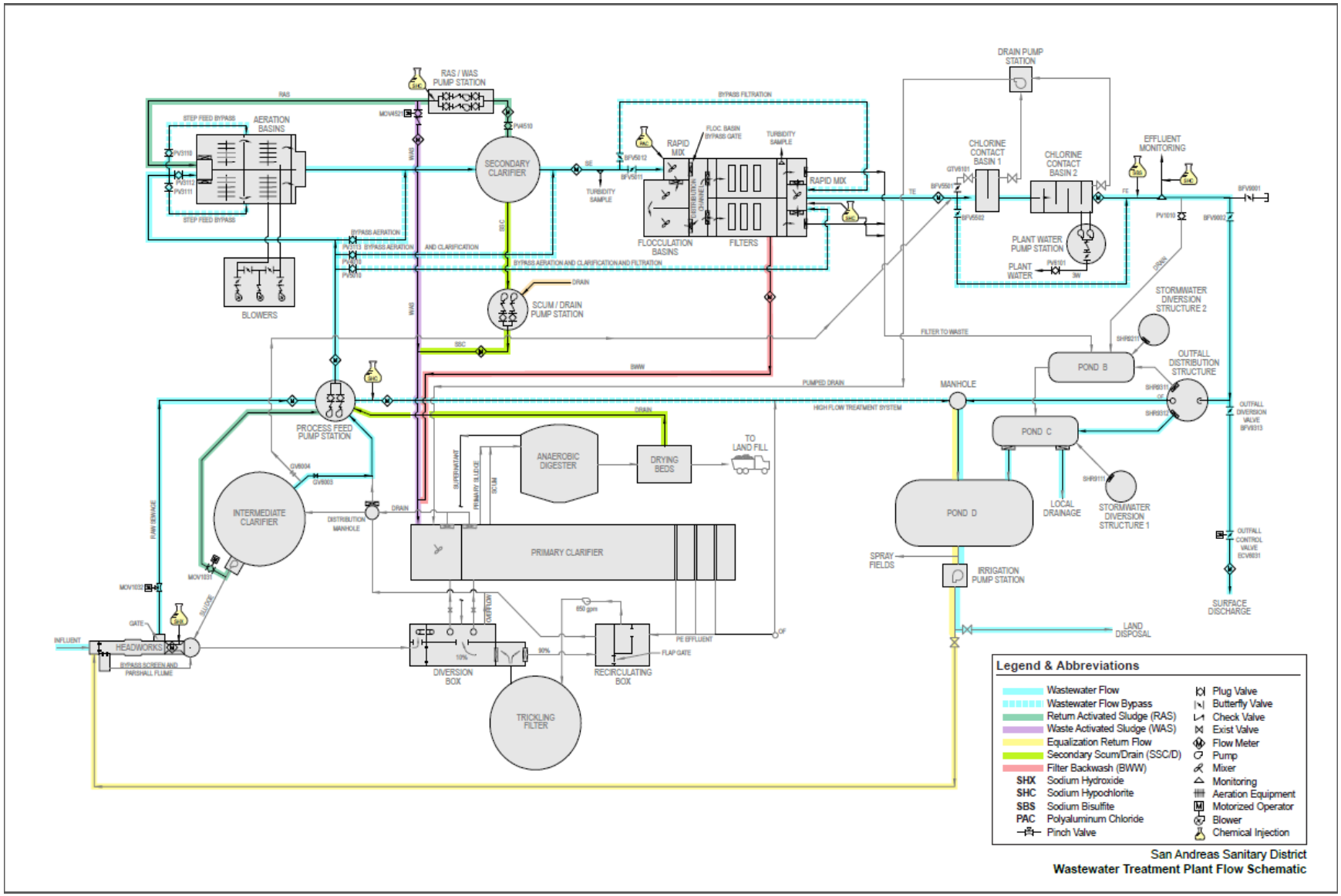


Figure B-2. Facility map depicting existing and planned future expansions to the DLDA



ATTACHMENT C – FLOW SCHEMATIC



ATTACHMENT D – STANDARD PROVISIONS

I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE

A. Duty to Comply

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the terms, requirements, and conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action; permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; denial of a permit renewal application; or a combination thereof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a); Wat. Code, §§ 13261, 13263, 13265, 13268, 13000, 13001, 13304, 13350, 13385.)

2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 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. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Discharger 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The Discharger 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 Discharger 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 Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

E. Property Rights

1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)

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 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

F. Inspection and Entry

The Discharger shall allow the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, U.S. EPA, 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 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, § 13267, 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order (33 U.S.C § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383);

2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383);

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 U.S.C § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3); Wat. Code, § 13267, 13383); and

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 U.S.C § 1318(a)(4)(B); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383.)

G. Bypass

1. Definitions

   a. “Bypass” means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)

2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger 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 I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)

3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Central Valley Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):

   a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and

   c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Central Valley Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)

4. The Central Valley Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Central Valley Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)

5. Notice

   a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. The notice shall be sent to the Central Valley Water Board. As of 21 December 2020, all notices shall be submitted electronically to the initial recipient (State Water Board), defined in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.J below. Notices shall comply with 40 C.F.R. part 3, section 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. part 127. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)

   b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit a notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). The notice shall be sent to the Central Valley Water Board. As of 21 December 2020, all notices shall be submitted electronically to the initial recipient (State Water Board), defined in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.J below. Notices shall comply with 40 C.F.R. part 3, section 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. part 127. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

H. 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 Discharger. 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

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 I.H.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 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).)

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):

   a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));

   b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));

   c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and

   d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)

3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION

A. General

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

B. Duty to Reapply

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

C. Transfers

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Central Valley Water Board. The Central Valley Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(3); 122.61.)

III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING

A. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)

B. Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 for the analyses of pollutants unless another method is required under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O. Monitoring must be conducted according to sufficiently sensitive test methods approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters or as required under 40 C.F.R. chapter 1, subchapter N or O. For the purposes of this paragraph, a method is sufficiently sensitive when the method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. chapter 1, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter, or when:

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:
    a. 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;
    b. 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;

In the case of pollutants or pollutant parameters for which there are no approved methods under 40 C.F.R. part 136 or otherwise required under 40 C.F.R. chapter 1, subchapters N or O, monitoring must be conducted according to a test procedure specified in this Order for such pollutants or pollutant parameters. (40 C.F.R. § 122.21(e)(3), 122.41(j)(4); 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS

A. Except for records of monitoring information required by this Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 C.F.R. part 503), the Discharger 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 Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)

B. Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
3. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
5. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
6. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)

C. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):

1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING

A. Duty to Provide Information

The Discharger shall furnish to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA 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 Discharger shall also furnish to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA copies of records required to be kept by this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383.)

B. Signatory and Certification Requirements

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, and/or U.S. EPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, V.B.5, and V.B.6 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)
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 U.S. EPA). (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(3).).
3. All reports required by this Order and other information requested by the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.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 V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 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 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and

c. The written authorization is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)

4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.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 V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c).)

5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.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 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

6. Any person providing the electronic signature for such documents described in Standar Provision – V.B.1, V.B.2, or V.B.3 that are submitted electronically shall meet all relevant requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B, and shall ensure that all of the relevant requirements of 40 C.F.R. part 3 (Cross-Media Electronic Reporting) and 40 C.F.R. part 127 (NPDES Electronic Reporting Requirements) are met for that submission. (40 C.F.R § 122.22(e).)

C. Monitoring Reports

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4).)

2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Central Valley Water Board or State Water Board for reporting the results of monitoring, sludge use, or disposal practices. As of 21 December 2016 all reports and forms must be submitted electronically to the initial recipient, defined in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.J, and comply with 40 C.F.R. part 3, section 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. part 127. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)

3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order using test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in

the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Central Valley Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)

4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

D. 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting

1. The Discharger shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A report shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger 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 (combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events), type of sewer overflow structure (e.g., manhole, combined sewer overflow outfall), discharge volumes untreated by the treatment works treating domestic sewage, types of human health and environmental impacts of the sewer overflow event, and whether the noncompliance was related to wet weather.

   As of 21 December 2020 all reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events must be submitted electronically to the initial recipient (State Water Board) defined in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.J. The reports shall comply with 40 C.F.R. part 3. The may also require the Discharger to electronically submit reports not related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this section. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)

F. Planned Changes

The Discharger shall give notice to the Central Valley 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 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

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 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or

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 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(ii).)

3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger'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 C.F.R.§ 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

G. Anticipated Noncompliance

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Central Valley Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this Order's requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

H. Other Noncompliance

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E 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 V.E and the applicable required data in appendix A to 40 C.F.R. part 127. The Central Valley Water Board may also require the Discharger to electronically submit reports not related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this section. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

I. Other Information

When the Discharger 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 Central Valley Water Board**,** State Water Board, or U.S. EPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

J. 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 C.F.R. part 127 to the appropriate initial recipient, as determined by U.S. EPA, and as defined in 40 C.F.R. section 127.2(b). U.S. EPA 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 C.F.R. section 127.2(c)]. U.S. EPA will update and maintain this listing. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(9).)

VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT

A. The Central Valley Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

B. Etc.

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS

A. Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW's)

All POTW's shall provide adequate notice to the Central Valley Water Board of the following (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)):

1. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger that would be subject to sections 301 or 306 of the CWA if it were directly discharging those pollutants (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(1)); and

2. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of adoption of the Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(2).)

3. Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW as well as any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(3).)

ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Contents

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ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)

The Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R. § 122.48) requires that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements that implement federal and California regulations.

I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS

A. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring locations specified below and, unless otherwise specified, before the monitored flow joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. Monitoring locations shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of the Central Valley Water Board.

B. Final effluent samples shall be taken downstream of the last addition of wastes to the treatment or discharge works where a representative sample may be obtained prior to mixing with the receiving waters. Samples shall be collected at such a point and in such a manner to ensure a representative sample of the discharge.

C. Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses of any material required by this Order shall be conducted by a laboratory accredited for such analyses by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water (DDW; formerly the Department of Public Health). Laboratories that perform sample analyses must be identified in all monitoring reports submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. In the event an accredited laboratory is not available to the Discharger for any onsite field measurements such as pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), turbidity, temperature, and residual chlorine, such analyses performed by a non-accredited laboratory will be accepted provided a Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program is instituted by the laboratory. A manual containing the steps followed in this program for any onsite field measurements such as pH, DO, turbidity, temperature, and residual chlorine must be kept onsite in the treatment facility laboratory and shall be available for inspection by Central Valley Water Board staff. The Discharger must demonstrate sufficient capability (qualified and trained employees, properly calibrated and maintained field instruments, etc.) to adequately perform these field measurements. The Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program must conform to USEPA guidelines or to procedures approved by the Central Valley Water Board.

D. Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary, at least yearly, to ensure their continued accuracy. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.

E. Monitoring results, including noncompliance, shall be reported at intervals and in a manner specified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.

F. Laboratories analyzing monitoring samples shall be accredited by DDW, in accordance with the provision of Water Code section 13176, and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports.

G. The Discharger 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 Resources Control 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

H. The Discharger shall file with the Central Valley Water Board technical reports on self-monitoring performed according to the detailed specifications contained in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.

I. The results of all monitoring required by this Order shall be reported to the Central Valley Water Board, and shall be submitted in such a format as to allow direct comparison with the limitations and requirements of this Order. Unless otherwise specified, discharge flows shall be reported in terms of the monthly average and the daily maximum discharge flows.

II. MONITORING LOCATIONS

The Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
--	INF-001	A location where a representative sample of the influent into the Facility can be collected.
001	EFF-001	Downstream from the last connection through which wastes can be admitted into the outfall to the North Fork Calaveras River. Latitude: 38° 12’ 39” N Longitude: 120° 42’ 20” W
--	FIL-001	A location where a representative sample of effluent leaving the filtration system can be collected.
--	LND-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent sent to the effluent storage area (Pond D) can be collected.
--	LND-001T	A location where a representative sample of the effluent being sent from Pond D to the Designated Land Disposal Area (DLDA) Irrigation Areas.
--	LND-002	A location where a representative sample of the effluent being sent to Ponds B and C.
--	PND-001	A location where a representative sample of the contents of Storage Pond D can be collected.
--	RSW-001	100 feet upstream from the point of discharge in the North Fork Calaveras River. Latitude: 38° 12’ 39” N Longitude: 120° 42’ 18” W
	RSW-002	250 feet downstream from the point of discharge in the North Fork Calaveras River. Latitude: 38° 12’ 39” N Longitude: 120° 42’ 23” W
--	GW-001	Groundwater monitoring well (background).
--	GW-002	Groundwater monitoring well.
--	GW-003	Groundwater monitoring well.
--	GWN-001	Groundwater monitoring well on the Neilson Property (background).
--	GWN-002	Groundwater monitoring well on the Neilson Property.
--	GWN-003	Groundwater monitoring well on the Neilson Property.
--	BIO-001	A location where a representative sample of biosolids can be obtained.

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
--	SPL-001	A location where a representative sample of the municipal water supply can be obtained.

The North latitude and West longitude information in Table E-1 are approximate for administrative purposes.

III. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location INF-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor influent to the Facility at INF-001 as follows:

Table E-2. Influent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency[1]	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	--
Biochemical Oxygen Demand(5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	1/Week	[2]
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite	1/Week	[2]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab [3, 4]	1/Quarter	[2]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab [3]	1/Quarter	[2]

[1] When discharging to the North Fork Calaveras River, influent samples shall be collected at approximately the same time as effluent samples. Influent monitoring shall be conducted regardless of whether the discharge is to land or surface waters.

[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR part 136; or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[3] Grab samples shall not be collected at the same time each day to get a complete representation of variations in the influent.

[4] A hand-held field monitor may be used, provided the meter utilizes as USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location EFF-001

1. When discharging to the North Fork Calaveras River the Discharger shall monitor treated wastewater at EFF-001 as follows. If more than one analytical test method is listed for a given parameter, the Discharger must select from the listed methods and corresponding Minimum Level:

Table E-3. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20° C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	1/Week	[1]
	lbs/day	Calculate	1/Week	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite	1/Week	[1]
	lbs/day	Calculate	1/Week	--
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week [2, 3]	[1]
Priority Pollutants				
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1, 4]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Week[2, 5]	[1]
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	Meter	Continuous	[1, 6]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Week	[1, 3]
Hardness, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Temperature	°C	Grab	1/Week [2, 3]	[1]
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1/Week	[1]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Turbidity	NTU	Meter[7]	1/Week	[1]

[1] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods requested by the Discharger that have been approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[2] pH and temperature shall be recorded at the time of ammonia sample collection.

[3] A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

[4] For priority pollutant constituents the reporting level shall be consistent with Sections 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (See Attachment E, Table E-15).

[5] Concurrent with whole effluent toxicity monitoring

[6] Total chlorine residual must be monitored with a method sensitive to and accurate at the permitted level of 0.01 mg/L.

[7] Samples for turbidity shall be collected at FIL-001.

V. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Acute Toxicity Testing. The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing acute toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following acute toxicity testing requirements:

1. *Monitoring Frequency* – The Discharger shall perform acute toxicity testing once in every calendar quarter in which effluent discharge occurs, concurrent with effluent ammonia sampling.

2. *Sample Types* – The Discharger may use flow-through or static renewal testing. For static renewal testing, the samples shall be grab samples and shall be representative of

the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at Monitoring Location EFF-001.

3. *Test Species* – Test species shall be fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).

4. *Methods* – The acute toxicity testing samples shall be analyzed using EPA-821-R-02-012, Fifth Edition. Temperature, total residual chlorine, and pH shall be recorded at the time of sample collection. No pH adjustment may be made unless approved by the Executive Officer.

5. *Test Failure* – If an acute toxicity test does not meet all test acceptability criteria, as specified in the test method, the Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, not to exceed 7 days following notification of test failure.

B. Chronic Toxicity Testing. The Discharger shall meet the following chronic toxicity testing requirements:

1. *Monitoring Frequency –* The Discharger shall perform routine chronic toxicity testing annually. If the result of the routine chronic toxicity testing event exhibits toxicity, demonstrated by the result greater than 12 TUc (as $100/EC_{25}$), the Discharger has the option of conducting two additional compliance monitoring events and perform chronic toxicity testing using the species that exhibited toxicity in order to calculate a median. The optional compliance monitoring events shall occur at least one week apart, and the final monitoring event shall be initiated no later than 6 weeks from the routine monitoring event that exhibited toxicity.

2. *Sample Types* – Effluent samples shall grab samples and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at Monitoring Location EFF-001. The receiving water control, if selected, shall be a grab sample obtained from Monitoring LocationRSW-001, as identified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.

3. *Sample Volumes* – Adequate sample volumes shall be collected to provide renewal water to complete the test in the event that the discharge is intermittent.

4. *Test Species* – The testing shall be conducted using the most sensitive species. Unless otherwise specified in writing by the Executive Officer, the Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity tests with:

   a. The cladoceran, water flea, *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (survival and reproduction test);

   b. The fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* (larval survival and growth test); and

   c. The green alga, *Selenastrum capricornutum* (growth test).

5. *Methods* – The presence of chronic toxicity shall be estimated as specified in *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002.

6. *Reference Toxicant* – As required by the SIP, all chronic toxicity tests shall be conducted with concurrent testing with a reference toxicant and shall be reported with the chronic toxicity test results.

7. *Dilutions -* The chronic toxicity testing shall be performed using the dilution series identified in Table E-4, below. For TRE monitoring, the chronic toxicity testing shall be performed using the dilution series identified in Table E-4, below, unless an alternative dilution series is detailed in the submitted TRE Action Plan. A receiving water control or laboratory water control may be used as the diluent.

Table E-4. Chronic Toxicity Dilution Requirements

Sample	Dilutions[1] (%)					Control
	33.2	16.6	8.3	4.2	2.1	
% Effluent	33.2	16.6	8.3	4.2	2.1	0
% Control Water	66.8	83.4	91.7	95.8	97.9	100

[1] Receiving water control or laboratory water control may be used as the diluent.

7. *Test Failure* – The Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, but no later than fourteen (14) days after receiving notification of a test failure. A test failure is defined as follows:

   a. The reference toxicant test or the effluent test does not meet all test acceptability criteria as specified in the *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002 (Method Manual), and its subsequent amendments or revisions; or

   b. The percent minimum significant difference (PMSD) measured for the test exceeds the upper PMSD bound variability criterion in the Method Manual.

C. WET Testing Notification Requirements. The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board within 24-hours after the receipt of test results exceeding the monitoring trigger during regular or accelerated monitoring, or an exceedance of the acute toxicity effluent limitation.

D. WET Testing Reporting Requirements. All toxicity test reports shall include the contracting laboratory's complete report provided to the Discharger and shall be in accordance with the appropriate "Report Preparation and Test Review" sections of the method manuals. At a minimum, whole effluent toxicity monitoring shall be reported as follows:

1. **Chronic WET Reporting.** Routine and compliance chronic toxicity monitoring results shall be reported to the Central Valley Water Board within 30 days following completion of the test, and shall contain, at minimum:

   a. The results expressed in TUc, measured as 100/NOEC, and also measured as 100/LC50, 100/EC25, 100/IC25, and 100/IC50, as appropriate.

   b. The statistical methods used to calculate endpoints;

   c. The statistical output page, which includes the calculation of the percent minimum significant difference (PMSD);

   d. The dates of sample collection and initiation of each toxicity test; and

   e. The results compared to the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger.

   Additionally, the monthly self-monitoring reports shall contain an updated chronology of chronic toxicity test results expressed in TUc, and organized by test species, type of test (survival, growth or reproduction), and monitoring type, i.e., routine, compliance, TES, or TRE monitoring.

2. **Acute WET Reporting.** Acute toxicity test results shall be submitted with the monthly discharger self-monitoring reports and reported as percent survival.

3. **TRE Reporting.** Reports for TREs shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule contained in the Discharger's approved TRE Workplan, or as amended by the Discharger's TRE Action Plan.

