CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

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ORDER R5-2014-0072
NPDES NO. CA0077691

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR CITY OF VACAVILLE EASTERLY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SOLANO COUNTY

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

Table 1. Discharger Information

Discharger	**City of Vacaville**
Name of Facility	**Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant**
Facility Address	**6040 Vaca Station Road**
	Elmira, CA 95625
	Solano County

Table 2. Discharge Location

Discharge Point	Effluent Description	Discharge Point Latitude (North)	Discharge Point Longitude (West)	Receiving Water
001	Municipal Wastewater	38° 20' 48" N	121° 54' 06" W	Old Alamo Creek

Table 3. Administrative Information

This Order was adopted on:	**6 June 2014**
This Order shall become effective on:	**1 August 2014**
This Order shall expire on:	**31 July 2019**
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge 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:	**180 days prior to the Order expiration date**
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:	**Major**

I, Pamela C. Creedon, 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 6 June 2014, and amended by Order R5-2014-0122 on 9 October 2014.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

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I. FACILITY INFORMATION

Information describing the Easterly 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:

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. 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 H are also incorporated into this Order.

C. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law. The provisions/requirements in subsections **V.B, VI.C.4.b, and VI.C.5.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.

D. Monitoring and Reporting. 40 CFR 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.

E. 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.

F. 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 Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2008-0055-01 and Time Schedule Order R5-2008-0056-03 are 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 Section VI. C.4.c., Compliance Schedules in Section VI.C.7, and 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.

IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001

1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001

The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point 001, with compliance 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 at 20ºC)[2]	mg/L	**May-Oct** 10 **Nov-Apr** 20	**May-Oct** 15 **Nov-Apr** 25	**May-Oct** 20 **Nov-Apr** 30	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	**May-Oct** 1252 **Nov-Apr** 2504	**May-Oct** 1878 **Nov-Apr** 3129	**May-Oct** 2504 **Nov-Apr** 3755	--	--
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)[2]	mg/L	**May-Oct** 10 **Nov-Apr** 30	**May-Oct** 15 **Nov-Apr** 45	**May-Oct** 20 **Nov-Apr** 50	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	**May-Oct** 1252 **Nov-Apr** 3755	**May-Oct** 1878 **Nov-Apr** 5633	**May-Oct** 2504 **Nov-Apr** 6259	--	--
pH	standard units				6.5	8.5
Settleable Solids[3]	ml/L	**Nov-Apr** 0.1		**Nov-Apr** 0.2	--	--
Ammonia, total (as N)	mg/L	1.4		2.3	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	175		288	--	--
Nitrate plus Nitrite, total (as N)	mg/L	13.6		--	--	--

1 Based on a design average dry weather flow of 15 mgd.
2 Effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS from May thru October become effective **1 May 2015**.
3 Effluent limitations for settleable solids only applicable from November – April.

b. **Percent Removal:** The average monthly percent removal of BOD 5-day 20°C (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:

   ii. 0.011 mg/L, as a 4-day average; and
   ii. 0.019 mg/L, as a 1-hour average.

e. **Total Coliform Organisms: Effective 1 May 2015**, effluent total coliform organisms shall not exceed:

   i. **November – April**

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

      (b) 240 MPN per 100 mL, more than once in any 30-day period.

   ii. **May – October**

      (a) 2.2 most probable number (MPN) per 100 mL, as a 7-day median;

      (b) 23 MPN per 100 mL, more than once in any 30-day period; and

      (c) 240 MPN per 100 mL, at any time.

f. **Average Dry Weather Flow.** The average dry weather discharge flow shall not exceed 15 million gallons per day.

g. **Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C.** The effluent calendar annual average electrical conductivity shall not exceed 1,320 µmhos/cm.

2. Interim Effluent Limitations

Effective immediately and ending on 30 April 2015, the Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point 001, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as described in the attached MRP. These interim effluent limitations shall apply in lieu of the corresponding final effluent limitations specified for the same parameters during the time period indicated in this provision.

a. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the effluent limitations specified in Table 5:

Table 5. Interim 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	20	25	30	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	2504	3129	3755	--	--
Total Suspended Solids(TSS)	mg/L	30	45	50	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	3755	5633	6259	--	--

[1] Based on a design average dry weather flow of 15 mgd.

b. **Total Coliform Organisms.** The 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 per 100 mL, more than once in any 30-day period.

B. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

C. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations

The discharge shall not cause the following in the immediate receiving waters (Old Alamo Creek and New Alamo Creek):

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 dissolved oxygen concentration to be reduced below 5.0 mg/L for Old Alamo Creek and below 7.0 mg/L for New Alamo Creek 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; [for water bodies in the Sac/SJ Basins]

    f. Pesticides to be present in concentration in excess of the maximum contaminant levels set forth in CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 15; 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.

    b. For New Alamo Creek only, radionuclides to be present in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) specified in Table 64442 of section 64442 and Table 64443 of section 64443 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.

12. **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.

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

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

15. 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.

16. Temperature.

a. The water temperature in Old Alamo Creek, as measured at RSW-002, to rise above 83 °F at any time.
b. The annual average temperature in New Alamo Creek, as measured at RSW-004 (the Brown Alamo Dam), to increase more than 5 °F compared to the annual average background temperature, as measured at RSW-003 (Lewis Road).
c. New Alamo Creek temperatures, as measured at RSW-004 (the Brown-Alamo Dam), to exceed the following:
   i. 5 °F over the ambient background temperature, as a monthly average during the period of March through August;
   ii. 72 °F as period average during September 1 through October 14;
   iii. 70 °F as period average during October 15 through October 31;
   iv. 66 °F as monthly average for November; and
   v. 60 °F as monthly average for the months of December through February.

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

18. Turbidity. The turbidity to increase as follows based on measurements taken at RSW-001 and RSW-002:

a. To levels greater than 2 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) where natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU;

b. More than 1 NTU where natural turbidity is between 1 and 5 NTUs;

c. More than 20 percent where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs;

d. More than 10 NTU where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs; nor

e. 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 any of the following constituents in concentrations greater than listed or greater than natural background quality, whichever is greater.

Table 6. Groundwater Limitations

Constituent	Units	Limitation
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	<2.2
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C[1]	µmhos/cm	700
Total Dissolved Solids[1]	mg/L	450
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	10

[1] A cumulative impact limit that accounts for several dissolved constituents in addition to those listed here separately [e.g., alkalinity (carbonate and bicarbonate), calcium, hardness, phosphate, and potassium].

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

3. Impart taste, odor, chemical constituents, toxicity, or color that creates nuisance or impairs any beneficial use.

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:

- *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.

- *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.

- *Change in sludge use or disposal practice.* Under 40 CFR 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. For publicly owned treatment works, prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a permanent decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. (Water Code section 1211).

o. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, maximum daily effluent limitation, 1-hour average effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation contained in 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 5 days, unless the Central Valley Water Board waives confirmation.

The written notification shall include the information required by the Standard Provision contained in Attachment D section V.E.1. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(i)].

p. 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.

q. 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.

r. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, monthly average, weekly average, minimum daily, maximum daily, hourly average, 4-day average, 7-day median, instantaneous, annual average effluent limitations, 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 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. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** As a result of a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE), this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE. Additionally, if the State Water Board revises the SIP's toxicity control provisions that would require the establishment of numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations, this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitation based on the new provisions.

d. **CV-SALTS.** The Central Valley Water Board is currently implementing the CV SALTS initiative to develop a Basin Plan Amendment that will establish a salt and nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. This Order may be reopened to implement the CV-SALTS initiative.

e. **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.

2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements

a. **Toxicity Reduction Requirements**

Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity. For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing, as specified in MRP section V. Furthermore, 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 numeric toxicity monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring established 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. This Provision includes procedures for accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring and TRE initiation.

i. **Accelerated Monitoring and TRE Initiation.** When the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity monitoring, and the testing meets all test acceptability criteria, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring as required in the Accelerated Monitoring Specifications. The Discharger shall initiate a TRE to address effluent toxicity if any WET testing results exceed the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring.

ii. **Numeric Toxicity Monitoring Trigger.** The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger to initiate a TRE is 1 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 begin accelerated monitoring and initiate a TRE.

iii. **Accelerated Monitoring Specifications.** If the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity testing, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring within 14-days of notification by the laboratory of the exceedance. Accelerated monitoring shall consist of four chronic toxicity tests conducted once every two weeks using the species that exhibited toxicity. The following protocol shall be used for accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation:

(a) If the results of four consecutive accelerated monitoring tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring. However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of a pattern of effluent toxicity, the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.

(b) 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 continue accelerated monitoring until four consecutive accelerated tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger. Upon confirmation that the effluent toxicity has been removed, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring.

