# STATE OF CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of the Petition of

CITY OF STOCKTON

ORDER NO. WQ 95-1

Requesting the Stay of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 94-324,)
NPDES Permit No. CA0079138 by the
California Regional Water Quality
Control Board, Central Valley Region.)
Our File No. A-937.

#### BY THE BOARD:

The "Stipulation for Order Issuing Limited Stay" entered into by the City of Stockton and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, dated February 23, 1995, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by reference, is approved.

#### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on March 16, 1995.

AYE:

John Caffrey

Mary Jane Forster James M. Stubchaer

John W. Brown

NO:

None

ABSENT:

Marc Del Piero

ABSTAIN:

None

Maureen Marché

Administrative Assistant to the Board

CITY OF STOCKTON R. THOMAS HARRIS, ESQ., City Attorney BART J. THILTGEN, ESQ. 425 N. El Dorado Street Stockton, CA 95202-1997 Telephone: (209) 937-8333 EXEMPT FROM FILING FEES PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 6103



De CUIR & SOMACH A Professional Corporation PAUL S. SIMMONS, ESQ. (#127920) ELIZABETH W. JOHNSON, ESQ. (#161545) 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1900 Sacramento, California 95814 Telephone: (916) 446-7979

Attorneys for City of Stockton

#### BEFORE THE

## CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of the Petition of the City of Stockton for Review of Action and Failure to Act by Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. SWRCB FILE NO. A-937

STIPULATION FOR ORDER ISSUING LIMITED STAY

In order to conserve their resources and those of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), and to promote a reasonable and amicable resolution of the subject appeal, and because these objectives can be accomplished without compromising the quality of the waters of the State, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (Regional Board) and the City of Stockton hereby stipulate as follows:

I. The City operates a wastewater treatment facility which discharges to the San Joaquin River under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0079138. In 1975, the Regional Board adopted a water quality objective of 5.0 milligrams per liter (mg/l) for the San Joaquin River in the vicinity of the discharge. In 1991, the State Board adopted a water quality objective of 6.0 mg/l for dissolved oxygen in the San Joaquin River, applicable from Stockton to Turner Cut in the months of September through November.

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- 2. In the late 1970s, Stockton constructed tertiary treatment, in large part to meet applicable effluent limitations related to dissolved oxygen.
- 3. On October 28, 1994, the Regional Board adopted its Order No. 94-324, renewing Stockton's NPDES permit. The renewal permit contains new effluent limitations for Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD) and ammonia, and receiving water limitations for dissolved oxygen. The order requires immediate compliance with the new limitations. It is extremely unlikely that Stockton can meet these limitations and requirements with existing facilities.
- 4. During the negotiation and hearing process leading to the adoption of Order No. 94-324, Stockton and the Regional Board disagreed in good faith with respect to the appropriateness of the new limitations described in paragraph 3 and with respect to whether the Regional Board had authority to establish a schedule of compliance in the renewed permit creating the new limitations.
- 5. Stockton has appealed the Regional Board's Order on several grounds including the dissolved oxygen-related limitations. In connection with its appeal of Order No. 94-324, Stockton has requested a stay of the Order before April 1, 1995, as it anticipates violations of the permit commencing on that date and for several years thereafter unless some form of relief is granted, particularly with respect to ammonia.
- 6. Stockton has let contracts for the construction of new treatment facilities and is planning for the construction of others. Although not initially planned to address dissolved oxygen issues, the new facilities will result in improved effluent quality.
- 7. The State Board is reviewing the 6.0 mg/l water quality objective for the San Joaquin River applicable in the months of September through November. Stockton has proposed to the State Board that the 6.0 objective include authorization for a schedule of compliance. If such a schedule is provided, the Regional Board's authority to provide a schedule of compliance with respect to the 6.0 objective will be affected.
- 8. The Regional Board anticipates consideration of general authority in the Basin Plan for schedules of compliance, and may consider the adoption of general or specific authority for

schedules related to the 5.0 objective, subject to legal and regulatory review. The establishment of such authority would affect the Regional Board's authority to issue a schedule of compliance with respect to the 5.0 objective. Other recent amendments to the Basin Plan, such as those related to mixing zones, may also be relevant to certain issues raised in Stockton's appeal.

- 9. The parties believe that there is a reasonable probability that the major concerns of Stockton is this appeal can be resolved without adversarial proceedings. Stockton reasonably does not, however, wish to be in violation of federal and state law during the period of such efforts at resolution.
- 10. Under all the circumstances currently existing, the parties believe it is fair and appropriate and conducive to amicable resolution of this appeal to enter into this Stipulation. Since Stockton cannot possibly construct new facilities for a period of several years, the only practical result of a stay order conforming with the Stipulation is that Stockton shall not unnecessarily be in violation of federal and state law during the pendency of this appeal.
- 11. The parties stipulate to, and jointly request, the entry of an Order by the State Board providing as follows:

"Pending final disposition of this appeal, it is hereby ordered that the effluent limitations for ammonia contained in Order No. 94-324 of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, and receiving water limitation E.13. within Order No. 94-324 as it relates to dissolved oxygen, affecting NPDES Permit No. CA0079138 are stayed.

"It is further ordered that: the issuance of this stay shall not be deemed relevant to the ultimate disposition of the merits of this appeal; and the inclusion or omission of any term in this stay or the stipulation underlying the stay shall not be relevant to the determination of the issues in this appeal, and the positions of the parties on all the issues in the appeal are preserved.

"It is further ordered that this stay order shall not provide cause for any failure to meet, or delay in meeting, any requirements ultimately determined applicable to the discharge.

"Except as otherwise for a stay of Order No. 94-32	provided herein, Stockton's petition 24 is deemed to be withdrawn."
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DATED: February 23, 1995.	R. THOMAS HARRIS, CITY ATTORNEY CITY OF STOCKTON
	De CUIR & SOMACH
	A Professional Corporation
	Pacs
	Paul S. Simmons
	Attorneys for the City of Stockton
DATED: February 23, 1995.	REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL
Difficulty 20, 1990.	BOARD, CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
	1.00 400
	By William H. Crooks
	Executive Officer
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	for a stay of Order No. 94-32

PROOF OF SERVICE (State)

I am employed in the County of Sacramento; my business address is 1755 Creekside Oaks Drive, Suite 290, Sacramento, California; I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the foregoing action.

On <u>July 23, 1995</u>, I served the following document(s):

## STIPULATION FOR ORDER ISSUING LIMITED STAY

X (by mail) on all parties in said action, in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure §1013a(3), by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope, with postage fully paid thereon, in the designated area for outgoing mail, addressed as set forth below.

(by personal delivery) by personally delivering a true copy thereof to the person and at the address set forth below:

## SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the substituting 23, 1575, at Sacramento, California.

Julie L. Proctor

DI CUR & SOMACI ROFESSONI CORPOR

### INTERESTED PERSONS LIST PETITION OF CITY OF STOCKTON OUR FILE NO. A-937

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