4. **Quality Assurance (QA).** The Discharger must provide the following information for QA purposes:

   a. Results of the applicable reference toxicant data with the statistical output page giving the species, NOEC, LOEC, type of toxicant, dilution water used, concentrations used, PMSD, and dates tested.

   b. The reference toxicant control charts for each endpoint, which include summaries of reference toxicant tests performed by the contracting laboratory.

   c. Any information on deviations or problems encountered and how they were dealt with.

VI. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location LND-001 and LND-001T

1. The Discharger shall monitor effluent discharged to Pond D, measured at LND-001 and the flow to the DLDA irrigation area at LND-001T as follows:

Table E-5. Land Discharge Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow to Pond D	MGD	Meter	Continuous[1]	--
Flow to Spray Fields	MGD	Meter	1/Day[2]	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-Day @ 25° C)	mg/L	24-Hour Composite	1/Week[1]	[3]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Electrical Conductivity @ 25° C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Week	[1, 3, 4]
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1/Week[1]	[3]

[1] Monitoring required at Monitoring Location LND-001 only.

[2] Monitoring required at Monitoring Location LND-001T only.

[3] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[4] A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

B. Monitoring Location PND-001 and LND-002

1. The Discharger shall monitor the contents of Storage Pond D at PND-001 as follows:

Table E-6. Pond D Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Freeboard	feet	Measurement	1/Week[1]	--
Conventional Pollutants				
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Month	[2]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[2]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Standard Minerals [3]	mg/L	Grab	1/Year	[2]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]

[1] Freeboard monitoring shall be performed daily if freeboard is less than 2 feet.

[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[3] Standard minerals shall include the following: boron, calcium, iron, magnesium, potassium, sodium, chloride, manganese, phosphorus, total alkalinity (including alkalinity series), and hardness, and include verification that the analysis is complete (i.e., cation/anion balance).

2. The Discharger shall monitor wastewater discharged to Ponds B and C, measured at LND-002, as follows:

   a. The Discharger shall keep a log related to the use of Ponds B and C. In particular the Discharger shall record the following when any type of wastewater is directed Ponds B and C;

      - The date(s) when the wastewater is directed to Ponds B and/or C;
      - The type(s) of wastewater (e.g., secondary or tertiary treated) directed to Ponds B and/or C;
      - The total volume of wastewater directed to Ponds B and/or C;
      - The freeboard available in Ponds B and C.

   b. The log for Ponds B and C shall be submitted with the monthly self-monitoring reports required in Section X.B of the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E).

VII. RECYCLING MONITORING REQUIREMENTS- NOT APPLICABLE

VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER

A. Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002

1. When discharging to the North Fork Calaveras River, the Discharger shall monitor the North Fork Calaveras River at RSW-001 and RSW-002 as follows:

Table E-7. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow [1]	MGD	Meter	1/Day	--
Dilution Factor	River Flow / Effluent Flow	Calculate	1/Day	--
Conventional Pollutants				
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week	[2, 3]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Week	[2, 3]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25° C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Month	[2, 3]
Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[3]
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Week	[2, 3]
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Week	[2, 3]

[1] Monitoring required at Monitoring Location RSW-001 only.

[2] A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

[3] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136.

B. Monitoring Location GW-001, GW-002, GW-003, GWN-001, GWN-002, and GWN-003

1. Prior to construction and/or beginning a sampling program of any new groundwater monitoring wells, the Discharger shall submit plans and specifications to the Central Valley Water Board for approval. Monitoring Well Nos. GW-001, GW-002, GW-003, GWN-001, GWN-002, and GWN-003 shall be sampled and analyzed according to the schedule below. All samples shall be collected using approved EPA methods. Water table elevations shall be calculated to determine groundwater gradient and direction of flow.

2. Prior to sampling, the groundwater elevations shall be measured and the wells shall be purged of at least three well volumes until temperature, pH, and electrical conductivity have stabilized. Depth to groundwater shall be measured to the nearest 0.01 feet. Groundwater monitoring at GW-001, GW-002, GW-003, GWN-001, GWN-002, and GWN-003 shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Table E-8. Groundwater Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Groundwater Elevation [1]	±0.01 feet	Calculated	1/Quarter	--
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Standard Minerals [3]	µg/L	Grab	1/Year	[2]

[1] Groundwater elevation shall be determined based on depth-to-water measurements from a surveyed measuring point elevation on the well. The groundwater elevation shall be used to calculate the direction and gradient of groundwater flow, which must be reported.

[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[3] Standard minerals shall include the following: boron, calcium, iron, magnesium, potassium, sodium, chloride, manganese, phosphorus, total alkalinity (including alkalinity series), and hardness, and include verification that the analysis is complete (i.e., cation/anion balance).

IX. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Dedicated Land Disposal Area

1. Monitoring of the DLDA shall be conducted as described in Table E-9 when the disposal areas are used, and the results shall be included in the monthly monitoring report. Evidence of erosion, field saturation, irrigation runoff, or the presence of nuisance conditions shall be noted in the report. Effluent monitoring results shall be used in calculations to determine loading rates at the DLDA. Monitoring of the DLDA shall include the following:

Table E-9. Dedicated Land Disposal Area Monitoring Requirements.

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow to each DLDA	Gallons	Continuous	Daily	
Acreage Applied	Acres	Calculated	Daily	
Water Application Rate	Inches/day	Calculated	Daily	
Rainfall [1]	Inches	Observation	Daily	[1]
Total Nitrogen Loading Rate	lbs/ac/month	Calculated	Monthly	
DLDA Berm Condition	NA	Observation	Weekly	

[1] Rainfall data collected from the weather station that is nearest to the DLDA or a properly maintained on-site rain gauge.

At least once per week when the DLDA is being used, the DLDA shall be inspected to identify any equipment malfunction or other circumstances that might allow irrigation runoff to leave the irrigation area and/or create ponding conditions that violate the Waste Discharge Requirements contained in this Order. A weekly log of each inspection shall be kept at the Facility and be submitted with the monthly monitoring reports.

Photocopies of entries into an operator's field log are acceptable. If the DLDA is not used, then the monthly monitoring reports shall state so.

B. Biosolids

1. Monitoring Location BIO-001 – Not Applicable

C. Municipal Water Supply

1. Monitoring Location SPL-001

a. The Discharger shall monitor the municipal water supply at SPL-001 as follows:

Table E-10. Municipal Water Supply Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Dissolved Solids[1]	mg/L	Grab	1/Year	[2]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C[1]	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Year	[2, 3]
Standard Minerals[4]	mg/L	Grab	1/Year	[2]

[1] If the water supply is from more than one source, the total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity shall be reported as a weighted average and include copies of supporting calculations.

[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[3] A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

[4] Standard minerals shall include the following: boron, calcium, iron, magnesium, potassium, sodium, chloride, manganese, phosphorus, total alkalinity (including alkalinity series), and hardness, and include verification that the analysis is complete (i.e., cation/anion balance).

D. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization

1. **Monitoring.** Four samples shall be collected from the effluent and upstream receiving water (Monitoring Locations EFF-001 and RSW-001) and analyzed for the constituents listed in Table E-11, below. Monitoring shall be conducted between 1 December 2019 and 30 November 2020 when discharging to surface water and the results of such monitoring be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board with the monthly self-monitoring reports. Only one sample shall by collected each month. Each individual monitoring event shall provide representative sample results for the effluent and upstream receiving water.

2. **Concurrent Sampling.** Effluent and receiving water sampling shall be performed at approximately the same time, on the same date.

3. **Sample Type.** All receiving water samples shall be taken as grab samples. Effluent samples shall be taken as described in Table E-11, below.

Table E-11. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
2- Chloroethyl vinyl ether	µg/L	Grab	1
Acrolein	µg/L	Grab	2
Acrylonitrile	µg/L	Grab	2
Benzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Bromoform	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Carbon Tetrachloride	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chloroform	µg/L	Grab	2
Chloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	Grab	2
Hexachlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	1
Hexachlorobutadiene	µg/L	Grab	1
Hexachloroethane	µg/L	Grab	1
Methyl bromide (Bromomethane)	µg/L	Grab	1
Naphthalene	µg/L	Grab	10
3-Methyl-4-Chlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	
Tetrachloroethene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Toluene	µg/L	Grab	2
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	µg/L	Grab	1
Trichloroethene	µg/L	Grab	2
Vinyl chloride	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Methyl-tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	µg/L	Grab	
Trichlorofluoromethane	µg/L	Grab	
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,2- Trichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1-dichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1-dichloroethylene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2-dichloropropane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,3-dichloropropylene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	1
1,2-dichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,3-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,4-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Styrene	µg/L	Grab	
Xylenes	µg/L	Grab	
1,2-Benzanthracene	µg/L	Grab	5
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	µg/L	Grab	1
2-Chlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4-Dichlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4-Dimethylphenol	µg/L	Grab	2
2,4-Dinitrophenol	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4-Dinitrotoluene	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	10
2,6-Dinitrotoluene	µg/L	Grab	5
2-Nitrophenol	µg/L	Grab	10

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
2-Chloronaphthalene	µg/L	Grab	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	µg/L	Grab	5
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	µg/L	Grab	5
4,6-Dinitro-2-methylphenol	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Nitrophenol	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether	µg/L	Grab	5
Acenaphthene	µg/L	Grab	1
Acenaphthylene	µg/L	Grab	10
Anthracene	µg/L	Grab	10
Benzidine	µg/L	Grab	5
Benzo(a)pyrene (3,4-Benzopyrene)	µg/L	Grab	2
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	µg/L	Grab	5
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	µg/L	Grab	2
Bis(2-chloroethoxy) methane	µg/L	Grab	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	µg/L	Grab	1
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether	µg/L	Grab	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate[2]	µg/L	Grab	5
Butyl benzyl phthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Chrysene	µg/L	Grab	5
Di-n-butylphthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Di-n-octylphthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Dibenzo(a,h)-anthracene	µg/L	Grab	0.1
Diethyl phthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Dimethyl phthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Fluoranthene	µg/L	Grab	10
Fluorene	µg/L	Grab	10
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	µg/L	Grab	5
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	µg/L	Grab	0.05
Isophorone	µg/L	Grab	1
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine	µg/L	Grab	1
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	µg/L	Grab	5
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine	µg/L	Grab	5
Nitrobenzene	µg/L	Grab	10
Pentachlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	1
Phenanthrene	µg/L	Grab	5
Phenol	µg/L	Grab	1
Pyrene	µg/L	Grab	10
Aluminum	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Antimony	µg/L	24-hr Composite	5
Arsenic	µg/L	24-hr Composite	10
Asbestos	MFL	24-hr Composite	
Barium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Beryllium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	2
Cadmium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Chromium (Total)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	10
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	10
Copper	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Cyanide	µg/L	Grab	5
Fluoride	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Iron	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Lead	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Mercury	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Manganese	µg/L	24-hr Composite	

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
Molybdenum	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Nickel	µg/L	24-hr Composite	20
Selenium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	5
Silver	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.25
Thallium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	1
Tributyltin	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Zinc	µg/L	24-hr Composite	20
4,4'-DDD	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.05
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.05
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
alpha-Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.02
alpha-Hexachlorocyclohexane (BHC)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
Alachlor	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Aldrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.005
beta-Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
beta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.005
Chlordane	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.1
delta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.005
Dieldrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
Endosulfan sulfate	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
Endrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
Endrin Aldehyde	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
Heptachlor	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.02
Lindane (gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1016	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1221	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1232	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1242	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1248	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1254	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
PCB-1260	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Toxaphene	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Atrazine	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Bentazon	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Carbofuran	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
2,4-D	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Dalapon	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Dinoseb	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Diquat	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Endothal	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Ethylene Dibromide	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Methoxychlor	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Molinate (Ordram)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Oxamyl	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Picloram	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Simazine (Princep)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Thiobencarb	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)[3]	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Diazinon	µg/L	24-hr Composite	

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Ammonia (as N)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Boron	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Chloride	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Flow	MGD	Meter	
Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	Grab	
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Mercury, Methyl	ng/L	Grab	
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
pH	Std Units	Grab	
Phosphorus, Total (as P)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Specific conductance (EC)	µmhos/cm	24-hr Composite	
Sulfate	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Sulfide (as S)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Sulfite (as SO_3)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Temperature	°C	Grab	
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	

1 The reporting levels required in this table for priority pollutant constituents are established based on Section 2.4.2 and Appendix 4 of the SIP.

2 In order to verify if bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate is truly present, the Discharger shall take steps to assure that sample containers, sampling apparatus, and analytical equipment are not sources of the detected contaminant.

3 Only one sample is required in the effluent and receiving water for 2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin).

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

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

2. Upon written request of the Central Valley Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a summary monitoring report. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year(s).

3. **Compliance Time Schedules.** For compliance time schedules included in the Order, the Discharger shall submit to the Central Valley Water Board, on or before each compliance due date, the specified document or a written report detailing compliance or noncompliance with the specific date and task. If noncompliance is reported, the Discharger shall state the reasons for noncompliance and include an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by letter when it returns to compliance with the compliance time schedule.

4. The Discharger shall report to the Central Valley Water Board any toxic chemical release data it reports to the State Emergency Response Commission within 15 days of reporting the data to the Commission pursuant to section 313 of the "*Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act*" of 1986.

B. Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs)

1. The Discharger shall electronically submit SMRs using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program website http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/. The CIWQS website will

provide additional information for SMR submittal in the event there will be a planned service interruption for electronic submittal.

2. The Discharger shall report in the SMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections III through IX. The Discharger shall submit monthly SMRs including the results of all required monitoring using U.S. EPA-approved test methods or other test methods specified in this Order. SMRs are to include all new monitoring results obtained since the last SMR was submitted. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR. Monthly SMRs are required even if there is no discharge. If no discharge occurs during the month, the monitoring report must be submitted stating that there has been no discharge.

3. Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

Table E-12. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On…	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Continuous	Permit effective date	All	Submit with monthly SMR
Daily	Permit effective date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.	Submit with monthly SMR
Weekly	Permit effective date	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR
Monthly	Permit effective date	1st day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	First day of second calendar month following month of sampling
Quarterly	Permit effective date	January 1 through March 31 April 1 through June 30 July 1 through September 30 October 1 through December 31	1 May 1 August 1 November 1 February of following year
Annually	Permit effective date	January 1 through December 31	1 February of following year

4. **Reporting Protocols.** The Discharger shall report with each sample result the applicable Reporting Level (RL) and the current laboratory's Method Detection Limit (MDL), as determined by the procedure in 40 C.F.R. part 136.

   The Discharger 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 RL shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).

   b. Sample results less than the RL, 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 (± 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. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the Minimum Level (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 Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.

5. **Multiple Sample Data.** When determining compliance with an AMEL, AWEL, or MDEL for priority pollutants and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those cases, the Discharger 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 of the 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.

6. The Discharger shall submit SMRs in accordance with the following requirements:

   a. The Discharger 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 Discharger 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 Discharger shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.

   b. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the SMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the waste discharge requirements; 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.

   c. The Discharger shall attach all laboratory analysis sheets, including quality assurance/quality control information, with all its SMRs for which sample analyses were performed.

7. The Discharger shall submit in the SMRs calculations and reports in accordance with the following requirements:

   a. **Calendar Annual Average**. For constituents with reporting requirements specified as "calendar annual average" (electrical conductivity) the Discharger shall report the calendar annual average in the December SMR. The annual average shall be calculated as the average of the samples gathered for the calendar year.

   b. **Mass Loading Limitations**. For ammonia, the Discharger shall calculate and report the mass loading (lbs/day) in the SMRs. The mass loading shall be calculated as follows:

      Mass Loading (lbs/day) = Flow (MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34

      When calculating daily mass loading, the daily average flow and constituent concentration shall be used. For weekly average mass loading, the weekly average flow and constituent concentration shall be used. For monthly average mass loading, the monthly average flow and constituent concentration shall be used.

   c. **Removal Efficiency (BOD_5 and TSS).** The Discharger shall calculate and report the percent removal of BOD_5 and TSS in the SMRs. The percent removal shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.A. of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

   d. **Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the 7-day median of total coliform organisms for the effluent. The 7 day median of total coliform organisms shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.C of the Waste Discharge Requirements.

   e. **Dissolved Oxygen Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall report monthly in the self-monitoring report the dissolved oxygen concentrations in the receiving water (RSW-001 and RSW-002).

   f. **Turbidity Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the turbidity increase in the receiving water applicable to the natural turbidity condition specified in Section V.A.17.a-e. of the Waste Discharge Requirements.

   g. **Temperature Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the temperature increase in the receiving water based on the difference in temperature at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002.

C. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR's)

DMRs are U.S. EPA reporting requirements. The Discharger shall electronically certify and submit DMR's together with SMR's using Electronic Self-Monitoring Reports module eSMR 2.5 or any upgraded version. Electronic DMR submittal will be in addition to electronic SMR submittal. Information about electronic DMR submittal is available at the DMR website at: (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/discharge_monitoring/).

D. Other Reports

1. The Discharger shall report the results of any special studies, acute and chronic toxicity testing, TRE/TIE required by Special Provisions – VI.C.2.a with the first monthly SMR scheduled to be submitted on or immediately following the report due date.

2. Within 60 days of permit adoption, the Discharger shall submit a report electronically via CIWQS submittal outlining reporting levels (RL's), method detection limits (MDL's), and analytical methods for the constituents listed in tables E-2, E-3, E-5, E-6, E-7, E-8, E-9,

and E-10. The Discharger shall comply with the monitoring and reporting requirements for CTR constituents as outlined in section 2.3 and 2.4 of the SIP. The maximum required reporting levels for priority pollutant constituents shall be based on the Minimum Levels (ML's) contained in Appendix 4 of the SIP, determined in accordance with Section 2.4.2 and Section 2.4.3 of the SIP. In accordance with Section 2.4.2 of the SIP, when there is more than one ML value for a given substance, the Central Valley Water Board shall include as RL's, in the permit, all ML values, and their associated analytical methods, listed in Appendix 4 that are below the calculated effluent limitation. The Discharger may select any one of those cited analytical methods for compliance determination. If no ML value is below the effluent limitation, then the Central Valley Water Board shall select as the RL, the lowest ML value, and its associated analytical method, listed in Appendix 4 for inclusion in the permit. Table E-11 provides required maximum reporting levels in accordance with the SIP.

3. **Annual Operations Report.** By 30 January of each year, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Central Valley Water Board Electronically via CIWQS submittal containing the following:

   a. The names, certificate grades, and general responsibilities of all persons employed at the Facility.

   b. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the plant for emergency and routine situations.

   c. A statement certifying when the flow meter(s) and other monitoring instruments and devices were last calibrated, including identification of who performed the calibration.

   d. A statement certifying whether the current operation and maintenance manual, and contingency plan, reflect the wastewater treatment plant as currently constructed and operated, and the dates when these documents were last revised and last reviewed for adequacy.

   e. The Discharger may also be requested to submit an annual report to the Central Valley Water Board with both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. Any such request shall be made in writing. The report shall discuss the compliance record. If violations have occurred, the report shall also discuss the corrective actions taken and planned to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

Contents

Tables

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

As described in section II.B of this Order, the Central Valley Water Board incorporates this Fact Sheet as findings of the Central Valley Water Board supporting the issuance of this Order. This Fact Sheet discusses 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 Discharger. Sections or subsections of this Order not specifically identified as "not applicable" are fully applicable to this Discharger.

I. PERMIT INFORMATION

The following table summarizes administrative information related to the Facility.