(c) If the result of any accelerated toxicity test exceeds the monitoring trigger, the Discharger shall cease accelerated monitoring and begin a TRE to investigate the cause(s) of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. Within thirty (30) days of notification by the laboratory of any test result exceeding the monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring, the Discharger shall submit a TRE Action Plan to the Central Valley Water Board including, at minimum:

(1) Specific actions the Discharger will take to investigate and identify the cause(s) of toxicity, including a TRE WET monitoring schedule;

(2) Specific actions the Discharger will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and

(3) A schedule for these actions.

b. **Municipal Water Supply Characterization Study.** The Discharger shall collect and submit annual municipal water supply quality and quantity data from water purveyors within the Discharger's service area. Total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity or specific conductance shall be reported as a weighted average of groundwater and surface water quality using the most recent published information from the water purveyors and other databases available to the public. In addition to characterizing the water supply in the service area, the Discharger shall report the influent and effluent total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity of the discharge in the annual report. The Discharger shall compile the information and provide updates on **1 February, annually**.

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. **Salinity Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP).** In accordance with previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 the Discharger submitted an updated salinity PPP in December 2008, which was approved on 12 January 2009. The Discharger shall continue to implement the salinity PPP and by **1 February 2015** submit an updated salinity PPP.

b. **Mercury Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP).** In accordance with previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 the Discharger submitted an updated mercury PPP in December 2008, which was approved on 12 January 2009. The Discharger shall continue to implement the mercury PPP and by **1 February 2015** submit an updated mercury PPP.

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications

a. Filtration System Operating Specifications. Effective 1 May 2015, **from May - October of each year**, the turbidity of the filter effluent measured at EFF-001 shall not exceed:

i. 2 NTU, as a daily average;

ii. 5 NTU, more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period; and

iii. 10 NTU, at any time.

b. Emergency Storage Pond 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 2 feet (measured vertically to the lowest point of overflow.

v. 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.

vi. 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).

c. Bypass (Blending) Requirements. Effective immediately and until 30 April 2015, during wet weather high flow events the intentional bypass of the secondary treatment facilities may be allowed when influent flows exceed the capacity of the secondary treatment facilities. The bypassing shall cease as soon as possible following the conclusion of the wet weather high flow conditions.

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)

a. **Pretreatment Requirements**

i. The Discharger shall be responsible and liable for the performance of all Control Authority pretreatment requirements contained in 40 CFR Part 403, including any subsequent regulatory revisions to 40 CFR Part 403. Where 40 CFR Part 403 or subsequent revision places mandatory actions upon the Discharger as Control Authority but does not specify a timetable for completion of the actions, the Discharger shall complete the required actions within 6 months from the issuance date of this permit or the effective date of the 40 CFR Part 403 revisions, whichever comes later. For violations of pretreatment requirements, the Discharger shall be subject to enforcement actions, penalties, fines, and other remedies by USEPA or other appropriate parties, as provided in the CWA. USEPA may initiate enforcement action against a nondomestic user for noncompliance with applicable standards and requirements as provided in the CWA.

ii. The Discharger shall enforce the requirements promulgated under sections 307(b), 307(c), 307(d), and 402(b) of the CWA with timely, appropriate and effective enforcement actions. The Discharger shall cause all nondomestic users subject to federal categorical standards to achieve compliance no later than the date specified in those requirements or, in the case of a new nondomestic user, upon commencement of the discharge.

iii. The Discharger shall perform the pretreatment functions as required in 40 CFR Part 403 including, but not limited to:

(a) Implement the necessary legal authorities as provided in 40 CFR 403.8(f)(1);

(b) Enforce the pretreatment requirements under 40 CFR 403.5 and 403.6;

(c) Implement the programmatic functions as provided in 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2); and

(d) Provide the requisite funding and personnel to implement the pretreatment program as provided in 40 CFR 403.8(f)(3).

iv. **Pretreatment Reporting Requirements.** Pretreatment reporting requirements are included in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, section X.D.5 of Attachment E.

b. **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 CFR 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 CFR Part 503. If the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board are given the authority to implement regulations contained in 40 CFR 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 CFR Part 503 whether or not they have been incorporated into this Order.

iii. The Discharger shall comply with Section IX.A. Biosolids of the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E.

iv. Any proposed change in biosolids use or disposal practice from a previously approved practice shall be reported to the Executive Officer and USEPA Regional Administrator at least **90 days** in advance of the change.

v. The Discharger shall maintain a biosolids use or disposal plan that describes at minimum:

   (a) Sources and amounts of biosolids generated annually.