Table F-1. Facility Information

WDID	5B050103001
CIWQS Facility Place ID	255180
Discharger	San Andreas Sanitary District
Name of Facility	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address	675 Gold Oak Road
	San Andreas, CA 95249
	Calaveras County
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Hugh Logan, District Manager, (209)754-3281
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Hugh Logan, District Manager, (209)754-3281
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 1630 San Andreas, CA 95249
Billing Address	Same as mailing address
Type of Facility	Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
Major or Minor Facility	Minor
Threat to Water Quality	1
Complexity	A
Pretreatment Program	No
Recycling Requirements	Not Applicable
Facility Permitted Flow	1.5 million gallons per day (MGD)
Facility Design Flow[1]	0.32 MGD (average dry weather design flow); 1.9 MGD (peak hour wet weather flow)
Watershed	Upper Calaveras Watershed
Receiving Water	North Fork Calaveras River
Receiving Water Type	Inland surface water

[1] Excludes capacity of the High Flow Treatment System.

San Andreas Sanitary District (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the San Andreas Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereinafter Facility), a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

For the purposes of this Order, references to the "discharger" or "permittee" in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

A. The Facility discharges wastewater to land on the Dedicated Land Disposal Area (DLDA), a Discharger owned property, and to the North Fork Calaveras River, a water of the United States, tributary to New Hogan Reservoir within Upper Calaveras Watershed. The Discharger was previously regulated by Order R5-2014-0104-01 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0079464 adopted on 8 August 2014 and expires on 30 September 2019. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

B. When applicable, state law requires dischargers to file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights and receive approval for any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that decreases the flow in any portion of a watercourse. The State Water Board retains separate jurisdictional authority to enforce any applicable requirements under Water Code section 1211. This is not an NPDES permit requirement.

C. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge (ROWD) and submitted an application for reissuance of its waste discharge requirements (WDR's) and NPDES permit on 28 June 2018. The application was deemed complete on 12 July 2018.

D. Regulations at 40 C.F.R. 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, title 23, section 2235.4, the terms and conditions of an expired permit are automatically continued pending reissuance of the permit if the Discharger complies with all federal NPDES requirements for continuation of expired permits.

II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Discharger provides sewerage service for the community of San Andreas and serves a population of approximately 2200 and has no industrial users. The design average dry weather flow (ADWF) capacity of the Facility is 0.32 million gallons per day (MGD) and the peak hour flow is 1.9 MGD, excluding the capacity of the High Flow Treatment System (HFTS).

A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls

The Facility treatment system consists of one mechanical screen, a primary clarifier, a trickling filter, a two-train nitrifying activated sludge reactor basin, a secondary clarifier, disk filters, and chlorine disinfection. The treatment system also includes ancillary systems for pH adjustment and chemical feed for disinfection and de-chlorination. For effluent discharge to North Fork Calaveras River, all unit processes are needed, except for the trickling filter. For discharge to the DLDA, no nitrification is required. Therefore, the reactor basins, pH control system, and de-chlorination can be taken offline to reduce costs and salt addition to the effluent. Solids removed are treated by anaerobic digestion (to be replaced by aerobic digestion in 2019), dewatered by filter press, and dried in sludge drying beds. The Facility has two storm water storage ponds.

The foregoing treatment system has a peak hour, day, and month treatment flow limits of 1.9, 1.3, and 0.8 MGD, respectively. The ADWF capacity of the Facility is 0.32 MGD. Facility influent flows can exceed 1.9 MGD under severe precipitation conditions. A portion of high influent flows (e.g., above the foregoing limits) may be treated by the HFTS, which dischargers directly to Pond D, which is a part of the DLDA. The HFTS consists of a separate chlorination point and contact device downstream of the mechanical screen.

The DLDA consists of unlined effluent storage Pond D and approximately 30 acres (seen in red in Figure B-1, Attachment B). The DLDA may be expanded, as needed, into the blue areas shown in Figure B-2, Attachment B. Effluent is applied to the DLDA land via sprinklers. The Discharger submitted a 1-in-100 Year Season Water Balance to the Central Valley Water Board that forecasts the current sprinkler disposal system and Pond D will be sufficient to meet the effluent storage and disposal needs of the Facility when conditions in the North Fork Calaveras River do not provide sufficient dilution to facilitate surface water discharge.

The primary method of effluent disposal is sprinkler irrigation to of DLDA land. However, under high and/or persistent precipitation events, the DLDA's shallow soils become saturated, and therefore, cannot absorb effluent. During these events, effluent is stored in Pond D and/or discharged to the North Fork Calaveras River in quantities not exceeding a dilution ratio of 20:1 (receiving water to effluent). The outfall to the North Fork Calaveras River consists of a 48-foot cross-stream diffuser directly upstream of a concrete ford.

The Discharger treats primary sludge by means of digestion in the heated unmixed anaerobic digester (being converted to aerobic digestion in 2019), then dewatering by belt filter press. Secondary clarification produces waste activated sludge (WAS), which is sent directly to the belt filter press without further treatment. WAS will be digested in the new aerobic digester when operational. Dewatered sludge is transported to the asphalt lined drying pad where, in summer months, the biosolids are spread to air dry for a minimum of 90 days to meet 40 CFR 503 Class B pathogen reduction requirements. The Discharger currently has a contract with Synagro, a sustainable facilities management and environmental services provider, for biosolids removal. Synagro typically removes biosolids from the Facility once per year, biosolids are applied to land by Synagro within six hours of removal to achieve adequate vector attraction reduction. Runoff from the biosolids drying bed is sent to the process feed station for introduction into the Facility for treatment. Transportation and disposal/reuse of the biosolids is regulated by USEPA under 40 C.F.R. part 503.

Storm water from the paved portion of the Facility is collected in Ponds B and C, where it either evaporates or is conveyed to Pond D and discharged to the DLDA. Storm water from the non-paved portion of the Facility is not collected but is conveyed to San Andreas Creek through a system of storm water collection ditches. Ponds B and C also accept tertiary or secondary wastewater during periods of operational maintenance. All wastewater is chlorinated prior to discharge to the ponds.

Water in Pond D can be returned to the treatment system for retreatment and discharge to the North Fork Calaveras River, if/when appropriate. Effluent storage is the most limiting aspect of this Facility; therefore, the facility is operated to minimize the accumulation of water in Pond D.

B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

1. The Facility is located in Section 18, T4N, R12E, MDB&M, as shown in Attachment B, a part of this Order.
2. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged at Discharge Point No. 001 to the North Fork Calaveras River, a water of the United States and a tributary to the New Hogan Reservoir at a point latitude 38° 12' 39" N and longitude 120° 42' 20" W.
3. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to the DLDA through the use of spray irrigation. See Attachment B for a map of the DLDA.

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

Effluent limitations contained in Order R5-2014-0104-01 for discharges from Discharge Point 001(Monitoring Location EFF-001) and representative monitoring data from the term of Order R5-2014-0104-01 are as follows:

Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data December 2014 to January 2018		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Flow	MGD	--	--	1.5	--	--	2.4
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	30	45	60	7	10	10
	lbs/day[1]	380	560	750	182	55	55
pH	standard units	--	--	6.5 - 8.5[3]	--	--	6.6 – 8.0[3]
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	30	45	60	5	7.5	7.5
	lbs/day[1]	380	560	750	12	32	32
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	3.8	--	9.4	10	--	10
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.8	--	3.6	0.8	--	3.2
	lbs/day[1]	23	--	45	1.1	--	23
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L		0.011[4]	0.019[5]	--	--	0.01
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 ml		23[6]	240[7]	--	79	79
Electrical Conductivity (@ 25° C)	µmhos/ cm	700[8]			666[8]	--	--

1. Based on permitted flow of 1.5 MGD.
2. Instantaneous minimum and maximum.
3. Instantaneous maximum.
4. As a 4-day average.
5. As a 1-hour average.
6. As a 7-day median.
7. More than once in a 30-day period.
8. As an annual average in a calendar year.

Land discharge specifications contained in the existing Order for discharges to the DLDA (Monitoring Location LND-001) and representative monitoring data from the term of the previous Order are as follows:

Table F-3. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data (LND-001)

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data December 2014 to January 2018		
		Average Monthly	Monthly Median	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Monthly Median Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	40	--	80	16	--	18
Total Nitrogen (as N)	mg/L	34	--	0.5	[2]	--	[2]
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 ml	--	23	240	--	4.5	79

1. As an annual average in a calendar year.
2. Current sampling results are not available.

D. Compliance Summary

The Discharger was issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Order R5-2014-0532 for the year of 2013, assessing a total of $6,000 for two effluent violations, both were Group II Serious Violations of Order R5-2009-007 for total residual chlorine. The Discharger settled the ACL through completion of a compliance project.

The Discharger was issued ACL Order R5-2015-0527 for the year of 2014, assessing a total of $6,000 for two effluent violations, both were Group II Serious Violations of Order R5-2009-007 for total residual chlorine. The Discharger settled the ACL through completion of a compliance project.

E. Planned Changes

Planned changes include the conversion from anaerobic to aerobic sludge digestion in 2019.

III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

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

A. Legal Authorities

This Order serves as WDR's pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California 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 U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this Facility to surface waters.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA, (commencing with section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.

C. State and Federal Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Plans

1. **Water Quality Control Plan.** Requirements of this Order specifically implement the applicable Water Quality Control Plans.

   a. **Basin Plan.** The Central Valley Water Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the Water Quality Control Plan, Fourth Edition (Revised July 2016), (hereinafter Basin Plan) that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, 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 North Fork Calaveras River** are as follows:

Table F-3. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001	North Fork Calaveras River	Existing: Water contact recreation (REC-1); non-contact water recreation (REC-2); warm freshwater habitat (WARM); cold freshwater habitat (COLD)'migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR); spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN); and wildlife habitat (WILD).

2. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** U.S. EPA adopted the NTR on 22 December 1992, and later amended it on 4 May 1995 and 9 November 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On 18 May 2000, U.S. EPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on 13 February 2001. These rules contain federal water quality criteria for priority pollutants.

3. **State Implementation Policy.** On 2 March 2000, the State Water Board adopted the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP became effective on 28 April 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the U.S. EPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Central Valley Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on 18 May 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the U.S. EPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on 24 February 2005, that became effective on 13 July 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.

4. **Antidegradation Policy.** Federal regulation 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 requires 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") (State Anti-Degradation Policy). The State Anti-Degradation Policy is deemed to incorporate the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. The State Anti-Degradation Policy requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Central Valley Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies. The permitted discharge

must be consistent with the antidegradation provision of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and the State Anti-Degradation Policy. The Board finds this order is consistent with the Federal and State Water Board antidegradation regulations and policy.

5. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(l) restrict backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed.

6. **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. This Order promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

7. **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 (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 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. The Discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

8. **Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.** Section 13263.6(a) of the Water Code, requires that *"the Regional Water Board shall prescribe effluent limitations as part of the waste discharge requirements of a POTW for all substances that the most recent toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) (EPCRA) indicate as discharged into the POTW, for which the State Water Board or the Regional Water Board has established numeric water quality objectives, and has determined that the discharge is or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to, an excursion above any numeric water quality objective"*.

   The most recent toxic chemical data report does not indicate any reportable off-site releases or discharges to the collection system for this Facility. Therefore, a reasonable potential analysis based on information from EPCRA cannot be conducted. Based on information from EPCRA, there is no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above any numeric water quality objectives included within the Basin Plan or in any State Water Board plan, so no effluent limitations are included in this permit pursuant to Water Code section 13263.6(a).

   However, as detailed elsewhere in this Order, available effluent data indicate that there are constituents present in the effluent that have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality standards and require inclusion of effluent limitations based on federal and state laws and regulations.

9. **Storm Water Requirements.** USEPA promulgated federal regulations for storm water on 16 November 1990 in 40 C.F.R. parts 122, 123, and 124. The NPDES Industrial Storm Water Program regulates storm water discharges from wastewater treatment facilities. Wastewater treatment plants are applicable industries under the storm water program and are obligated to comply with the federal regulations. The State Water Board does not require wastewater treatment facilities with design flows less than 1 MGD to

obtain coverage under the Industrial Storm water General Order. Therefore, this Order does not regulate storm water.

D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List

1. Under section 303(d) of the 1972 CWA, states, territories and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of water quality limited segments. The waters on these lists do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology. On 11 October 2011 USEPA gave final approval to California's 2008-2010 section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments. The Basin Plan references this list of Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs), which are defined as "…*those sections of lakes, streams, rivers or other fresh water bodies where water quality does not meet (or is not expected to meet) water quality standards even after the application of appropriate limitations for point sources* (40 C.F.R. part 130, et seq.)." The Basin Plan also states, "*Additional treatment beyond minimum federal standards will be imposed on dischargers to [WQLSs]. Dischargers will be assigned or allocated a maximum allowable load of critical pollutants so that water quality objectives can be met in the segment*." The North Fork Calaveras River is not specifically listed in the 303(d) list of impaired waters. However, the North Fork Calaveras River is a tributary of New Hogan Reservoir, a water body of the United States, which is listed on the 303(d) list of impaired water bodies. New Hogan Reservoir is listed on the 303(d) list for mercury.
2. **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's).** Table F-4, below, identifies the 303(d) listings and any applicable TMDLs. At the time of this permit renewal, there are no approved TMDL's with wasteload allocations that apply to this Facility.

Table F-4. 303 (d) List for New Hogan Reservoir

Pollutant	Potential Sources	Proposed TMDL Completion
Mercury	Resource Extraction	2021

3. The 303(d) listings and TMDL's have been considered in the development of the Order. A pollutant-by-pollutant evaluation of each pollutant of concern is described in section VI.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

E. Other Plans, Polices, and Regulations

1. **Title 27.** The discharge authorized herein and the treatment and storage facilities associated with the discharge of treated municipal wastewater, except for discharges of residual sludge and solid waste, are exempt from the requirements of Title 27, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 20005 *et seq* (hereafter Title 27). The exemption, pursuant to Title 27 CCR section 20090(a), is based on the following:
   a. **Storage Pond D**. Title 27 section 20090(a) contains a sewage exemption, which contains a conditional exemption for "Discharges of domestic sewage or treated effluent which are regulated by WDR's issued pursuant to Chapter 9, Division 3, Title 23 of this code, or for which WDR's have been waived, and which are consistent with applicable water quality objectives…" and an unconditional exemption for "treatment or storage facilities associated with municipal wastewater treatment plants".

The State Water Board's recent revision to the decision on the City of Lodi petition indicates that the unconditional exemption covers post-treatment storage facilities that are "associated with" municipal wastewater treatment plants if the facilities (1) are used to store treated municipal wastewater prior to ultimate disposal or reuse, and (2) do not receive any other wastes other than on-site storm water flows if authorized by the State Water Board or the applicable regional water quality control board, and (3) are under the control of the municipal treatment plant. Facilities that are subject to the municipal wastewater treatment plant waste discharge requirements, water recycling requirements, or other permitting mechanism issued to the municipal wastewater treatment plant owner or operator are considered to be "under the control" of the municipal treatment plant.

Pond D is used to store treated wastewater prior to application to the DLDA through sprinkler application. Additionally, Pond D does not receive any other wastes aside from treated wastewater and is under control of the Facility, which is subject to the requirements of this Order. Therefore, Pond D is exempt from the requirements of Title 27, pursuant to Title 27 CCR section 20090(a).

b. **Land Application.** The Discharger disposes of treated wastewater by land application to the DLDA through the use of sprinkler application. Title 27 section 20090(a) contains a sewage exemption, which contains a conditional exemption for *"Discharges of domestic sewage or treated effluent which are regulated by WDR's issued pursuant to Chapter 9, Division 3, Title 23 of this code, or for which WDR's have been waived, and which are consistent with applicable water quality objectives…"* Discharge of treated wastewater to the DLDA is regulated by the Waste Discharge Requirements of this Order, and is consistent with applicable water quality objectives, therefore, the discharge of treated wastewater to the DLDA is exempt from Title 27 pursuant to Section 20090(a).

c. The waste consists primarily of domestic sewage and treated effluent;

d. The waste discharge requirements are consistent with water quality objectives; and

e. The treatment and storage facilities described herein are associated with a municipal wastewater treatment plant.

IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

Effluent limitations and toxic and pretreatment effluent standards established pursuant to sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 304 (Information and Guidelines), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the CWA and amendments thereto are applicable to the discharge.

The CWA mandates the implementation of effluent limitations that are as stringent as necessary to meet water quality standards established pursuant to state or federal law [33 U.S.C., §1311(b)(1)(C); 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)]. NPDES permits must incorporate discharge limits necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met. This requirement applies to narrative criteria as well as to criteria specifying maximum amounts of particular pollutants. Pursuant to federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1)(i), NPDES permits must contain limits that control all pollutants that "are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any state water quality standard, including state narrative criteria for water quality." Federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1)(vi), further provide that "[w]here a state has not established a water quality criterion for a specific chemical pollutant that is present in an effluent at a concentration that

causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above a narrative criterion within an applicable State water quality standard, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits."

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 in the Code of Federal Regulations: 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards; and 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d) requires that permits include WQBEL's 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. The Basin Plan at page IV-17.00 for discharges in the Sac/SJ Basins, contains an implementation policy, "Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives", that specifies that the Central Valley Water Board "will, on a case-by-case basis, adopt numerical limitations in orders which will implement the narrative objectives." This Policy complies with 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1). With respect to narrative objectives, the Central Valley Water Board must establish effluent limitations using one or more of three specified sources, including: (1) USEPA's published water quality criteria, (2) a proposed state criterion (i.e., water quality objective) or an explicit state policy interpreting its narrative water quality criteria (i.e., the Central Valley Water Board's "Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives")(40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)(vi)(A), (B) or (C)), or (3) an indicator parameter.

The Basin Plan includes numeric site-specific water quality objectives and narrative objectives for toxicity, chemical constituents, discoloration, radionuclides, and tastes and odors. The narrative toxicity objective states: "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at III-8.00) The Basin Plan states that material and relevant information, including numeric criteria, and recommendations from other agencies and scientific literature will be utilized in evaluating compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. The narrative chemical constituents objective states that waters shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses. At minimum, "…*water designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs)*" in Title 22 of CCR. The Basin Plan further states that, to protect all beneficial uses, the Central Valley Water Board may apply limits more stringent than MCLs. The narrative tastes and odors objective states: "*Water shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to domestic or municipal water supplies or to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.*"

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. Prohibition III.A (No discharge or application of waste other than that described in this Order). This prohibition is based on Water Code section 13260 that requires filing of a ROWD before discharges can occur. The Discharger submitted a ROWD for the discharges described in this Order; therefore, discharges not described in this Order are prohibited.

2. **Prohibition III.B (No bypasses or overflow of untreated wastewater, except under the conditions at CFR section122.41(m)(4)).** As stated in section I.G of Attachment D, Standard Provisions, this Order prohibits bypass from any portion of the treatment facility. Federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.41(m), define "bypass" as the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. This section of the federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.41(m)(4), prohibits bypass

unless it is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage. In considering the Regional Water Board's prohibition of bypasses, the State Water Board adopted a precedential decision, Order No. WQO 2002-0015, which cites the federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.41(m), as allowing bypass only for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.

3. **Prohibition III.C (No controllable condition shall create a nuisance).** This prohibition is based on Water Code section 13050 that requires water quality objectives established for the prevention of nuisance within a specific area. The Basin Plan prohibits conditions that create a nuisance

4. **Prohibition III.D (No inclusion of pollutant free wastewater shall cause improper operation of the Facility's systems).** This prohibition is based on 40 C.F.R. section 122.41 et seq. that requires the proper design and operation of treatment facilities

5. **Prohibition III.E (No discharge of hazardous waste).** This prohibition is based on California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66261.1 et seq, that prohibits discharge of hazardous waste.

6. **Prohibition III.F (No discharge greater than 1.5 MGD).** The Facility was designed to provide secondary treatment for up to an average dry weather design flow of 0.4 MGD and a peak hour wet weather flow of 1.9 MGD. Therefore, this Order contains a prohibition of flows greater than 1.5 MGD

7. **Prohibition III.F.** In a letter to the Central Valley Water Board dated 8 April 1999, California Department of Drinking Water (DDW) indicated it would consider wastewater discharged to water bodies with identified beneficial uses of contact recreation and where the wastewater receives dilution of more than 20:1 to be adequately disinfected if the effluent coliform concentration does not exceed 23 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median and if the effluent coliform concentration does not exceed 240 MPN/100 mL more than once in any 30 day period (Disinfected Secondary). Although the Facility provides tertiary filtration, this Order includes disinfection requirements equivalent to the Disinfected Secondary requirements for total coliform organisms discussed above. DDW has developed reclamation criteria, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3 (Title 22), for the reuse of wastewater. Title 22 requires that for spray irrigation of food crops, parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and other areas of similar public access, wastewater be adequately disinfected, oxidized, coagulated, clarified, and filtered, and that the effluent total coliform levels not exceed 2.2 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median. Title 22 is not directly applicable to surface waters; however, the Regional Water Board finds that it is appropriate to apply an equivalent level of treatment to that required by DDW's reclamation criteria for receiving waters used for contact recreation purposes. The Discharger is currently able to provide an equivalent level of treatment required by DPH's reclamation criteria for discharges that do not receive 20:1 dilution.

B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing U.S. EPA permit regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Secondary Treatment Standards at 40 C.F.R. part 133.

Regulations promulgated in 40 C.F.R. section 125.3(a)(1) require technology-based effluent limitations for municipal Dischargers to be placed in NPDES permits based on Secondary Treatment Standards or Equivalent to Secondary Treatment Standards.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-500) established the minimum performance requirements for POTW's [defined in section 304(d)(1)]. Section 301(b)(1)(B) of that Act requires that such treatment works must, as a minimum, meet effluent limitations based on secondary treatment as defined by the U.S. EPA Administrator.

Based on this statutory requirement, U.S. EPA developed secondary treatment regulations, which are specified in 40 C.F.R. part 133. These technology-based regulations apply to all municipal wastewater treatment plants and identify the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment in terms of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5), total suspended solids (TSS), and pH.

2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

a. **BOD_5 and TSS.** Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 133, establish the minimum weekly and monthly average level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment for BOD_5 and TSS. In addition, 40 C.F.R. section 133.102, in describing the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment, states that the 30-day average percent removal shall not be less than 85 percent. This Order contains a limitation requiring an average of 85 percent removal of BOD_5 and TSS over each calendar month.

b. **pH.** The secondary treatment regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 133 also require that pH be maintained between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units. This Order, however, requires more stringent WQBEL's for pH to comply with the Basin Plan's water quality objectives for pH.

Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001

Table F-5. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
pH[2]	Standard units	--	--	--	6.0	9.0
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)[1]	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--
Total Suspended Solids[1]	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--

[1] No WQBEL's are applicable, therefore, TBELs are implemented in this Order.
[2] More stringent WQBEL required.

C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBEL's)

1. Scope and Authority

CWA Section 301(b) and 40 C.F.R. 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.

Section 122.44(d)(1)(i) of 40 C.F.R. requires that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, WQBEL's must be established using: (1) U.S. EPA 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).

The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBEL's when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan.

The Basin Plan on page II-1.00 states: "*Protection and enhancement of existing and potential beneficial uses are primary goals of water quality planning…*" and with respect to disposal of wastewaters states that "*...disposal of wastewaters is [not] a prohibited use of waters of the State; it is merely a use which cannot be satisfied to the detriment of beneficial uses.*"

The federal CWA section 101(a)(2), states: "*it is the national goal that wherever attainable, an interim goal of water quality which provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreation in and on the water be achieved by July 1, 1983.*" Federal Regulations, developed to implement the requirements of the CWA, create a rebuttable presumption that all waters be designated as fishable and swimmable. Federal Regulations, 40 CFR sections 131.2 and 131.10, require that all waters of the State regulated to protect the beneficial uses of public water supply, protection and propagation of fish, shell fish and wildlife, recreation in and on the water, agricultural, industrial and other purposes including navigation. 40 C.F.R. section 131.3(e) defines existing beneficial uses as those uses actually attained after 28 November 1975, whether or not they are included in the water quality standards. Federal Regulation, 40 C.F.R. section 131.10 requires that uses be obtained by implementing effluent limitations, requires that all downstream uses be protected and states that in no case shall a state adopt waste transport or waste assimilation as a beneficial use for any waters of the United States.

a. **Receiving Water and Beneficial Uses.** Refer to III.C.1. above for a complete description of the receiving water and beneficial uses.

b. **Effluent and Ambient Background Data.** The reasonable potential analysis (RPA), as described in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet, was based on data from 1 December 2014 through 31 January 2018, which includes effluent and ambient background data submitted in SMRs, the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), the Effluent and Receiving Water Characterizations Study, and the North Fork Calaveras River Dilution/Mixing Zone Study.

c. **Water Effects Ratio Study For Copper.** This Order allows for a site-specific water effects ratio (WER) of 7.55 to calculate the aquatic life criteria for copper based on the Discharger's *Copper Water Effects Ratio Study* (August 2013). The Discharger's study followed U.S. EPA's 2001 *Streamlined Water-Effect Ratio Procedure for Discharges of Copper* (EPA 822-R-01-005). This Order calculates the aquatic life criteria for copper using a total recoverable WER of 7.55. A discussion on the calculation of the criteria for hardness dependent metals, such as copper, can be found in Section IV.C.2.f. below.

d. **Assimilative Capacity/Mixing Zone.**

i. **Receiving Water Characteristics**. The Facility discharges to the North Fork Calaveras River when 20:1 (receiving water to effluent) conditions exist. The outfall diffuser consists of two parallel 12" perforated pipes located in a cross-stream concrete box filled with 3" cobble bedding. The diffuser pipes are located approximately one foot below the upper surface of the cobble filled concrete box. The length of the perforated section of the cross-stream diffuser pipes is estimated to be approximately 36 feet. The concrete outfall box is approximately 41 feet long and approximately 6 feet wide. Immediately downstream of the outfall diffuser box is a cross-stream concrete ford. When constructed, the concrete ford was approximately 18 feet wide. Since construction, the downstream edge of the concrete ford has eroded and is now narrower than 18 feet in most locations.

ii. **Regulatory Guidance for Dilution Credits and Mixing Zones.** The Central Valley Water Board has the discretion to accept or deny mixing zones and dilution credits. The CWA directs the states to adopt water quality standards to protect the quality of its waters. USEPA's current water quality standards regulation authorizes states to adopt general policies, such as mixing zones, to implement state water quality standards (40 CFR § 122.44 and 122.45). The USEPA allows states to have broad flexibility in designing its mixing zone policies. Primary policy and guidance on determining mixing zone and dilution credits is provided by the SIP and the Basin Plan. If no procedure applies in the SIP or the Basin Plan, then the Central Valley Water Board may use the USEPA *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control* (EPA/505/2-90-001)(TSD).

For non-Priority Pollutant constituents the allowance of mixing zones by the Central Valley Water Board is discussed in the Basin Plan, *Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives*, which states in part, "*In conjunction with the issuance of NPDES and storm water permits, the Regional Board may designate mixing zones within which water quality objectives will not apply provided the discharger has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Regional Board that the mixing zone will not adversely impact beneficial uses. If allowed, different mixing zones may be designated for different types of objectives, including, but not limited to, acute aquatic life objectives, chronic aquatic life objectives, human health objectives, and acute and chronic whole effluent*

toxicity objectives, depending in part on the averaging period over which the objectives apply. In determining the size of such mixing zones, the Regional Board will consider the applicable procedures and guidelines in the EPA's Water Quality Standards Handbook and the [TSD]. Pursuant to EPA guidelines, mixing zones designated for acute aquatic life objectives will generally be limited to a small zone of initial dilution in the immediate vicinity of the discharge."

For Priority Pollutants, the SIP supersedes the Basin Plan mixing zone provisions. Section 1.4.2 of the SIP states, in part, "…*with the exception of effluent limitations derived from TMDL's, in establishing and determining compliance with effluent limitations for applicable human health, acute aquatic life, or chronic aquatic life priority pollutant criteria/objectives or the toxicity objective for aquatic life protection in a basin plan, the Regional Board may grant mixing zones and dilution credits to dischargers…The applicable priority pollutant criteria and objectives are to be met through a water body except within any mixing zone granted by the Regional Board.* ***The allowance of mixing zones is discretionary and shall be determined on a discharge-by-discharge basis.*** *The Regional Board may consider allowing mixing zones and dilution credits only for discharges with a physically identifiable point of discharge that is regulated through an NPDES permit issued by the Regional Board*." [emphasis added]

For incompletely-mixed discharges, the Discharger must complete an independent mixing zone study to demonstrate to the Central Valley Water Board that a dilution credit is appropriate. In granting a mixing zone, Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP requires the following to be met:

"***A mixing zone shall be as small as practicable****. The following conditions must be met in allowing a mixing zone:* [emphasis added]

A: A mixing zone shall not:

1. *compromise the integrity of the entire water body;*
2. *cause acutely toxic conditions to aquatic life passing through the mixing zone;*
3. *restrict the passage of aquatic life;*
4. *adversely impact biologically sensitive or critical habitats, including, but not limited to, habitat of species listed under federal or State endangered species laws;*
5. *produce undesirable or nuisance aquatic life;*
6. *result in floating debris, oil, or scum;*
7. *produce objectionable color, odor, taste, or turbidity;*
8. *cause objectionable bottom deposits;*
9. *cause nuisance;*
10. *dominate the receiving water body or overlap a mixing zone from different outfalls; or*
11. *be allowed at or near any drinking water intake. A mixing zone is not a source of drinking water. To the extent of any conflict between this*

determination and the Sources of Drinking Water Policy (Resolution No. 88-63), this SIP supersedes the provisions of that policy."

Section 1.4.2.1 of the SIP establishes the authority for the Central Valley Water Board to consider dilution credits based on the mixing zone conditions in a receiving water. Section 1.4.2.1 in part states:

"*The dilution credit, D, is a numerical value associated with the mixing zone that accounts for the receiving water entrained into the discharge. The dilution credit is a value used in the calculation of effluent limitations (described in Section 1.4).* **Dilution credits may be limited or denied on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis, which may result in a dilution credit for all, some, or no priority pollutants in the discharge.**" [emphasis added]

The mixing zone is thus an administrative construct defined as an area around the outfall that may exceed water quality objectives, but is otherwise protective of the beneficial uses. Dilution is defined as the amount of mixing that has occurred at the edge of this mixing zone under critical conditions, thus protecting the beneficial uses at the concentration and for the duration and frequency required.

iii. **Dilution/Mixing Zone Study Results.** The Discharger provided the North Fork Calaveras River Dilution/Mixing Zone Study on 24 January 2018 providing the results of a field dilution/mixing zone study using effluent EC as a tracer.

During the implementation of the field study, the river flow rate, measured downstream of effluent discharge, was 7.9 MGD, which is within the typical range of river flow conditions under which effluent discharge occurs. The Discharger's effluent discharge flow rate to the North Fork Calaveras River is controlled by the Discharger's operations staff. For this study, the Discharger set the effluent flow rate to target a 20:1 river dilution ratio. During the time of field study implementation, the average effluent discharge rate, as recorded by the Discharger's automated data recording system, was 0.39 MGD.

The field study was conducted during the discharge of Facility effluent into the North Fork Calaveras River at a dilution ratio of 20:1 (receiving water flow: effluent flow), as measured downstream of the outfall. Effluent EC was measured from the District's effluent sampling port within the Facility's effluent control building, upstream of the outfall to the North Fork Calaveras River. The background river EC was measured mid-stream, mid-depth, upstream of the effluent outfall. The in-stream EC, resulting from discharge of effluent at a 20:1 dilution ratio, was measured on the concrete ford downstream of the effluent outfall, at various transects, using a calibrated hand-held YSI field EC meter. In-stream EC readings, obtained downstream of the effluent outfall, are used to approximate the percentage of effluent in the river (i.e., the dilution ratio and extent of dispersion) at cross-sectional locations at each monitored transect. River EC measurements, downstream of the outfall, obtained during this field study were limited to the area of the concrete ford the expected mixing zone based the Discharger's previous work, and a location with limited aquatic habitat.

To obtain the data necessary to determine the mixing and dilution ratios of effluent with river water, mid-depth EC measurements were taken on a pre-determined grid (3' intervals) on the concrete ford immediately downstream of

the effluent outfall structure. Using the EC data collected, a dilution ratio is determined at each monitored location using the following formula:

$$\text{Dilution (parts river to 1 part effluent)} = \frac{(\text{Effluent EC} - \text{Downstream EC})}{(\text{Downstream EC} - \text{Background EC})}$$

The EC/dilution ratio data are used to identify 1) an aquatic life zone of passage and 2) the edges of the maximum aquatic life mixing zone.

The effluent outfall diffuser is located approximately one mile northwest of the WWTP in the North Fork Calaveras River. The effluent outfall is located immediately upstream of the historic concrete ford that crosses the river. The river is a shallow gradient stream at this location. The river study area was limited to the portion of the concrete ford covered by flowing water. The river depth on the concrete ford varied between 1.25 and 6 inches. Data points were collected at seven cross-stream transects downstream from the outfall (spaced at 3 feet on-center). At each monitoring transect, data were collected at three-foot intervals.

Based on the results of the field study, conducted under typical effluent discharge flow conditions, a minimum dilution ratio of 6.4:1 was observed at the monitoring transect immediately downstream of the outfall diffuser box. Thus, the 6:1 dilution ratio mixing zone boundary is located below the surface of the cobble-filled outfall diffuser box. The edge of the 12:1 dilution ratio mixing zone is at the downstream edge of the concrete ford (16-18 feet downstream from the effluent diffuser box).

iv. **Evaluation of Available Dilution for Acute and Chronic Aquatic Life Criteria**. U.S. EPA Region VIII, in its "*EPA Region VIII Mixing Zones and Dilution Policy*", recommends no dilution for acute aquatic life criteria, stating the following, "*In incomplete mix situations, discharge limitations to implement acute chemical-specific aquatic life criteria and narrative (no acute toxicity) criteria shall be based on achieving such acute criteria at the end-of-pipe (i.e., without an allowance for dilution). This approach is intended to implement the narrative requirement prohibiting acutely toxic conditions in the mixing zone*." The Discharger has requested acute and chronic mixing zones for compliance with acute and chronic water quality criteria. Based on the mixing zone study, the requested acute and chronic aquatic life mixing zone the width of the outfall diffuser and extends 16-18 feet downstream of the effluent diffuser.

The acute and chronic mixing zones meet the requirements of the SIP as follows:

(a) S*hall not compromise the integrity of the entire waterbody – The TSD states that, "If the total area affected by elevated concentrations within all mixing zones combined is small compared to the total area of a waterbody (such as a river segment), then mixing zones are likely to have little effect on the integrity of the waterbody as a whole, provided that the mixing zone does not impinge on unique or critical habitats."* This criterion is met by establishing effluent limitations via the SIP procedure such that no water quality criteria are violated because of the effluent discharge outside of the small portion of the receiving water defined by the mixing zone. The mixing

zone located on the concrete ford is a small fraction of the overall length of the North Fork Calaveras River, therefore, the mixing zone does not compromise the integrity of the entire waterbody.

(b) *Shall not cause acutely toxic conditions to aquatic life passing through the mixing zone* – This criterion is met via the effluent limitation, contained in the Order, that survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour whole effluent (no dilution) bioassays shall be no less than:

- 70 percent, minimum for any one bioassay; and
- 90 percent, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

The effluent, without dilution (i.e., 100% effluent), is not permitted to be acutely toxic to aquatic life. Therefore, the effluent without dilution cannot cause acute toxic conditions in the North Fork Calaveras River. The effluent discharge will be undiluted only at the actual effluent discharge point. The effluent discharge point was selected to maximize the rate of dilution of one part effluent into at least 20 parts stream flow. Only a small area of the stream (immediately downstream of the outfall) will have elevated effluent concentrations and by definition, the stream flow on either side of the effluent discharge point will have little to no effluent. The areas of the stream with little to no effluent provide zones of passage around the actual effluent discharge point for any aquatic life that is disposed to avoid higher concentrations of effluent for any reason. As part of the study, the concentration gradients around the discharge point were measured (using EC as the tracer) to quantify the zone of higher effluent concentration and the zones of passage around the effluent discharge point. The observed acute mixing zone is shorter in length than the distance aquatic life would be expected to migrate up or down in this stream over a four-day (96-hour) period. Therefore, the four-day whole effluent acute toxicity bioassay is believed to be a conservative monitor of whether compliance with this mixing zone criterion is being achieved.

(c) *Shall not restrict the passage of aquatic life* – This criterion is met by complying with the acute lethality requirement discussed previously, and by the fact that the mid-stream effluent discharge point design provides zones of passage around the effluent discharge point containing little to no effluent. The mixing zone field study measured the EC gradients from the maximum effluent discharge under typical stream flow conditions around and downstream of the effluent discharge point. As discussed previously, the study was conducted under a dilution ratio of 20 parts receiving water for every one part effluent (i.e., 20:1).

Additionally, the effluent outfall structure in no way physically obstructs the passage of any form of aquatic life past the effluent discharge point. Note that the cross-stream diffuser is located just upstream of an 18-foot wide concrete ford which does not support aquatic life under low flow conditions. Further, under low flow conditions, the concrete ford restricts the passage of aquatic life. Also note that a dam is located approximately 1,000 feet downstream of the outfall diffuser, which restricts upstream migration of aquatic life to those that migrate when river flows occur, and are capable of either jumping the fall created by the dam, or navigating around it.

(d) *Shall not adversely impact biologically sensitive or critical habitats, including, but not limited to, habitat of species listed under federal or State endangered species laws* – A search of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the United States Forest Service Critical Habitat Database found that the North Fork Calaveras River is not critical habitat and does not contain endangered species. Thus, if the SIP procedures for setting effluent limitations are followed, and if the effluent complies with those effluent limitations, then this criterion will be met.

(e) *Shall not produce undesirable or nuisance aquatic life; result in floating debris, oil, or scum; produce objectionable color, odor, taste, or turbidity; cause objectionable bottom deposits; cause nuisance* – The current discharge has not been shown to result in floating debris, oil, or scum; produce objectionable color, odor, taste, or turbidity; cause objectionable bottom deposits; or cause nuisance. This Order requires end-of-pipe limitations for individual constituents and discharge prohibitions to prevent these conditions from occurring, which will ensure continued compliance with these mixing zone requirements. With these requirements the acute and chronic mixing zones will not produce undesirable or nuisance aquatic life, result in floating debris, oil, or scum; produce objectionable color, odor, taste, or turbidity; cause objectionable bottom deposits; or cause nuisance.

(f) *Shall not dominate the receiving water body or overlap a mixing zone from different outfalls* – By complying with SIP-derived effluent limitations, the 20:1 minimum dilution ratio (parts receiving water : part effluent), and receiving water limitations contained in this Order, the Discharger's effluent discharge cannot dominate the North Fork Calaveras River as a matter of fact. Additionally, the maximum mixing zone is a small part of the North Fork Calaveras River water body. There are no other existing or planned outfalls discharging to the North Fork Calaveras River in the vicinity of the outfall. Thus, the mixing zone identified in this study will not overlap a mixing zone from any different outfall.

(g) *Shall not be allowed at or near any drinking water intake* – Compliance with this criterion is satisfied because there are no drinking water intakes on the North Fork Calaveras River at or near the District's effluent discharge point. Additionally, the North Fork Calaveras River does not contain the Basin Plan beneficial use designation MUN.