   (b) Location(s) of on-site storage and description of the containment area.

   (c) Plans for ultimate disposal. For landfill disposal, the present classification of the landfill; and the name and location of the landfill.

c. **Collection System.** On 2 May 2006, the State Water Board adopted State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems. The Discharger shall be subject to the requirements of Order No. 2006-0003 DWQ and any future revisions thereto. Order No. 2006-0003 DWQ requires that all public agencies that currently own or operate sanitary sewer systems apply for coverage under the general WDRs. The Discharger has applied for and has been approved for coverage under Order 2006-0003-DWQ for operation of its wastewater collection system.

6. Other Special Provisions

a. **Title 22, or Equivalent, Disinfection Requirements. Effective 1 May 2015, from May – October of each year**, wastewater shall be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to the Department of Public Health (DPH) reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3, (Title 22), or equivalent.

7. Compliance Schedules

a. **Title 22 Disinfection Requirements and Discontinuance of Bypass (blending) Practices.** The Discharger shall comply with the following time schedule to ensure compliance with Sections VI.C.6.a and Discharge Prohibitions III.B. of this Order:

Task	**Date Due**
Submit Method of Compliance Workplan/Schedule	Complete
Submit and implement Pollution Prevention plan (PPP)[1] pursuant to CWC section 13263.3	Complete
Full Compliance – *The Discharger shall submit a report documenting full compliance by this date.*	**1 May 2015**

[1] The PPP shall be prepared for BOD, TSS, total coliform organisms, and turbidity, where appropriate, and shall meet the requirements specified in CWC section 13263.3(d)(3)

VII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

A. BOD_5 and TSS Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.a and IV.A.2.a.). Compliance with the final and interim effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS required in Limitations and Discharge Requirements section IV.A.1.a shall be ascertained by 24-hour composite samples. Compliance with effluent limitations required in Limitations and Discharge Requirements section IV.A.1.b 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.

B. Average Dry Weather Flow Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.g). The average dry weather discharge flow represents the daily average flow when groundwater is at or near normal and runoff is not occurring. Compliance with the average dry weather flow effluent limitations will be determined annually based on the average daily flow over three consecutive dry weather months (e.g., July, August, and September).

C. Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.f. and IV.A.2.b.). 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 2.2 or 23 per 100 milliliters (whichever is applicable at the time), 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 and Interim Effluent Limitations IV.A.2.a are based on the permitted average dry weather 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 dry weather flow during wet-weather seasons, the effluent mass limitations contained in Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a and Interim Effluent Limitations IV.A.2.a shall not apply. If the effluent flow is below the permitted average dry weather flow during wet-weather seasons, 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.

G. Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Effluent Limitation (Section IV.A.1.e). Compliance with the accelerated monitoring and TRE provisions of Provision VI.C.2.a shall constitute compliance with the effluent limitation.

H. Use of Delta Regional Monitoring Program and other Receiving Water Data to determine compliance with Receiving Water Limitations. Delta Regional Monitoring Program data and other receiving water monitoring data that is not specifically required to be conducted by the Discharger under this permit, will not be used directly to determine that the discharge is in violation of this Permit. The Discharger may, however, conduct any site-specific receiving water monitoring deemed appropriate by the Discharger that is not conducted by the Delta RMP and submit that monitoring data. As described in Section VIII of Attachment E, such data may be used, if scientifically defensible, in conjunction with other receiving water data, effluent data, receiving water flow data, and other pertinent information to determine whether or not a discharge is in compliance with this Permit.

ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

Arithmetic Mean (m)
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 = m= Sx / n where: Sx 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.

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.

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.

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.

Not Detected (ND)
Sample results which are less than the laboratory's MDL.