The acute and chronic aquatic life mixing zone therefore complies with the SIP. The mixing zone also complies with the Basin Plan, which requires that the mixing zone not adversely impact beneficial uses. Beneficial uses will not be adversely affected for the same reasons discussed above. In determining the size of the mixing zone, the Central Valley Water Board considered the procedures and guidelines in the EPA's *Water Quality Standards Handbook*, *2nd Edition* (updated July 2007), Section 5.1, and Section 2.2.2 of the TSD. The SIP incorporates the same guidelines.

v. **Evaluation of Available Dilution for Specific Constituents (Pollutant-by-Pollutant Evaluation).** When determining to allow dilution credits for a specific pollutant, several factors must be considered, such as available assimilative capacity, facility performance, and best practicable treatment or control (BPTC). A pollutant-by-pollutant evaluation of dilution is discussed below:

(a) **Ammonia.** The receiving water contains assimilative capacity for ammonia and acute and chronic aquatic life mixing zones for this constituent meet the mixing zone requirements of the SIP. Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP requires that, "*A mixing zone shall be as small as practicable*.", and Section 1.4.2.2.B requires, "*The RWQCB shall deny or significantly limit a mixing zone and dilution credits as necessary to protect beneficial uses, meet the conditions of this Policy, or comply with other regulatory requirements*." Based on a 20:1 (receiving water to effluent) flow requirement for discharge to the North Fork Calaveras River, the maximum dilution credit that could be allocated to the Discharger for ammonia is 12. However, as discussed in the North Fork Calaveras River Dilution/Mixing Zone Study, a dilution credit of only 6 is necessary to achieve compliance with WQBEL's for ammonia. This represents a mixing zone that is as small as practicable for ammonia and that fully complies with the SIP.

(b) **Cyanide.** The receiving water contains assimilative capacity for cyanide and acute and chronic aquatic life mixing zones for this constituent meet the mixing zone requirements of the SIP. Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP requires that, "*A mixing zone shall be as small as practicable*.", and Section 1.4.2.2.B requires, "*The RWQCB shall deny or significantly limit a mixing zone and dilution credits as necessary to protect beneficial uses, meet the conditions of this Policy, or comply with other regulatory requirements*." Based on a 20:1 (receiving water to effluent) flow requirement for discharge to the North Fork Calaveras River, the maximum dilution credit that could be allocated to the Discharger for cyanide is 12. However, as discussed in the North Fork Calaveras River Dilution/Mixing Zone Study, a dilution credit of only 6 is necessary to achieve compliance with WQBEL's for cyanide. This represents a mixing zone that is as small as practicable for cyanide and that fully complies with the SIP.

(c) **Chronic Toxicity Numeric Trigger.** The current numeric chronic toxicity trigger in Order R5-2014-0104-01 is >4 TUc, which the Discharger was not able to consistently comply with for *Ceriodaphnia dubia* reproduction. Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP requires that, "*A mixing zone shall be as small as practicable*.", and Section 1.4.2.2.B requires, "*The RWQCB shall deny or significantly limit a mixing zone and dilution credits as necessary to protect beneficial uses, meet the conditions of this Policy, or comply with other regulatory requirements*." Based on a 20:1 (receiving water to effluent) flow requirement for discharge to the North Fork Calaveras River, the maximum dilution credit that could be allocated to the Discharger for the numeric chronic toxicity trigger is 12, which is associated with a mixing zone 16-18 feet in length. This represents a mixing zone that is as small as practicable for the Facility and that fully complies with the SIP.

vi. **Regulatory Compliance for Dilution Credits and Mixing Zones**. To fully comply with all applicable laws, regulations and policies of the State, Central Valley Water Board approved a mixing zone and the associated dilution credits shown in Table F-6 based on the following:

(a) Mixing zones are allowed under the SIP provided all elements contained in Section 1.4.2.2 are met. Based on the mixing zone study conducted by the Discharger the Central Valley Water Board has determined that these factors are met.

(b) Section 1.4.2.2.of the SIP requires mixing zones to be as small as practicable. Based on the mixing zone study conducted by the Discharger the Central Valley Water Board has determined the mixing zone is as small as practicable.

(c) In accordance with Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP, the Board has determined the mixing zone is as small as practicable, will not compromise the integrity of the entire water body, restrict the passage of aquatic life, dominate the water body or overlap existing mixing zones from different outfalls. The mixing zone is small (approximately 3 feet downstream of the discharge for ammonia and cyanide and 16-18 feet downstream of the discharge for toxicity) relative to the large size of the receiving water (approximately 1.5 miles), is not at or near a drinking water intake, and does not overlap a mixing zone from a different outfall.

(d) The Central Valley Water Board has determined allowing mixing zones for aquatic life criteria will not cause acutely toxic conditions to aquatic life passing through the mixing zone.

(e) The Central Valley Water Board has determined the discharge will not adversely impact biologically sensitive or critical habitats, including, but not limited to, habitat of species listed under the federal or State endangered species laws, because the mixing zone is relatively small, and acutely toxic conditions will not occur in the mixing zone. The discharge will not produce undesirable or nuisance aquatic life, result in floating debris, oil, or scum, produce objectionable odor, taste, or turbidity, cause objectionable bottom deposits, or cause nuisance, because the proposed Order establishes end-of-pipe effluent limitations (e.g., for BOD_5 and TSS) and discharge prohibitions to prevent these conditions from occurring.

(f) As required by the SIP, in determining the extent of or whether to allow a mixing zone and dilution credit, the Central Valley Water Board has considered the presence of pollutants in the discharge that are carcinogenic, mutagenic, teratogenic, persistent, bioaccumulative, or attractive to aquatic organisms, and concluded that the allowance of the mixing zone and dilution credit is adequately protective of the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

(g) The Central Valley Water Board has determined mixing zone complies with the SIP for priority pollutants.

(h) The mixing zone study indicates the maximum allowed dilution factor to be 12:1 for aquatic life constituents. Section 1.4.2.2B of the SIP, in part states, *"The RWQCB shall deny or significantly limit a mixing zone and dilution credits as necessary to protect beneficial uses, meet the conditions of this Policy, or comply with other regulatory requirements."* The Central Valley Water Board has determined for cyanide a dilution factor of 12:1 is not needed or necessary for the Discharger to achieve compliance with this Order. As discussed above, the dilution credit has been reduced to 6:1 for cyanide.

(i) The Central Valley Water Board has determined the mixing zone complies with the Basin Plan for non-priority pollutants. The Basin Plan requires a mixing zone not adversely impact beneficial uses. Beneficial uses will not be adversely affected for the same reasons discussed above. In determining the size of the mixing zone, the Central Valley Water Board has considered the

procedures and guidelines in Section 5.1 of USEPA's *Water Quality Standards Handbook*, 2nd Edition (updated July 2007) and Section 2.2.2 of the TSD. The SIP incorporates the same guidelines.

(j) The Central Valley Water Board has determined that allowing dilution factors that exceed those proposed by this Order would not comply with the State Anti-degradation Policy for receiving waters outside the allowable mixing zone for cyanide. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 (State Anti-Degradation Policy). The State Anti-Degradation Policy incorporates the federal antidegradation policy and requires that existing quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. Item 2 of the State Anti-Degradation Policy states:

> *"Any activity which produces or may produce a waste or increased volume or concentration of waste and which dischargers or proposed to discharge to existing high quality waters will be required to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that (a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained."*

(k) The effluent limitations established in the Order for ammonia and cyanide that have been adjusted for dilution credits provided in Table F-6 were developed based on performance of the Discharger's current wastewater treatment capabilities. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board determined the effluent limitations required by this Order will result in the Discharger implementing best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that 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 Central Valley Water Board also determined the Discharger will be in immediate compliance with the effluent limitations,

(l) The Central Valley Water Board also determined establishing effluent limitations for ammonia and cyanide that have been adjusted for dilution credits provided in Table F-6 is consistent with Section 1.4.2.2B of the SIP that requires the Central Valley Water Board to shall deny or significantly limit a mixing zone and dilution credits as necessary to comply with other regulatory requirements.

Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board has determined the effluent limitations established in the Order for ammonia and cyanide that have been adjusted for dilution credits provided in Table F-6 are appropriate and necessary to comply with the Basin Plan, SIP, Federal anti-degradation regulations and the State Anti-Degradation Policy.

Table F-6. Minimum North Fork Calaveras River Dilution Ratios

Distance Downstream of Outfall (ft)	Minimum Dilution Ratio (Parts river to 1 part effluent)
3[1]	6.4
16-18[2]	12

1. Mixing zone length for ammonia and cyanide.
2. Mixing zone length for chronic toxicity numeric trigger.

e. **Conversion Factors.** The CTR contains aquatic life criteria for arsenic, cadmium, chromium III, chromium VI, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc which are presented in dissolved concentrations. USEPA recommends conversion factors to translate dissolved concentrations to total concentrations. The default USEPA conversion factors contained in Appendix 3 of the SIP were used to convert the applicable dissolved criteria to total recoverable criteria.

f. **Hardness-Dependent CTR Metals Criteria.** The CTR and the NTR contain water quality criteria for seven metals that vary as a function of hardness. The lower the hardness the lower the water quality criteria. The metals with hardness-dependent criteria include cadmium, copper, chromium III, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc.

This Order has established the criteria for hardness-dependent metals based on the hardness of the receiving water (actual ambient hardness) as required by the SIP[1] and the CTR[2]. The SIP and the CTR require the use of "receiving water" or "actual ambient" hardness, respectively, to determine effluent limitations for these metals. The CTR requires that the hardness values used shall be consistent with the design discharge conditions for design flows and mixing zones[3]. Where design flows for aquatic life criteria include the lowest one-day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (1Q10) and the lowest average seven consecutive day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (7Q10). [4] This section of the CTR also indicates that the design conditions should be established such that the appropriate criteria are not exceeded more than once in a three year period on average.[5] The CTR requires that when mixing zones are allowed the CTR criteria apply at the edge of the mixing zone, otherwise the criteria

1 [1] The SIP does not address how to determine the hardness for application to the equations for the protection of aquatic life when using hardness-dependent metals criteria. It simply states, in Section 1.2, that the criteria shall be properly adjusted for hardness using the hardness of the receiving water.

2 [2] The CTR requires that, for waters with a hardness of 400 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$), or less, the actual ambient hardness of the surface water must be used (40 C.F.R. § 131.38(c)(4)).

3 [3] 40 C.F.R. §131.3(c)(4)(ii)

4 [4] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(iii) Table 4

5 [5] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(iii) Table 4, notes 1 and 2

apply throughout the water body including at the point of discharge.[6] The CTR does not define the term "ambient," as applied in the regulations. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board has considerable discretion to consider upstream and downstream ambient conditions when establishing the appropriate water quality criteria that fully complies with the CTR and SIP.

Summary findings

The ambient hardness for the North Fork Calaveras River is represented by the data in Figure F-1, below, which shows ambient hardness ranging from 46 mg/L to 152 mg/L based on collected ambient data from December 2014 through Januray 2018. Given the high variability in ambient hardness values, there is no single hardness value that describes the ambient receiving water for all possible scenarios (e.g., minimum, maximum). Because of this variability, staff has determined that based on the ambient hardness concentrations measured in the receiving water, the Central Valley Water Board has discretion to select ambient hardness values within the range of 46 mg/L (minimum) up to 152 mg/L (maximum). Staff recommends that the Board use the ambient hardness values shown in Table F-7 for the following reasons.

i. Using the ambient receiving water hardness values shown in Table F-7 will result in criteria and effluent limitations that ensure protection of beneficial uses under all ambient receiving water conditions.

ii. The Water Code mandates that the Central Valley Water Board establish permit terms that will ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses. In this case, using the lowest measured ambient hardness to calculate effluent limitations is not required to protect beneficial uses. Calculating effluent limitations based on the lowest measured ambient hardness is not required by the CTR or SIP, and is not reasonable as it would result in overly conservative limits that will impart substantial costs to the Discharger and ratepayers without providing any additional protection of beneficial uses. In compliance with applicable state and federal regulatory requirements, after considering the entire range of ambient hardness values, Board staff has used the ambient hardness values shown in Table F-6 to calculate the proposed effluent limitations for hardness-dependent metals. The proposed effluent limitations are protective of beneficial uses under all flow conditions.

iii. Using an ambient hardness that is higher than the minimum of 34 mg/L will result in limits that may allow increased metals to be discharged to the river, but such discharge is allowed under the State Antidegradation Policy (State Water Board Resolution 68-16). The Central Valley Water Board finds that this degradation is consistent with the antidegradation policy (see antidegradation findings in Section IV.D.4 of the Fact Sheet). The Antidegradation policy requires the Discharger to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that: a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur, and b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained.

[6] [6] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(i)

iv. Using the ambient hardness values shown in Table F-6 is consistent with the CTR and SIP's requirements for developing metals criteria.

Table F-7. Summary of CTR Criteria for Hardness-dependent Metals

CTR Metals	Ambient Hardness (mg/L)[2,3]	CTR Criteria (µg/L, total recoverable)[1]	
		acute	chronic
Copper	50	7.3	5.2
Chromium III	50	984	117
Cadmium	50 (acute) 50(chronic)	2.1	1.4
Lead	50	34	1.3
Nickel	50	261	29
Silver	50	1.2	--
Zinc	50	67	67

[1] Metal criteria rounded to two significant figures in accordance with the CTR (40 C.F.R. §131.38(b)(2)).
[2] The ambient hardness values in this table represent actual observed receiving water hardness measurements from the dataset shown in Figure F-1.
[3] The CTR's hardness dependent metals criteria equations vary differently depending on the metal, which results in differences in the range of ambient hardness values that may be used to develop effluent limitations that are protective of beneficial uses and comply with CTR criteria for all ambient flow conditions.

Background

The State Water Board provided direction regarding the selection of hardness in two precedential water quality orders; WQO 2008-0008 for the City of Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant (Davis Order) and WQO 2004-0013 for the Yuba City Wastewater Treatment Plant (Yuba City Order). The State Water Board recognized that the SIP and the CTR do not discuss the manner in which hardness is to be ascertained, thus regional water boards have considerable discretion in determining ambient hardness so long as the selected value is protective of water quality criteria under the given flow conditions. (Davis Order, p.10). The State Water Board explained that it is necessary that, "The [hardness] value selected should provide protection for all times of discharge under varying hardness conditions." (Yuba City Order, p. 8). The Davis Order also provides that, "Regardless of the hardness used, the resulting limits must always be protective of water quality criteria under all flow conditions." (Davis Order, p. 11)

The equation describing the total recoverable regulatory criterion, as established in the CTR, is as follows:

CTR Criterion = WER x ($e^{m[\ln(H)]+b}$) (Equation 1)

Where:

H = ambient hardness (as $CaCO_3$) [7]

WER = water-effect ratio

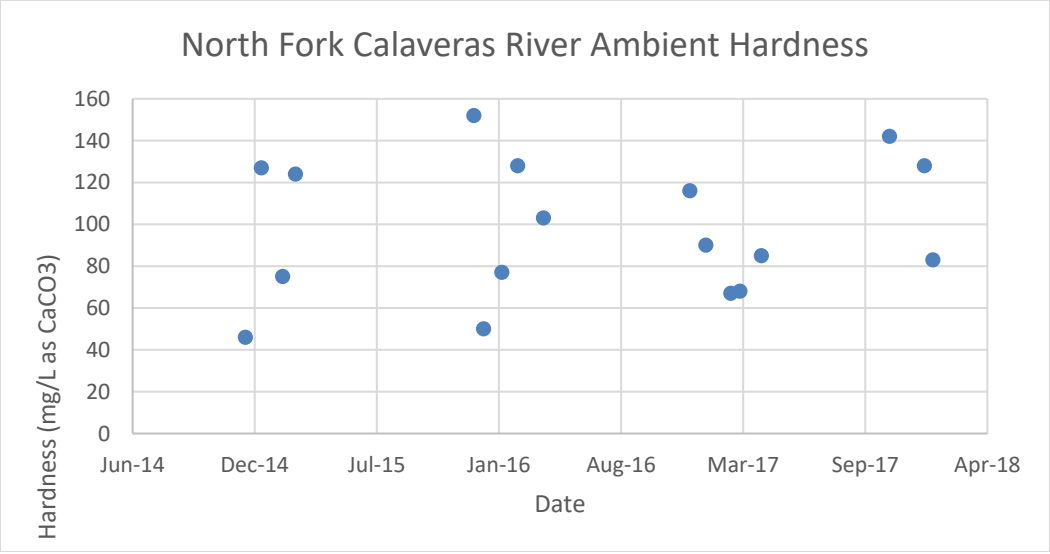
m, b = metal- and criterion-specific constants

The direction in the CTR regarding hardness selection is that it must be based on ambient hardness and consistent with design discharge conditions for design flows and mixing zones. Consistent with design discharge conditions and design flows means that the selected "design" hardness must result in effluent limitations under design discharge conditions that do not result in more than one exceedance of the applicable criteria in a three year period.[8] Where design flows for aquatic life criteria include the lowest one-day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (1Q10) and the lowest average seven consecutive day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (7Q10). The 1Q10 and 7Q10 North Fork Calaveras River flows are 4.8 cfs and 5.4 cfs, respectively.

Ambient conditions

The ambient receiving water hardness varied from 46 mg/L to 152 mg/L, based on 17 samples from December 2014 through January 2018 (see Figure F-1).

Figure F-1. Observed Ambient Hardness Concentrations December 2014 – January 2018



[7] For this discussion, all hardness values are expressed in mg/L as $CaCO_3$.

[8] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(iii) Table 4, notes 1 and 2

In this analysis, the entire range of ambient hardness concentrations shown in Figure F-X were considered to determine the appropriate ambient hardness to calculate the CTR criteria and effluent limitations that are protective under all discharge conditions.

Approach to derivation of criteria

As shown above, ambient hardness varies substantially. Because of the variation, there is no single hardness value that describes the ambient receiving water for all possible scenarios (e.g., minimum, maximum, mid-point). While the hardness selected must be hardness of the ambient receiving water, selection of an ambient receiving water hardness that is too high would result in effluent limitations that do not protect beneficial uses. Also, the use of minimum ambient hardness would result in criteria that are protective of beneficial uses, but such criteria may not be representative considering the wide range of ambient conditions.

Reasonable worst-case ambient conditions. To determine whether a selected ambient hardness value results in effluent limitations that are fully protective while complying with federal regulations and state policy, staff have conducted an analysis considering varying ambient hardness and flow conditions. To do this, the Central Valley Water Board has ensured that the receiving water hardness and criteria selected for effluent limitations are protective under "reasonable-worst case ambient conditions." These conditions represent the receiving water conditions under which derived effluent limitations would ensure protection of beneficial uses under all ambient flow and hardness conditions.

Reasonable worst-case ambient conditions:

- "Low receiving water flow." CTR design discharge conditions (1Q10 and 7Q10) have been selected to represent reasonable worst case receiving water flow conditions.

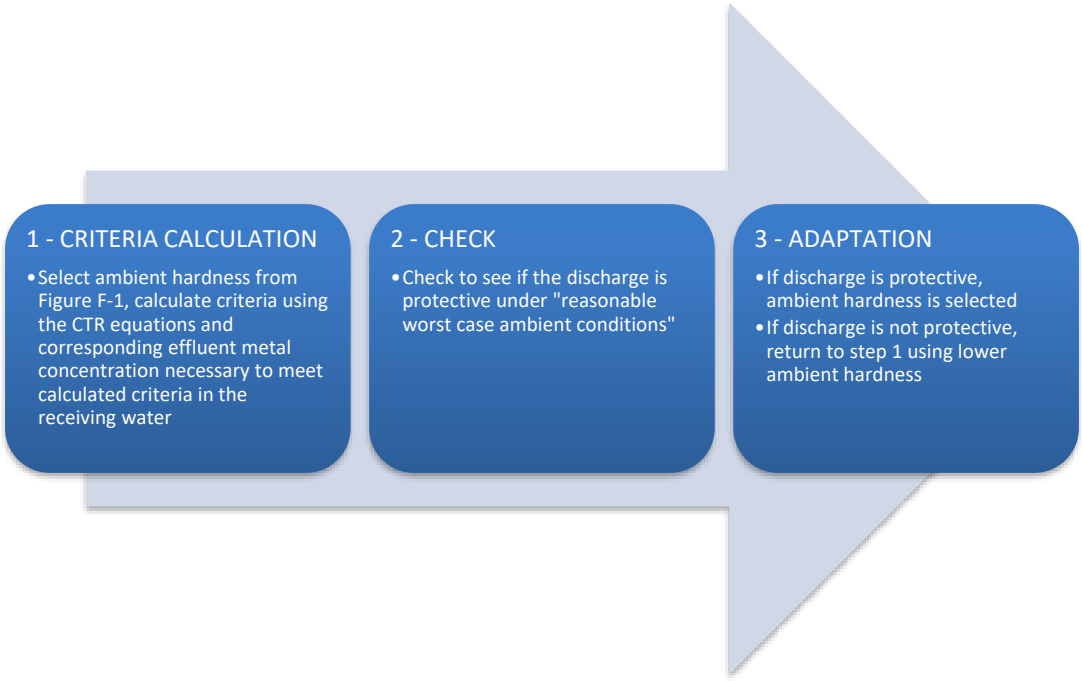
- "High receiving water flow (maximum receiving water flow)." This additional flow condition has been selected consistent with the Davis Order, which required that the hardness selected be protective of water quality criteria under all flow conditions.