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

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

where:

x is the observed value;

m is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and

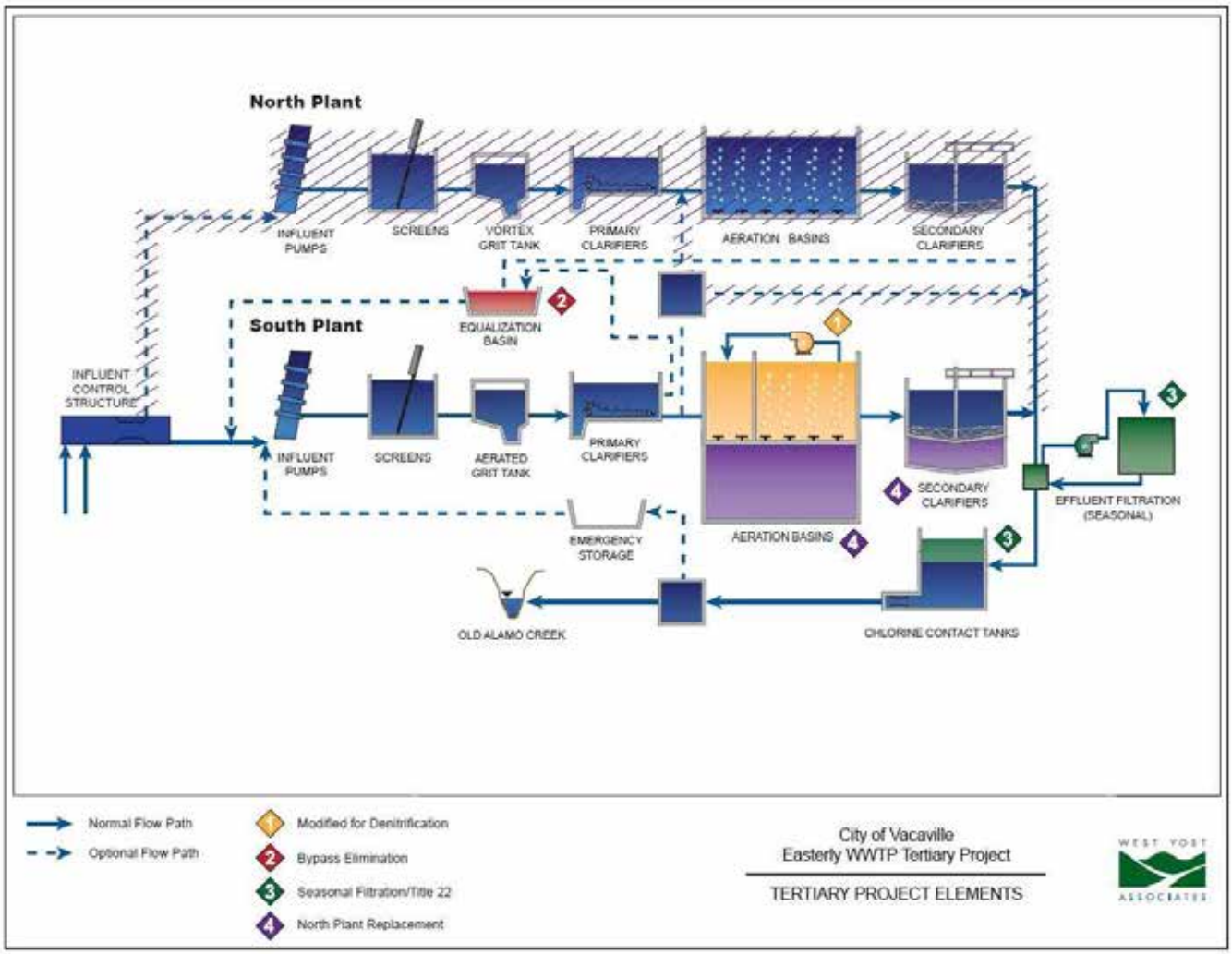
n is the number of samples.

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

Reference:	SITE LOCATION MAP	
SW 1/4 OF SE1/4 OF SECTION 19, T6N, R1E, MDB&M U.S.G.S TOPOGRAPHIC MAP ELMIRA	CITY OF VACAVILLE EASTERLY WWTP SOLANO COUNTY	N W E S

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 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, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a).)

2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA 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 or sludge use or disposal 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 (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, § 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 (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1));

2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2));
3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3)); 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. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4).)

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 a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)

b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (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 results must be conducted according to test procedures under 40 C.F.R. part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 unless otherwise specified in 40 C.F.R. part 503 unless other test procedures have been specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 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.)

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, and V.B.5 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).)

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 results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (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 that 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 written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission 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. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
   a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
   b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)
3. The Central Valley Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

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)):

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

4. 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).)

5. 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 or State 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. (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).)

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.

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS

A. Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)

All POTWs 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).)