- "Low receiving water hardness." The minimum receiving water hardness condition of 34 mg/L was selected to represent the reasonable worst case receiving water hardness.

- "Background ambient metal concentration at criteria." This condition assumes that the metal concentration in the background receiving water is equal to CTR criteria (upstream of the facility's discharge). Based on data in the record, this is a design condition that has not occurred in the receiving water and is used in this analysis to ensure that limits are protective of beneficial uses even in the situation where there is no assimilative capacity.

Iterative approach. An iterative analysis has been used to select the ambient hardness to calculate the criteria that will result in effluent limitations that protect beneficial uses under all flow conditions.

The iterative approach is summarized in the following algorithm and described below in more detail.



1. CRITERIA CALCULATION. CTR criteria are calculated using the CTR equations based on actual measured ambient hardness sample results, starting with the maximum observed ambient hardness of 152 mg/L. Effluent metal concentrations necessary to meet the above calculated CTR criteria in the receiving water are calculated in accordance with the SIP.[9] This should not be confused with an effluent limit. Rather, it is the Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA), which is synonymous with the wasteload allocation defined by USEPA as "a definition of effluent water quality that is necessary to meet the water quality standards in the receiving water."[10] If effluent limits are found to be needed, the limits are calculated to enforce the ECA considering effluent variability and the probability basis of the limit.

2. CHECK. USEPA's simple mass balance equation[11] is used to evaluate if discharge at the computed ECA is protective. Resultant downstream metal concentrations are compared with downstream calculated CTR criteria under reasonable worst-case ambient conditions.

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9 [9] SIP Section 1.4.B, Step 2, provides direction for calculating the Effluent Concentration Allowance.

10 [10] U.S. EPA Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (TSD), pg. 96.

11 [11] U.S. EPA NPDES Permit Writers' Handbook (EPA 833-K-10-001 September 2010, pg. 6-24)

3. ADAPT. If step 2 results in:

   (A) receiving water metal concentration that complies with CTR criteria under reasonable worst-case ambient conditions, then the hardness value is selected.

   (B) receiving water metal concentration greater than CTR criteria, then return to bullet 1, selecting a lower ambient hardness value.

The CTR's hardness dependent metals criteria equations contain metal-specific constants, so the criteria vary depending on the metal. Therefore, steps 1 through 3 must be repeated separately for each metal until ambient hardness values are determined that will result in criteria and effluent limitations that comply with the CTR and protect beneficial uses for all metals.

Results of iterative analysis

The above iterative analysis for each CTR hardness-dependent metal results in the selected ambient hardness values shown in Table F-7, above. Using these hardness values to calculate criteria, which are actual sample results collected in the receiving water, will result in effluent limitations that are protective under all ambient flow conditions. Zinc and silver are used as examples below to illustrate the results of the analysis. Tables F-8 and F-9 below summarize the numeric results of the three-step iterative approach for zinc and silver. As shown in the example tables, ambient hardness values of 50 mg/L (zinc and silver) are used in the CTR equations to derive criteria and effluent limitations. Then under the "check" step, worst-case ambient receiving water conditions are used to test whether discharge results in compliance with CTR criteria and protection of beneficial uses.

The results of the above analysis, summarized in the tables below, show that the ambient hardness values selected using the three-step iterative process results in protective effluent limitations that achieve CTR criteria under all flow conditions. Tables F-8 and F-9 below, summarize the critical flow conditions. However, the analysis evaluated all flow conditions to ensure compliance with the CTR criteria at all times.

Table F-8. Verification of CTR Compliance for Zinc

Receiving water hardness used to compute effluent limitations				**50 mg/L**
Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA) for Zinc[2]				**66.6 µg/L**
	Downstream Ambient Concentrations Under Worst-Case Ambient Receiving Water Conditions			**Complies with CTR Criteria?**
	Hardness	**CTR Criteria (µg/L)**	**Ambient Copper Concentration[1] (µg/L)**	
1Q10	48.3	64.7	63.5	**Yes**
7Q10	48.1	64.5	63.4	**Yes**
Max receiving water flow	46.1	62.2	62.1	**Yes**

[1] This concentration is derived using worst-case ambient conditions. These conservative assumptions will ensure that the receiving water always complies with CTR criteria.

[2] The ECA defines effluent quality necessary to meet the CTR criteria in the receiving water. There is no effluent limitation for zinc as it demonstrates no reasonable potential.

Table F-9. Verification of CTR Compliance for Silver

Receiving water hardness used to compute effluent limitations				**50 mg/L**
Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA) for Silver[2]				**1.23 µg/L**
	Downstream Ambient Concentrations Under Worst-Case Ambient Receiving Water Conditions			**Complies with CTR Criteria?**
	Hardness	**CTR Criteria (µg/L)**	**Ambient Silver Concentration[1] (µg/L)**	
1Q10	48.3	1.2	1.1	**Yes**
7Q10	48.1	1.2	1.1	**Yes**
Max receiving water flow	46.1	1.1	1.1	**Yes**

[1] This concentration is derived using worst-case ambient conditions. These conservative assumptions will ensure that the receiving water always complies with CTR criteria.

[2] The ECA defines effluent quality necessary to meet the CTR criteria in the receiving water. There is no effluent limitation for silver as it demonstrates no reasonable potential.

3. Determining the Need for WQBEL's

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R 122.44(d)(1)(i) state, "Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level that will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality." The process to determine whether a WQBEL is required is referred to as a reasonable potential analysis or RPA. Central Valley Water Board staff conducted RPA's for nearly 200 constituents, including the 126 USEPA priority toxic pollutants. This section includes details of the RPA's for constituents of concern for the Facility. The entire RPA is included in the administrative record and a summary of the constituents of concern is provided in Attachment G. For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. For non-priority pollutants the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method, therefore, the RPA's have been conducted based on EPA guidance considering multiple lines of evidence and the site-specific conditions of the discharge.

a. **Constituents with No Reasonable Potential.** Central Valley Water Board staff conducted reasonable potential analyses for nearly 200 constituents, including the 126 USEPA priority toxic pollutants. All reasonable potential analyses are included in the administrative record and a summary of the constituents of concern is provided in Attachment G. WQBEL's are not included in this Order for constituents that do not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an instream excursion of an applicable water quality objective; however, monitoring for those pollutants is established in this Order as required by the SIP. If the results of effluent monitoring demonstrate reasonable potential, this Order may be reopened and modified by adding an appropriate effluent limitation.

   Most constituents with no reasonable potential are not discussed in this Order. This section only provides the rationale for the reasonable potential analyses for the

following constituents of concern that were found to have no reasonable potential after assessment of the data:

i. **Copper**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes hardness dependent criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for copper. These criteria for copper are presented in dissolved concentrations, as 1-hour acute criteria and 4-day chronic criteria. USEPA recommends conversion factors to translate dissolved concentrations to total concentrations. Default USEPA translators were used for the receiving water and effluent.

(b) **RPA Results.** Section IV.C.2.e of this Fact Sheet includes procedures for conducting the RPA for hardness-dependent CTR metals, such as copper. The CTR includes hardness-dependent criteria for copper for the receiving water. The RPA was conducted using the upstream receiving water hardness to calculate the criteria for comparison to the maximum ambient background concentration, and likewise using the reasonable worst-case downstream hardness to compare the MEC. The Discharger submitted a Copper Water Effects Ratio (WER) study along with their Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) in August 2013 that calculated a site specific WER of 7.55 that is applicable to the effluent. The table below shows the specific total recoverable criteria used for the RPA.

Table F-10. Total Recoverable Copper RPA

	CTR Chronic Criteria[1]	CTR Acute Criteria[1]	Maximum Concentration	Reasonable Potential? (Y/N)
Effluent	40 µg/L	55 µg/L	17 µg/L	No

[3] A Water Effects Ratio of 7.55 has been applied in order to calculate the effluent copper criteria.

Based on the available data, copper in the discharge does not have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life and the effluent limitations for copper are not included in this Order.

ii. **Salinity**

(a) **WQO.** Chloride, electrical conductivity (EC), total dissolved solids, and sulfate are all forms of salinity. There are no water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, and sulfate. The USEPA NAWQC criteria for chloride are 230 mg/L as a 4-day average and 860 mg/L as a 1-hour average.

(b) **RPA Results.**

(1) **Chloride.** There was one effluent result for chloride of 37 mg/L from the Discharger's effluent characterization sampling. These levels do not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion from the USEPA NAWQC for chloride.

(2) **Electrical Conductivity.** Not applicable

(3) **Sulfate.** Not applicable.

(4) **Total Dissolved Solids.** Not applicable.

Based on the relatively low reported salinity, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion of water quality objectives for salinity. However, since the Discharger discharges to the North Fork Calaveras River, a tributary of the New Hogan Reservoir and eventually the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, of additional concern is the salt contribution to Delta waters. Allowing the Discharger to increase its current salt loading may be contrary to the Region-wide effort to address salinity in the Central Valley. Therefore, this Order includes a requirement to continue to implement a salinity evaluation and minimization plan and a performance-based effluent trigger of 700 µmhos/cm for EC to be applied as an annual average that if exceeded requires the Discharger to update its salinity evaluation and minimization plan. This performance-based effluent trigger represents the maximum annual average effluent EC concentration using data from 1 December 2014 through 31 January 2018. The maximum annual average of 667 µmhos/cm occurred during 2015.

b. **Constituents with Reasonable Potential.** The Central Valley Water Board finds that the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above a water quality standard for ammonia, chlorine residual, cyanide, pathogens, and pH. WQBEL's for these constituents are included in this Order. A summary of the RPA is provided in Attachment G, and a detailed discussion of the RPA for each constituent is provided below.

i. **Ammonia**

(a) **WQO.** The 1999 USEPA National Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia (the "1999 Criteria"), recommends acute (1-hour average; criteria maximum concentration or CMC) standards based on pH and chronic (30-day average; criteria continuous concentration or CCC) standards based on pH and temperature. USEPA also recommends that no 4-day average concentration should exceed 2.5 times the 30-day CCC.

The USEPA recently published national recommended water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life from the toxic effects of ammonia in freshwater (the "2013 Criteria")[12]. The 2013 Criteria is an update to USEPA's 1999 Criteria, and varies based on pH and temperature. Although the 2013 Criteria reflects the latest scientific knowledge on the toxicity of ammonia to certain freshwater aquatic life, including new toxicity data on sensitive freshwater mussels in the Family Unionidae, the species tested for development of the 2013 Criteria may not be present in some Central Valley waterways. The 2013 Criteria document therefore states that, "*unionid mussel species are not prevalent in some waters, such as the arid west …*" and provides that, "*In the case of ammonia, where a state demonstrates that mussels are not present on a site-specific basis, the recalculation procedure*

[12] Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Ammonia – Freshwater, published August 2013 [EPA 822-R-13-001]

may be used to remove the mussel species from the national criteria dataset to better represent the species present at the site."

The Central Valley Water Board issued a 3 April 2014 *California Water Code Section 13267 Order for Information: 2013 Final Ammonia Criteria for Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life* (13267 Order) requiring the Discharger to either participate in an individual or group study to determine the presence of mussels or submit a method of compliance for complying with effluent limitations calculated assuming mussels present using the 2013 Criteria. The Discharger submitted a letter to the Central Valley Water Board indicating their participation in the Central Valley Clean Water Association Freshwater Collaborative Mussel Study. Studies are currently underway to determine how the latest scientific knowledge on the toxicity of ammonia reflected in the 2013 Criteria can be implemented in the Central Valley Region as part of a Basin Planning effort to adopt nutrient and ammonia objectives. Until the Basin Planning process is completed, the Central Valley Water Board will continue to implement the 1999 Criteria to interpret the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. The 1999 NAWQC for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia, recommends acute (1-hour average; criteria maximum concentration or CMC) standards based on pH and chronic (30-day average; criteria continuous concentration or CCC) standards based on pH and temperature. USEPA also recommends that no 4-day average concentration should exceed 2.5 times the 30-day CCC. USEPA found that as pH increased, both the acute and chronic toxicity of ammonia increased. Salmonids were more sensitive to acute toxicity effects than other species. However, while the acute toxicity of ammonia was not influenced by temperature, it was found that invertebrates and young fish experienced increasing chronic toxicity effects with increasing temperature. Because the North Fork Calaveras River has a beneficial use of cold freshwater habitat and the presence of salmonids and early fish life stages in the North Fork Calaveras River is well-documented, the recommended criteria for waters where salmonids and early life stages are present were used.

The maximum permitted effluent pH is 8.5, as the Basin Plan objective for pH in the receiving stream is the range of 6.5 to 8.5. In order to protect against the worst-case short-term exposure of an organism, a pH value of 8.5 was used to derive the acute criterion. The resulting acute criterion is 2.14 mg/L.

(b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that is harmful to aquatic life and exceed the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective. Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Ammonia is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used

professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" USEPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data." With regard to POTW's, USEPA recommends that, "*POTW's should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and ammonia problems.*" (TSD, p. 50)

Nitrification is a biological process that converts ammonia to nitrite and nitrite to nitrate. Denitrification is a process that converts nitrate to nitrite or nitric oxide and then to nitrous oxide or nitrogen gas, which is then released to the atmosphere. The Discharger currently uses nitrification to remove ammonia from the waste stream. Inadequate or incomplete nitrification may result in the discharge of ammonia to the receiving stream. Ammonia is known to cause toxicity to aquatic organisms in surface waters. Discharges of ammonia in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life would violate the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. Although the Discharger nitrifies the discharge, inadequate or incomplete nitrification creates the potential for ammonia to be discharged and provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the NAWQC. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for ammonia and WQBEL's are required.

(c) **WQBEL's.** The Central Valley Water Board calculates WQBEL's in accordance with SIP procedures for non-CTR constituents, and ammonia is a non-CTR constituent. The SIP procedure assumes a 4-day averaging period for calculating the long-term average discharge condition (LTA). However, USEPA recommends modifying the procedure for calculating permit limits for ammonia using a 30-day averaging period for the calculation of the LTA corresponding to the 30-day CCC. Therefore, while the LTAs corresponding to the acute and 4-day chronic criteria were calculated according to SIP procedures, the LTA corresponding to the 30-day CCC was calculated assuming a 30-day averaging period. The lowest LTA representing the acute, 4-day CCC, and 30-day CCC is then selected for deriving the average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) and the average weekly effluent limitation (AWEL). The remainder of the WQBEL calculation for ammonia was performed according to the SIP procedures. The receiving water contains

assimilative capacity for ammonia, therefore, as discussed further in Section IV.C.2.d of this Fact Sheet, a dilution credit of 6 was allowed in the development of the WQBEL's for ammonia. This Order contains a final AMEL and AWEL for ammonia of 5.1 mg/L and 11.0 mg/L, respectively, based on the NAWQC (chronic criterion).

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Since September 2016, the MEC for ammonia in the effluent was 3.2 mg/L out of 61 samples. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

ii. **Chlorine Residual**

(a) **WQO.** USEPA developed NAWQC for protection of freshwater aquatic life for chlorine residual. The recommended 4-day average (chronic) and 1-hour average (acute) criteria for chlorine residual are 0.011 mg/L and 0.019 mg/L, respectively. These criteria are protective of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

(b) **RPA Results.** The concentrations of chlorine used to disinfect wastewater are high enough to harm aquatic life and violate the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective if discharged to the receiving water. Reasonable potential therefore does exist and effluent limits are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Chlorine is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" USEPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" With regard to POTW's, USEPA recommends that, "*POTW's should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and*

ammonia problems." (TSD, p. 50)

The Discharger uses chlorine for disinfection, which is extremely toxic to aquatic organisms. Although the Discharger uses a sulfur dioxide process to dechlorinate the effluent prior to discharge to the North Fork Calaveras River the existing chlorine use and the potential for chlorine to be discharged provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the NAWQC.

(c) **WQBEL's.** The USEPA *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control* [EPA/505/2-90-001] contains statistical methods for converting chronic (4-day) and acute (1-hour) aquatic life criteria to average monthly and maximum daily effluent limitations based on the variability of the existing data and the expected frequency of monitoring. However, because chlorine is an acutely toxic constituent that can and will be monitored continuously, an average 1-hour limitation is considered more appropriate than an average daily limitation. This Order contains a 4-day average effluent limitation and 1-hour average effluent limitation for chlorine residual of 0.011 mg/L and 0.019 mg/L, respectively, based on USEPA's NAWQC, which implements the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective for protection of aquatic life.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the continued positive presence of declorination agents indicate that chlorine residual is less than the applicable WQBELs . The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

iii. **Cyanide**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes maximum 1-hour average and 4-day average cyanide criteria of 22 µg/L and 5.2µg/L, respectively, for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for cyanide was 12 µg/L, based on 44 samples collected between December 2014 and January 2018. Therefore, the discharge exhibits reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion from the CTR criteria for the protection of aquatic life for cyanide.

(c) **WQBEL's.** The receiving water contains assimilative capacity for cyanide, therefore, as discussed further in Section IV.C.2.d of this Fact Sheet, a dilution credit of 6 was allowed in the development of the WQBEL's for cyanide. This Order contains a final MDEL and AMEL for cyanide of 47 µg/L and 24 µg/L, respectively, based on CTR criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the MEC of 12 µg/L is less than applicable WQBEL's. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

iv. **Pathogens**

(a) **WQO.** In a letter to the Central Valley Water Board dated 8 April 1999, DDW indicated it would consider wastewater discharged to water bodies with identified beneficial uses of irrigation or contact recreation and where the

wastewater receives dilution of more than 20:1 to be adequately disinfected if the effluent coliform concentration does not exceed 23 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median and if the effluent coliform concentration does not exceed 240 MPN/100 mL more than once in any 30 day period.

(b) **RPA Results.** Body contact water recreation is a beneficial use of the North Fork Calaveras River. Discharge Prohibition III.C, found in the Waste Discharge Requirements section of this Order, prohibit discharge form the Facility to the North Fork Calaveras River if 20:1 dilution is not achieved. Therefore, the DDW requirements are applicable to the discharge.

(c) **WQBEL's.** Pursuant to guidance from DDW, this Order includes effluent limitations for total coliform organisms of 23 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median and 240 MPN/100 mL, not to be exceeded more than once in a 30-day period. These coliform limits are imposed to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water, including public health through contact recreation and drinking water pathways.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the MEC of 79 MPN/100 mL is less than the applicable 30-day maximum but is greater than the applicable 7-day median. However, this concentration of pathogens is not typical of the discharge and only one sample was taken during the surrounding 7- day period. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

v. **pH**

(a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for surface waters (except for Goose Lake) that the *"…pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5.*"

(b) **RPA Results.** Raw domestic wastewater inherently has variable pH. Additionally, some wastewater treatment processes can increase or decrease wastewater pH which if not properly controlled, would violate the Basin Plan's numeric objective for pH in the receiving water. Therefore, reasonable potential exists for pH and WQBEL's are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. pH is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent*

monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters)." USEPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" (TSD, p. 50)

The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Although the Discharger has proper pH controls in place, the pH for the Facility's influent varies due to the nature of municipal sewage, which provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Basin Plan's numeric objective for pH in the receiving water. Therefore, WQBEL's for pH are required in this Order.