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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. 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 certified for such analyses by the Department of Public Health (DPH). Laboratories that perform sample analyses must be identified in all monitoring reports submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. In the event a certified laboratory is not available to the Discharger for any onsite field measurements such as pH, DO, turbidity, temperature, and residual chlorine, such analyses performed by a noncertified 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 certified by the Department of Public Health (DPH), in accordance with the provision of Water Code section 13176, and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports.

G. In accordance with Clean Water Act section 308, the Discharger shall provide results of the Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study or the most recent Water

Pollution Performance Evaluation Study annually to the State Water Resources Control Board at the following address: State Water Board Quality Assurance Program Officer, Office of Information Management and Analysis, State Water Resources Control Board, 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**	Treatment plant influent, at headworks.
001	**EFF-001**	Discharge from the treatment plant at the last connection through which waste can be admitted into the outfall at the effluent sample monitoring station: 38º, 20', 43" N, Latitude; 121º, 54', 05" W, Longitude for grab and composite sampling; and at the end of chlorine contact: 38º, 20', 43" N, Latitude; 121º, 54', 10" W, Longitude, for disinfection efficiency (i.e. total coliform organisms)
	RSW-001	Old Alamo Creek, at Leisure Town Road.
	RSW-002	Old Alamo Creek, 1200 feet downstream from the point of discharge 001. (on the east side of Lewis Rd)
	RSW-003	New Alamo Creek at Lewis Rd, 6000 ft upstream of Old Alamo-New Alamo confluence.
	RSW-004	New Alamo Creek at the Brown-Alamo Dam, 2000 ft downstream of Old Alamo-New Alamo confluence.
	RSW-005	Old Alamo Creek at the Terminus prior to enter New Alamo Creek
	RGW-001	Monitoring Well #1
	RGW-002	Monitoring Well #2
	RGW-003	Monitoring Well #3
	RGW-004	Monitoring Well #4
	RGW-005	Monitoring Well #5
	RGW-006	Monitoring Well #6
	RGW-007	Monitoring Well #7
	PND-001	Emergency Storage Pond
	BIO-001	Biosolids.

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	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	[1]
BOD 5-day @ 20°C	mg/L	24-hr Composite [3]	1/Week	[1]
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite [3]	1/Week	[1]
Electrical Conductivity@25°C	µmhos /cm	Grab [2]	1/Month	[1]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab [2]	1/Month	[1]

[1] 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.
[2] Grab samples shall not be collected at the same time each day to get a complete representation of variations in the influent.
[3] 24-hour flow proportional composite.

IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location EFF-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor when discharging from the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plan 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	[1]
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) (5-day @ 20 Deg. C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite [2]	5/Week	[1]
	lbs/day	Calculate	5/Week	--
	% removal	Calculate	1/Month	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite [2]	5/Week	[1]
	lbs/day	Calculate	5/Week	--
	% removal	Calculate	1/Month	
pH	Standard Units	Meter	Continuous [3]	[1]
Priority Pollutants				
Carbon Tetrachloride	µg/L	Grab	1/Month or 2/Month[10]	[1, 4]

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	Grab	1/Month or 2/Month[10]	[1, 4]
Chloroform	µg/L	Grab	1/Month or 2/Month[10]	[1, 4]
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	Grab	1/Month or 2/Month[10]	[1, 4]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Week[3, 6]	[1]
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	Meter	Continuous	[1, 5]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	24-hr Composite [2]	1/Month	[1]
Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	24-hr Composite [2]	1/Month	[1]
Mercury (methyl)	µg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[7]
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[7]
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Nitrite Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Settleable Solids[12]	ml/L	Grab	1/Week	[1]
Temperature	°C	Meter	Continuous [3]	[1]
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	5/Week [8]	[1]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite [2]	1/Month	[1]
Turbidity[11]	NTU	Meter	Continuous	
Whole Effluent Toxicity (see Section V. below)[9]	--	--	--	--
Bypass	[11]	[11]	[11]	

[1] 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.

[2] 24-hour flow proportional composite.

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

[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 Table E-8).

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

[6] Concurrent with whole effluent toxicity monitoring.

[7] Unfiltered methyl mercury and total mercury samples shall be taken using clean hands/dirty hands procedures, as described in U.S. EPA method 1669: Sampling Ambient Water for Trace Metals at EPA Water Quality Criteria Levels, for collection of equipment blanks (section 9.4.4.2), and shall be analyzed by U.S. EPA method 1630/1631 (Revision E) with a method detection limit of 0.02 ng/l for methyl mercury and 0.2 ng/l for total mercury.