(c) **WQBEL's.** Effluent limitations for pH of 6.5 as an instantaneous minimum and 8.5 as an instantaneous maximum are included in this Order based on protection of the Basin Plan objectives for pH.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Based on 402 samples taken from December 2010 4 to January 2018, the maximum pH reported was 8.0 and the minimum was 6.6. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible

4. WQBEL Calculations

a. This Order includes WQBEL's for ammonia, chlorine residual, cyanide, pathogens, pH, and salinity. The general methodology for calculating WQBEL's based on the different criteria/objectives is described in subsections IV.C.5.b through e, below. See Attachment H for the WQBEL calculations.

b. **Effluent Concentration Allowance.** For each water quality criterion/objective, the ECA is calculated using the following steady-state mass balance equation from Section 1.4 of the SIP:

$$ECA = C + D(C - B) \quad \text{where } C>B, \text{ and}$$
$$ECA = C \quad \text{where } C \leq B$$

where:

ECA = effluent concentration allowance
D = dilution credit
C = the priority pollutant criterion/objective
B = the ambient background concentration.

According to the SIP, the ambient background concentration (B) in the equation above shall be the observed maximum with the exception that an ECA calculated

from a priority pollutant criterion/objective that is intended to protect human health from carcinogenic effects shall use the arithmetic mean concentration of the ambient background samples.

c. **Primary and Secondary MCLs.** For non-priority pollutants with primary MCL's to protect human health (e.g., nitrate plus nitrite), the AMEL is set equal to the primary MCL and the AWEL is calculated using the AWEL/AMEL multiplier, where the AWEL multiplier is based on a 98th percentile occurrence probability and the AMEL multiplier is from Table 2 of the SIP.

For non-priority pollutants with secondary MCL's that protect public welfare (e.g., taste, odor, and staining), WQBEL's were calculated by setting the LTA equal to the secondary MCL and using the AMEL multiplier to set the AMEL. The AWEL was calculated using the MDEL/AMEL multiplier from Table 2 of the SIP.

d. **Aquatic Toxicity Criteria.** For priority pollutants with acute and chronic aquatic toxicity criteria, the WQBEL's are calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The ECAs are converted to equivalent long-term averages (i.e. LTAacute and LTAchronic) using statistical multipliers and the lowest LTA is used to calculate the AMEL and MDEL using additional statistical multipliers. For non-priority pollutants, WQBEL's are calculated using similar procedures, except that an AWEL is determined utilizing multipliers based on a 98th percentile occurrence probability.

e. **Human Health Criteria.** For priority pollutants with human health criteria, the WQBEL's are calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The AMEL is set equal to the ECA and the MDEL is calculated using the MDEL/AMEL multiplier from Table 2 of the SIP. For non-priority pollutants with human health criteria, WQBEL's are calculated using similar procedures, except that an AWEL is established using the MDEL/AMEL multiplier from Table 2 of the SIP.

Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point No.001

Table F-11. Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Conventional Pollutants						
pH	Standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5
Priority Pollutants						
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	24	--	47	--	--
Non-Conventional Pollutants						
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	5.1	11.0	--	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	64	140	--	--	--
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	--	0.011[2]	0.019[3]	--	--

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	--	23[4]	240[5]	--	--

1 Based upon a permitted flow of 1.5 MGD.
2 Applied as a 4-day average effluent limitation.
3 Applied as a 1-hour average effluent limitation.
4 Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.
5 Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.

5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct whole effluent toxicity testing for acute and chronic toxicity, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E section V.). This Order also contains effluent limitations for acute and chronic toxicity and requires the Discharger to implement best management practices to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity.

a. **Acute Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00) The Basin Plan also states that, *"…effluent limits based upon acute biotoxicity tests of effluents will be prescribed where appropriate…*".

For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Acute toxicity is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Acute whole effluent toxicity is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA. USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" Although the discharge has been consistently in compliance with the acute effluent limitations, the Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater containing ammonia and other acutely toxic pollutants. Acute toxicity effluent limits are required to ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

USEPA Region 9 provided guidance for the development of acute toxicity effluent limitations in the absence of numeric water quality objectives for toxicity in its document titled "Guidance for NPDES Permit Issuance", dated February 1994. In section B.2. "Toxicity Requirements" (pgs. 14-15) it states that, "*In the absence of specific numeric water quality objectives for acute and chronic toxicity, the narrative criterion 'no toxics in toxic amounts' applies. Achievement of the narrative criterion, as applied herein, means that ambient waters shall not demonstrate for acute*

toxicity: 1) less than 90% survival, 50% of the time, based on the monthly median, or 2) less than 70% survival, 10% of the time, based on any monthly median. For chronic toxicity, ambient waters shall not demonstrate a test result of greater than 1 TUc." Accordingly, effluent limitations for acute toxicity have been included in this Order as follows:

Acute Toxicity. Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than:

Minimum for any one bioassay	70%
Median for any three consecutive bioassays	90%

b. **Chronic Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00) The table below is chronic WET testing performed by the Discharger from December 2014 through January 2018. This data was used to determine if the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

Table F-12. Whole Effluent Chronic Toxicity Testing Results

Date	**Fathead Minnow** *Pimephales promelas*		**Water Flea** *Ceriodaphnia dubia*		**Green Algae** *Selenastrum capricornutum*
	Survival (TUc)	Growth (TUc)	Survival (TUc)	Reproduction (TUc)	Growth (TUc)
12/16/2014	--	--	≤4	≤4	--
12/30/2014	--	--	≤4	≤4	--
1/6/2015	≤4	≤4	≤4	≤4	≤4
2/8/2016	≤4	≤4	≤4	**>4**	--
3/2/2016	--	--	≤4	≤4	--
3/21/2016	--	--	≤4	≤4	--
4/18/2016	--	--	≤4	≤4	--
5/2/2016	--	--	≤4	≤4	--
2/13/2017	≤4	≤4	≤4	**>4**	≤4

i. **RPA.** A dilution ratio of 12:1 is available for chronic whole effluent toxicity. Chronic toxicity testing results exceeding 12 chronic toxicity units (TUc) (as 100/NOEC) demonstrates the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. Based on chronic toxicity testing conducted between December 2014 and February 2017 the maximum chronic toxicity result was >4 TUc on 8 February 2016, therefore, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an instream exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

D. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations

1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations

40 C.F.R section 122.45(f)(1) requires effluent limitations be expressed in terms of mass, with some exceptions, and 40 C.F.R. section 122.45(f)(2) allows pollutants that

are limited in terms of mass to additionally be limited in terms of other units of measurement. This Order includes effluent limitations expressed in terms of mass and concentration. In addition, pursuant to the exceptions to mass limitations provided in 40 CF.R. section 122.45(f)(1), some effluent limitations are not expressed in terms of mass, such as pH and temperature, and when the applicable standards are expressed in terms of concentration (e.g., CTR criteria and MCL's) and mass limitations are not necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

Mass-based effluent limitations were calculated based upon the design flow (Average Dry Weather Flow) permitted in section IV.A.1.f of this Order.

2. Averaging Periods for Effluent Limitations

40 C.F.R. section 122.45 (d) requires average weekly and average monthly discharge limitations for POTW's unless impracticable. For cyanide, average weekly effluent limitations have been replaced with maximum daily effluent limitations in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. Furthermore, for total residual chlorine and pH, weekly average effluent limitations have been replaced or supplemented with effluent limitations utilizing shorter averaging periods. The rationale for using shorter averaging periods for these constituents is discussed in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

3. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements

The effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order, with the exception of effluent limitations for ammonia, BOD_5, TSS, electrical conductivity, and cyanide. The effluent limitations for these pollutants are less stringent than those in Order R5-2014-0104-01. This relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and federal regulations.

a. **CWA section 402(o)(1) and 303(d)(4).** CWA section 402(o)(1) prohibits the establishment of less stringent water quality-based effluent limits "*except in compliance with Section 303(d)(4).*" CWA section 303(d)(4) has two parts: paragraph (A) which applies to nonattainment waters and paragraph (B) which applies to attainment waters.

   i. For waters where standards are not attained, CWA section 303(d)(4)(A) specifies that any effluent limit based on a TMDL or other WLA may be revised only if the cumulative effect of all such revised effluent limits based on such TMDL's or WLAs will assure the attainment of such water quality standards.

   ii. For attainment waters, CWA section 303(d)(4)(B) specifies that a limitation based on a water quality standard may be relaxed where the action is consistent with the antidegradation policy.

   The North Fork Calaveras River is considered an attainment water for ammonia, BOD_5, TSS, electrical conductivity, and cyanide because the receiving water is not listed as impaired on the 303(d) list for these constituents.[13] As discussed in section IV.D.4, below, relaxation of the effluent limits complies with federal and state

[12] [13] "The exceptions in Section 303(d)(4) address both waters in attainment with water quality standards and those not in attainment, i.e. waters on the section 303(d) impaired waters list." State Water Board Order WQ 2008-0006, Berry Petroleum Company, Poso Creek/McVan Facility.

antidegradation requirements. Thus, relaxation of the effluent limitations for ammonia, BOD_5, TSS, electrical conductivity, and cyanide from Order R5-2014-0104-01 meets the exception in CWA section 303(d)(4)(B).

b. **CWA section 402(o)(2).** CWA section 402(o)(2) provides several exceptions to the anti-backsliding regulations. CWA 402(o)(2)(B)(i) allows a renewed, reissued, or modified permit to contain a less stringent effluent limitation for a pollutant if information is available which was not available at the time of permit issuance (other than revised regulations, guidance, or test methods) and which would have justified the application of a less stringent effluent limitation at the time of permit issuance.

As described further in section IV.C.3.b of this Fact Sheet, updated information that was not available at the time Order R5-2014-0104-01 was issued indicates that that less stringent effluent limitations for ammonia satisfy requirements in CWA section 402(o)(2). Additionally, updated information that was not available at the time Order R5-2014-0104-01 was issued indicates that less stringent effluent limitations for cyanide based on available dilution credits satisfy requirements in CWA section 402(o)(2). The updated information that supports the relaxation of effluent limitations for these constituents includes the following:

i. **Cyanide.** Based on the North Fork Calaveras River Dilution/Mixing Zone Study submitted to the Central Valley Water Board in January 2018, a mixing zone and dilution credit of 6:1 is applicable and the receiving water contains assimilative capacity for cyanide, as discussed in section IV.C.2.d of this Fact Sheet. Therefore, this Order includes less stringent effluent limitations for cyanide based on the performance of the Facility and the available dilution.

ii. **Ammonia.** Order R5-2014-0104-01 includes ammonia limits based on the 2013 NAWQC for ammonia with mussels absent. The 2013 acute criterion is based on pH and temperature. Paired effluent pH and temperature data were used for calculation of acute criterion. Current effluent limits for ammonia have been calculated 1999 NAWQC to be consistent with other facilities while the Central Valley Water Board develops a Basin Plan amendment for ammonia. The 1999 acute criterion is only based on pH. Furthermore, based on the North Fork Calaveras River Dilution/Mixing Zone Study submitted to the Central Valley Water Board in January 2018, a mixing zone and dilution credit of 6:1 is applicable and the receiving water contains assimilative capacity for ammonia, as discussed in section IV.C.2.d of this Fact Sheet. Therefore, this Order includes less stringent effluent limitations for ammonia based on the performance of the Facility and the available dilution.

Thus, relaxation of the effluent limitations for ammonia and cyanide from Order R5-2014-0104-01 is in accordance with CWA section 402(o)(2)(B)(i), which allows for the removal of effluent limitations based on information that was not available at the time of permit issuance.

4. Antidegradation Policies

This Order does not allow for an increase in flow or mass of pollutants to the receiving water. Therefore, a complete antidegradation analysis is not necessary. The Order requires compliance with applicable federal technology-based standards and with WQBEL's where the discharge could have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. The permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and the State

Anti-Degradation Policy. Compliance with these requirements will result in the use of best practicable treatment or control of the discharge. The impact on existing water quality will be insignificant.

This Order relaxes the effluent limitations for ammonia and cyanide based on the allowance of mixing zones in accordance with the Basin Plan, the SIP, U.S. EPA's *Water Quality Standards Handbook, 2nd Edition* (updated July 2007), and the TSD. As discussed in section IV.C.2.d of this Fact Sheet, the mixing zones comply with all applicable requirements and will not be adverse to the purpose of the state and federal antidegradation policies. Furthermore, the allowance of mixing zones for these pollutants will result in a minor increase in the discharge, resulting in less than 10 percent of the available assimilative capacity in the receiving water. According to U.S. EPA's memorandum on Tier 2 Antidegradation Reviews and Significance Thresholds, any individual decision to lower water quality for non-bioaccumulative chemicals that is limited to 10 percent of the available assimilative capacity represents minimal risk to the receiving water and is fully consistent with the objectives and goals of the Clean Water Act. The Central Valley Water Board finds that any lowering of water quality outside the mixing zone will be de minimus. Further, any change to water quality will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses and will not result in water quality less than prescribed in State Water Board policies or the Basin Plan. The measures implemented required by this Order result in the implementation of BPTC. Thus, the relaxation of the effluent limitations for cyanide and ammonia is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and the State Antidegradation Policy.

This Order also removes maximum daily and mass-based effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS based on 40 CFR Part 122.45 (d) and (f), and as described further in section IV.C.3, and removes the annual average effluent limitations for electrical conductivity as described in section IV.D.3 of this Fact Sheet. The removal of maximum daily and mass-based effluent limits for BOD_5 and TSS and the annual average effluent limitation for electrical conductivity will not result in a decrease in the level of treatment or control, or a reduction in water quality. The Central Valley Water Board finds that the removal of maximum daily and mass-based effluent limits for BOD_5 and TSS and the annual average effluent limitation for electrical conductivity does not result in an allowed increase in pollutants or any additional degradation of the receiving water. Thus, the relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and the State Antidegradation Policy.

5. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants

This Order contains both technology-based effluent limitations and WQBEL's for individual pollutants. The technology-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on BOD_5, flow, pH, and TSS. Restrictions on BOD_5, flow, pH, and TSS are discussed in section IV.B.2 of this Fact Sheet. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements. In addition, this Order contains effluent limitations more stringent than the minimum, federal technology-based requirements that are necessary to meet water quality standards. For pH, both technology-based effluent limitations and water quality-based effluent limitations are applicable. The more stringent of these effluent limitations are implemented by this Order. These limitations are not more stringent than required by the CWA.

Summary of Final Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001

Table F-13. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis[1]
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	
Conventional Pollutants							
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	30	45		--	--	CFR
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--	
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5	BP
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	30	45		--	--	CFR
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--	
Priority Pollutants							
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	24	--	47	--	--	CTR
Non-Conventional Pollutants							
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	5.1	11.0	--	--	--	NAWQC
	lbs/day[2]	64	140	--	--	--	
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	--	0.0114	0.0195			NAWQC
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100mL	--	236	2407	--	--	BP

1. DC – Based on the design capacity of the Facility.
CFR – Based on secondary treatment standards contained in 40 CFR part 133.
BP – Based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan.
CTR – Based on water quality criteria contained in the California Toxics Rule and applied as specified in the SIP.
NAWQC – Based on USEPA's National Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.
2. Based on design flow of 1.5 MGD.

E. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

F. Land Discharge Specifications

1. The Land Discharge Specifications are necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the groundwater and have been retained from Order R5-2004-0104-01 for dischargers to the DLDA.

2. For nutrients such as nitrate, the potential for degradation to groundwater not only depends on the quality of treated effluent, but the ability of the vadose zone below the DLDA spray fields to provide an environment conductive to denitrification to convert the effluent to nitrate and the nitrate to nitrogen gas prior to effluent reaching the water table.

   The water balance submitted to the Central Valley Water Board in March 2018 indicates an annual potential of 32 MG of wastewater discharged to the spray fields in the DLDA. Based on an average total nitrogen concentration of 16 mg/L (December 2010 – April

2013), approximately 130 pounds per acre per year will be applied to the spray fields in the DLDA. The nutrient uptake rate for oak trees is unknown, however, grasses have a nutrient uptake rate of approximately 300 lb/ac/yr. Therefore, the current effluent nitrogen application rates are consistent with the vegetation grown, and represent best practical treatment and control. Based on the current treatment system the discharge to the spray fields does not have the potential to degrade groundwater with respect to nitrate. This Order removes the performance-based annual average land discharge total nitrogen limit of 34 mg/L required in previous Order R5-2014-0104-01.

G. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water

1. CWA section 303(a-c), requires states to adopt water quality standards, including criteria where they are necessary to protect beneficial uses. The Central Valley Water Board adopted water quality criteria as water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan states that "[t]*he numerical and narrative water quality objectives define the least stringent standards that the Regional Water Board will apply to regional waters in order to protect the beneficial uses.*" The Basin Plan includes numeric and narrative water quality objectives for various beneficial uses and water bodies. This Order contains receiving surface water limitations based on the Basin Plan numerical and narrative water quality objectives for ammonia, bacteria, biostimulatory substances, color, chemical constituents, dissolved oxygen, floating material, oil and grease, pH, pesticides, radioactivity, suspended sediment, settleable substances, suspended material, tastes and odors, temperature, toxicity, and turbidity.

B. Groundwater

1. The beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater are municipal and domestic supply, industrial service supply, industrial process supply, and agricultural supply.

2. Basin Plan water quality objectives include narrative objectives for chemical constituents, tastes and odors, and toxicity of groundwater. The toxicity objective requires that groundwater be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in humans, plants, animals, or aquatic life. The chemical constituent objective states groundwater shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect any beneficial use. The tastes and odors objective prohibits taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. The Basin Plan also establishes numerical water quality objectives for chemical constituents and radioactivity in groundwaters designated as municipal supply. These include, at a minimum, compliance with MCLs in Title 22 of the CCR. The bacteria objective prohibits coliform organisms at or above 2.2 MPN/100 mL. The Basin Plan requires the application of the most stringent objective necessary to ensure that waters do not contain chemical constituents, toxic substances, radionuclides, taste- or odor-producing substances, or bacteria in concentrations that adversely affect municipal or domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial supply or some other beneficial use.

3. Total dissolved solids, which were found to be present in the wastewater at an average concentration of 400 mg/L, have the potential to degrade groundwater quality at this site because there is little ability for attenuation in the shallow permeable vadose zone beneath this Facility. According to Ayers and Westcot, dissolved solids can cause yield or vegetative growth reductions of sensitive crops if present in excess of 450 mg/L in irrigation water, thereby impairing agricultural use of the water resource. The applicable

water quality objective to protect the agricultural use from discharges of total dissolved solids is the narrative Chemical Constituents objective, which is applied following the "Policy of Application of Water Quality Objectives" in the Basin Plan. A numerical groundwater limitation of 450 mg/L for total dissolved solids, based on Ayers and Westcot, is appropriate to apply the narrative Chemical Constituents objective to protect the unrestricted agricultural use of groundwater in the absence of information to support a less protective limit.

4. Nitrate, which was found to be present in the wastewater at an average concentration of up to 35 mg/L as nitrogen (as sampled between February 2012 and April 2014), has the potential to degrade groundwater quality because there is little ability for attenuation in the shallow permeable vadose zone beneath the Facility. Furthermore, groundwater monitoring data show nitrate concentrations above the primary MCL of 10 mg/L in monitoring wells MW-3 and MW-5. The Chemical Constituents objective prohibits concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of California MCLs in groundwater that is designated as municipal or domestic supply. The California primary MCL for nitrate is equivalent to 10 mg/L as nitrogen, and groundwater beneath the facility is designated as municipal or domestic supply. It is therefore appropriate to adopt a numerical groundwater limitation of 10 mg/L for nitrate as nitrogen to implement the Chemical Constituents objective to protect the municipal and domestic use of groundwater.

5. pH, which ranged 6.6 to 8.0 standard units in the domestic wastewater, has the ability to degrade groundwater quality at this site because there is little potential for buffering in the shallow permeable vadose zone. According to Ayers and Westcot, pH less than 6.5 or greater than 8.4 can cause yield or vegetative growth reductions of sensitive crops if present in irrigation water, thereby impairing agricultural use of the water resource. The applicable water quality objective to protect the agricultural use from discharges of substances that affect pH is the narrative Chemical Constituents objective, which is applied following the "Policy of Application of Water Quality Objectives" in the Basin Plan. A numerical groundwater limitation range of 6.5 to 8.4 for pH, based on Ayers and Westcot, is relevant and appropriate to apply the narrative Chemical Constituents objective to protect unrestricted agricultural use of groundwater in the absence of information to support a less protective limit.

6. Ammonia has the potential to degrade groundwater quality because there is little ability for ammonia attenuation in the shallow permeable vadose zone at this site. According to Amoore and Hautala [14], who evaluated odor of ammonia in water, the odor threshold for ammonia in water is 1.5 mg/L (as NH_4). These authors studied the concentration of chemicals in air that caused adverse odors and then calculated the concentration in water that would be equivalent to that amount in air. Therefore, it is appropriate to use the data contained therein to apply the narrative Tastes and Odors water quality objective. Concentrations that exceed this value can impair the municipal or domestic use of the resource by causing adverse odors. The applicable water quality objective to protect the municipal and domestic use from discharges of odor producing substances is the narrative Tastes and Odors objective, which is applied following the "Policy of Application of Water Quality Objectives" in the Basin Plan. A numerical groundwater limitation of 1.5 mg/L for ammonia (as NH_4), based on Amoore and Hautala, is relevant

[13] [14] Amoore, J.E. and E. Hautala, Odor as an Aid to Chemical Safety: Odor Thresholds Compared with Threshold Limit Values and Volatilities for 214 Industrial Chemicals in Air and Water Dilution, Journal of Applied Toxicology, Vol. 3, No. 6, (1983).

and appropriate to apply the narrative Tastes and Odors objective to protect the municipal and domestic use of groundwater.

7. Groundwater limitations are required to protect the beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater.

VI. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under section 122.42.

Sections 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) of 40 C.F.R. 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 C.F.R. allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in 40 C.F.R. sections 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).

B. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

a. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** This Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity through a site-specific Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE). This Order may be reopened to include a new chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE.

b. **Water Effects Ratio (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating CTR criteria for applicable priority pollutant inorganic constituents. A WER of 7.55 has been used in this Order for calculating CTR criteria of copper. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable when developing effluent limitations for metals. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WERs and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.

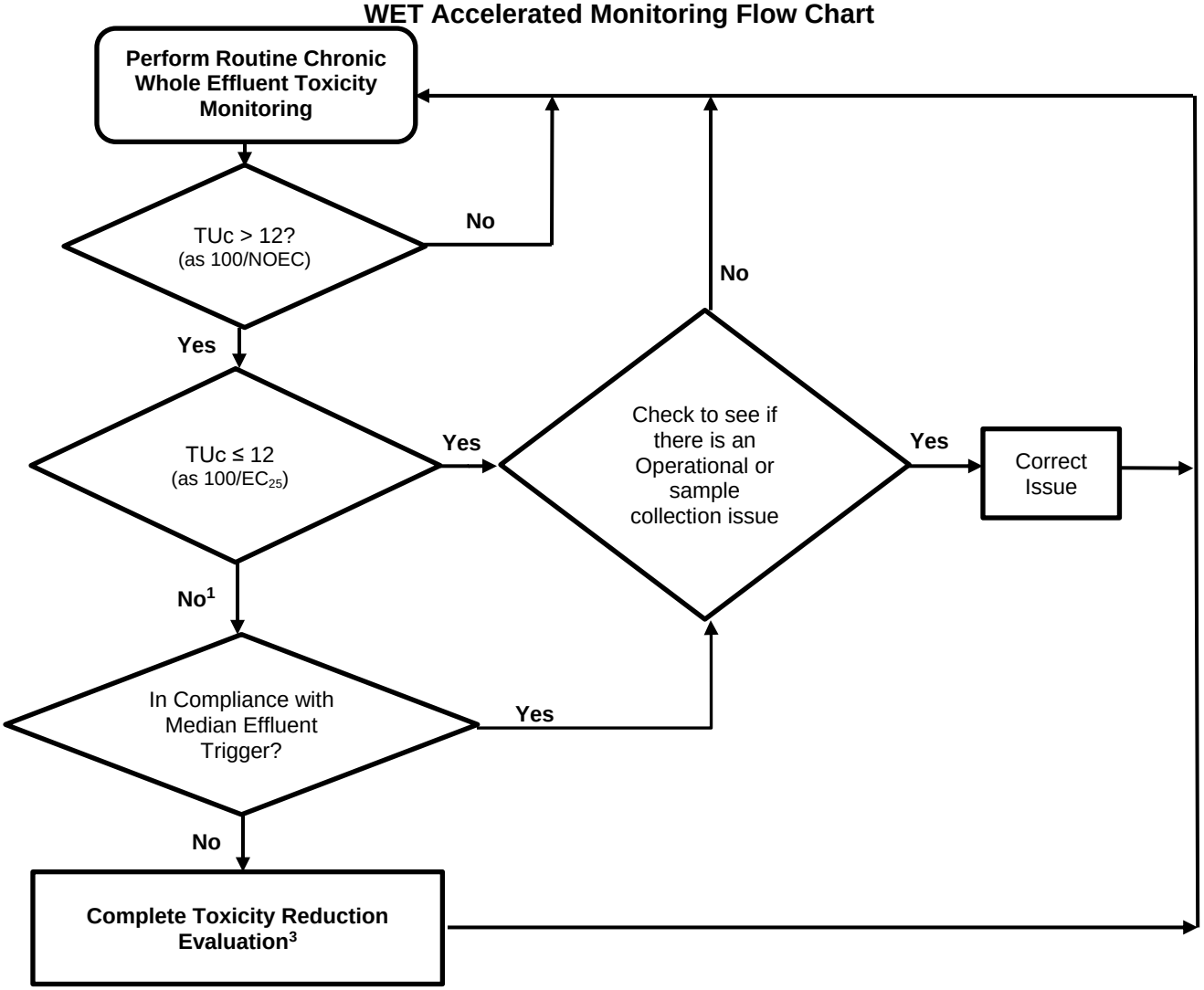
2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements

a. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Requirements.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00). Based on whole effluent chronic toxicity testing performed by the Discharger from December 2014 through January 2018, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Order requires chronic WET monitoring to demonstrate compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. If the discharge exceeds the chronic toxicity monitoring trigger this provision requires the Discharger conduct a site-specific Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE).

See the WET Monitoring Flow Chart (Figure F-2), below, for further clarification of the decision points for determining the need for TRE initiation.

Figure F-2
WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart



[1.] The Discharger may elect to take additional samples to determine the 3-sample median. The samples shall be collected at least one week apart and the final sample shall be within 6 weeks of the initial sample exhibiting toxicity.

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** An Evaluation and Minimization Plan for salinity is required to be maintained in this Order to ensure adequate measures are developed and implemented by the Discharger to reduce the discharge of

salinity to the North Fork Calaveras River. Should the effluent calendar year annual average electrical conductivity concentration exceed 700 µmhos/cm during the term of this Order, the salinity evaluation and minimization plan shall be reviewed and updated.

b. **Mercury Pollution Prevention Plan.** This Order requires the Discharger to maintain the previously developed and Pollution Prevention Plan for mercury that was accepted by the Central Valley Water Board. The North Fork Calaveras River, to which the Facility discharges treated wastewater, is not listed on the 303(d) list for impaired water bodies. However, the North Fork Calaveras River is tributary to the New Hogan Reservoir, which is listed on the 303(d) list for mercury. A TMDL for mercury in New Hogan Reservoir is currently under development and is projected to be completed in 2021. The Pollution Prevention Plan for mercury is required to prevent possible further mercury loading in New Hogan Reservoir.

4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications

a. The operation and maintenance specifications for Storage Pond D are necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the groundwater. The specifications included in this Order are retained from Order R5-2014-0104-01. In addition, reporting requirements related to use of Storage Pond D are required to monitor its use and the potential impact on groundwater.

5. Special Provisions for Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)

b. **Collection System.** The State Water Board issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order 2006-0003-DWQ (General Order) on 2 May 2006. The State Water Board amended the Monitoring and Reporting Program for the General Order through Order WQ 2013-0058-EXEC on 6 August 2013. The General Order requires 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 General Order. The General Order requires agencies to develop sanitary sewer management plans (SSMPs) and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), among other requirements and prohibitions.

The General Order contains requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows that are more extensive, and therefore, more stringent than the requirements under federal standard provisions. The Discharger and public agencies that are discharging wastewater into the facility's collection system were required to obtain enrollment for regulation under the General Order by 1 December 2006.

c. **Sludge/Biosolids Treatment or Discharge Specifications.** Sludge in this Order means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes. Solid waste refers to grit and screening material generated during preliminary treatment. Residual sludge means sludge that will not be subject to further treatment at the wastewater treatment plant. Biosolids refer to 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 C.F.R. part 503. This Order does not regulate offsite use or disposal of biosolids, which are regulated instead under 40 C.F.R. part 503; administered by U.S. EPA. The Sludge/Biosolids Treatment or Discharge Specifications in this Order implement the California Water Code to ensure

sludge/biosolids are properly handled onsite to prevent nuisance, protect public health, and protect groundwater quality.

6. Other Special Provisions - Not Applicable

7. Compliance Schedules - Not Applicable

VII. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

CWA section 308 and 40 C.F.R. sections 122.41(h), (j)-(l), 122.44(i), and 122.48 require that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Central Valley Water Board to establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E 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.

A. Influent Monitoring

1. Influent monitoring is required to collect data on the characteristics of the wastewater and to assess compliance with effluent limitations (e.g., BOD_5 and TSS reduction requirements). the monitoring frequencies for flow (continuous), BOD_5 and TSS (1/week), and electrical conductivity and TDS (1/quarter) have been retained from Order R5-2014-0104-01.

B. Effluent Monitoring

1. Pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(i)(2) effluent monitoring is required for all constituents with effluent limitations. Effluent monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with effluent limitations, assess the effectiveness of the treatment process, and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream and groundwater.

2. Effluent monitoring frequencies and sample types for ammonia (1/week), BOD_5 (1/week), chlorine residual (continuous), electrical conductivity (1/week), cyanide (1/month), flow (continuous), hardness (1/month), pH (1/week), total coliform organisms (1/week), TDS (1/month), temperature (1/week) and TSS (1/week) have been retained from Order R5-2014-0104-01 to determine compliance with effluent limitations for these parameters.

3. Water Code section 13176, subdivision (a), states: "*The analysis of any material required by [Water Code sections 13000-16104] shall be performed by a laboratory that has accreditation or certification pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 100825) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.*" The DDW accredits laboratories through its Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP).

   Section 13176 cannot be interpreted in a manner that would violate federal holding time requirements that apply to NPDES permits pursuant to the CWA. (Wat. Code §§ 13370, subd. (c), 13372, 13377.) Section 13176 is inapplicable to NPDES permits to the extent it is inconsistent with CWA requirements. (Wat. Code § 13372, subd. (a).) The holding time requirements are 15 minutes for chlorine residual, dissolved oxygen, and pH, and immediate analysis is required for temperature. (40 C.F.R. § 136.3(e), Table II). Due to the location of the Facility, it is both legally and factually impossible for the Discharger to comply with section 13176 for constituents with short holding times.

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

1. **Acute Toxicity.** Semiannual 96-hour bioassay testing is required to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitation for acute toxicity.
2. **Chronic Toxicity.** Annual chronic whole effluent toxicity testing is required in order to demonstrate compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

D. Receiving Water Monitoring

1. Surface Water

a. Receiving water monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with receiving water limitations and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream.

2. Groundwater

a. Water Code section 13267 states, in part, "(a) A *Regional Water Board, in establishing…waste discharge requirements… may investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region" and "(b) (1) In conducting an investigation…, the Regional Water Board may require that any person who… discharges… waste…that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the Regional Water Board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.*" The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, a Regional Water Board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The groundwater monitoring and reporting program required by this Order and the Monitoring and Reporting Program are necessary to assure compliance with these waste discharge requirements. The Discharger is responsible for the discharges of waste at the facility subject to this Order.

b. Monitoring of the groundwater must be conducted to determine if the discharge has caused an increase in constituent concentrations, when compared to background. The monitoring must, at a minimum, require a complete assessment of groundwater impacts including the vertical and lateral extent of degradation, an assessment of all wastewater-related constituents which may have migrated to groundwater, an analysis of whether additional or different methods of treatment or control of the discharge are necessary to provide best practicable treatment or control to comply with the State Anti-Degradation Policy. Economic analysis is only one of many factors considered in determining best practicable treatment or control. If monitoring indicates that the discharge has incrementally increased constituent concentrations in groundwater above background, this permit may be reopened and modified. Until groundwater monitoring is sufficient, this Order contains Groundwater Limitations that allow groundwater quality to be degraded for certain constituents when compared to background groundwater quality, but not to exceed water quality objectives. If groundwater quality has been degraded by the discharge, the incremental change in pollutant concentration (when compared with background) may not be increased. If groundwater quality has been or may be degraded by the discharge, this Order may be reopened and specific numeric limitations established consistent with the State Anti-Degradation Policy and the Basin Plan.

c. This Order requires the Discharger to continue groundwater monitoring and includes a regular schedule of groundwater monitoring in the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program. The groundwater monitoring reports are necessary to evaluate impacts to waters of the State to assure protection of beneficial uses and compliance with Central Valley Water Board plans and policies, including the State Anti-Degradation Policy. Evidence in the record includes effluent monitoring data that indicates the presence of constituents that may degrade groundwater and surface water.

E. Other Monitoring Requirements

1. Biosolids Monitoring – Not Applicable

Biosolids disposal requirements are imposed pursuant to 40 CFR Part 503 to protect public health and prevent groundwater degradation. Biosolids monitoring for compliance with 40 C.F.R. part 503 regulations are not included in this Order since it is a program administered by U.S. EPA's part 503 biosolids program:

https://www.epa.gov/biosolids/compliance-and-annual-reporting-guidance-about-clean-water-act-laws

2. Water Supply Monitoring

Water supply monitoring is required to evaluate the source of constituents in the wastewater.

3. Pond Monitoring

Treatment pond monitoring is required to ensure proper operation of the storage pond. Monitoring for freeboard (weekly), pH (monthly), and dissolved oxygen (monthly) to evaluate compliance with land discharge specifications; quarterly monitoring for electrical conductivity, total nitrogen, and total dissolved solids; and annual monitoring for standard minerals have been retained from Order R5-2014-0104-01 to evaluate impacts to groundwater from the pond.

4. Land Discharge Monitoring

Land discharge monitoring is required to ensure that the discharge to the land disposal area complies with the Storage Pond and Land Disposal Operating Requirements in section VI.C.4 of this Order. Monitoring frequencies and sample types for flow (continuous), flow to spray fields (daily), BOD_5 (weekly), electrical conductivity (weekly), total coliform organisms (weekly), and total nitrogen (monthly) have been retained from Order R5-2014-0104-01.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Central Valley Water Board has considered the issuance of WDR's that will serve as an NPDES permit for San Andreas Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Central Valley Water Board staff has developed tentative WDR's and has encouraged public participation in the WDR adoption process.

A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Central Valley Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDR's for the discharge and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided through the posting of the Notice of Public Hearing at the Calaveras County Clerk's Office on 18 July 2018, Kelley's Drug Store on 18 July 2018, the entrance to the Facility on 18 July 2018, and the Discharger's website on 19 July 2018.

The public had access to the agenda and any changes in dates and locations through the Central Valley Water Board's website at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/

B. Written Comments

Interested persons were invited to submit written comments concerning tentative WDR's as provided through the notification process. Comments were due either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Central Valley Water Board at the address on the cover page of this Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Central Valley Water Board, the written comments were due at the Central Valley Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on 16 August 2018.

C. Public Hearing

The Central Valley Water Board held a public hearing on the tentative WDR's during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date:	4/5 October 2018
Time:	8:30 a.m.
Location:	Redding City Hall 777 Cypress Avenue Redding, CA 96001

Interested persons were invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Central Valley Water Board heard testimony pertinent to the discharge, WDR's, and permit. For accuracy of the record, important testimony was requested in writing.

D. Reconsideration of Waste Discharge Requirements

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, 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

For instructions on how to file a petition for review, see
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml

E. Information and Copying

The Report of Waste Discharge, other supporting documents, and comments received are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Central Valley Water Board by calling (916) 464-3291.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDR's and NPDES permit should contact the Central Valley Water Board, reference this facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Mr. Tyson Pelkofer at 916-464-4853.

ATTACHMENT G – SUMMARY OF REASONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS

Constituent	Units	MEC	B	C	CMC	CCC	Water & Org	Org. Only	Basin Plan	MCL	Reasonable Potential
Ammonia	mg/L	3.2	0.06		2.14	2.28	--	--	--	--	YES
Cyanide	ug/L	12.0	1.0[1]	5.2	22	5.2	700	220,000	--	--	YES

General Note: All inorganic concentrations are given as a total recoverable.
MEC = Maximum Effluent Concentration
B = Maximum Receiving Water Concentration or lowest detection level, if non-detect
C = Criterion used for Reasonable Potential Analysis
CMC = Criterion Maximum Concentration (CTR or NTR)
CCC = Criterion Continuous Concentration (CTR or NTR)
Water & Org = Human Health Criterion for Consumption of Water & Organisms (CTR or NTR)
Org. Only = Human Health Criterion for Consumption of Organisms Only (CTR or NTR)
Basin Plan = Numeric Site-specific Basin Plan Water Quality Objective
MCL = Drinking Water Standards Maximum Contaminant Level
NA = Not Available
ND = Non-detect

Footnotes:
(1) Background samples taken during Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization Study from Order R5-2014-0104-01 and sampled between February 2012 and April 2012.
(2)

ATTACHMENT H – CALCULATION OF WQBEL'S

Aquatic Life WQBEL's Calculations																	
Parameter	Units	Criteria		B	CV Eff	Dilution Factors		Aquatic Life Calculations							Final Effluent Limitations		
		CMC	CCC			CMC	CCC	ECA Multiplier$_{acute}$	LTA$_{acute}$	ECA Multiplier$_{chronic}$	LTA$_{chronic}$	AMEL Multiplier$_{95}$	AWEL Multiplier	MDEL Multiplier$_{99}$	AMEL[1]	AWEL[2]	MDEL[3]
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	5.62	2.28	0.06	——[4]	6	6	0.14	0.3	0.54	1.22	2.48	5.36	7.28	5.1	11.0	--
Cyanide	µg/L	22	5.2	1.0	0.52[4]	6	6	0.33	49.1	0.54	15.8	1.52	2.59	2.99	24	--	47

1 Average Monthly Effluent Limitations are calculated according to Section 1.4 of the SIP using a 95th percentile occurrence probability.
2 Average Weekly Effluent Limitations are calculated according to Section 1.4 of the SIP using a 98th percentile occurrence probability.
3 Maximum Daily Effluent Limitations are calculated according to Section 1.4 of the SIP using a 99th percentile occurrence probability.
4 Coefficient of Variation (CV) was established in accordance with section 1.4 of the SIP.