[8] Samples for total coliform organisms may be collected at any point following disinfection.

[9] See Section V. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

[10] Monitoring required 2/Month from 1 November 2017 – 31 March 2018 concurrent with effluent sampling. For all other periods, 1/Month monitoring is required.

[11] A monthly summary of bypasses to include date, time, duration and reason for the bypass.

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 monthly acute toxicity testing, 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 the effluent 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 conduct three species chronic toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing chronic toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following chronic toxicity testing requirements:

1. *Monitoring Frequency –* The Discharger shall perform quarterly three species chronic toxicity testing.

2. *Sample Types* – Effluent samples shall be flow proportional 24-hour composites and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at the effluent monitoring location EFF-001. The receiving water control shall be a grab sample obtained from the RSW-001U sampling location, as identified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program. If no upstream water is available, or if Old Alamo Creek water demonstrates acute or chronic toxicity, laboratory water may be used.

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* – Chronic toxicity testing measures sublethal (e.g., reduced growth, reproduction) and/or lethal effects to test organisms exposed to an effluent compared to that of the control organisms. The Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity tests with:

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

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

- 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* – For routine and accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, it is not necessary to perform the test using a dilution series. The test may be performed using 100% effluent and one control. 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 Testing Dilution Series

	Dilutions [a] (%)					Control
Sample	**100**	**75**	**50**	**25**	**12.5**	
% Effluent	100	75	50	25	12.5	0
% Control Water	0	25	50	75	87.5	100

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

8. *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 Table 6 on page 52 of the Method Manual. (A retest is only required in this case if the test results do not exceed the monitoring trigger specified in the Special Provision at section VI. 2.a.iii. of the Order.)

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**. Regular 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 discharger 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 frequency, i.e., either quarterly, monthly, accelerated, or Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE).

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 (NOT APPLICABLE)

VII. RECYCLING MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (NOT APPLICABLE)

VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger shall implement the Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements in Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1 of this Order. However, in lieu of conducting the individual monitoring specified in Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1 of this Order the Discharger may elect to participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program. The Discharger may choose to conduct all or part of the receiving water monitoring through the Delta Regional Monitoring Program. If the Discharger elects to cease all or part of the individual receiving water monitoring and instead participates in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program, the Discharger shall submit a letter signed by an authorized representative informing the Board that the Discharger will participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program, and the date on which individual receiving water monitoring required under Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1 will cease, or be modified, and specific monitoring locations and constituent combinations that will no longer be conducted individually. Written approval of the Discharger's request, by the Executive Officer, is required prior to discontinuing part or all of individual receiving water monitoring. Approval by the Executive Officer is not required prior to participating in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program.

If the Discharger participates in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program in lieu of conducting individual receiving water monitoring, the Discharger shall continue to participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program until such time as the Discharger informs the Board that participation in the Delta RMP will cease and individual monitoring is reinstituted. Receiving water monitoring under Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1, is not required under this Order so long as the Discharger adequately supports the Delta Regional Monitoring Program. If the Discharger fails to adequately support the Delta Regional Monitoring Program, as defined by the Delta RMP Steering Committee, the Discharger shall reinstitute individual receiving water monitoring under Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1 upon written notice from the Executive Officer. During participation in the Delta RMP, the Discharger may conduct and submit any or part of the receiving water monitoring included in this Monitoring and Reporting Program that is deemed appropriate by the Discharger.

Delta RMP data is not intended to be used directly to represent either upstream or downstream water quality for purposes of determining compliance with this Permit. Delta RMP monitoring stations are established generally as "integrator sites" to evaluate the combined impacts on water quality of multiple discharges into the Delta; Delta RMP monitoring stations would not normally be able to identify the source of any specific constituent, but would be used to identify water quality issues needing further evaluation. Delta RMP monitoring data, along with individual Discharger data, may be used to help establish background receiving water quality for Reasonable Potential analyses in an NPDES Permit after evaluation of the applicability of the data for that purpose. Delta RMP data, as with all environmental monitoring data, can provide an assessment of water quality at a specific place and time that can be used in conjunction with other information, such as other receiving water monitoring data, spatial and temporal distribution and trends of receiving water data, effluent data from the Discharger's discharge and other point and non-point source discharges, receiving water flow volume, speed and direction, and other information to determine the likely source or sources of a constituent that resulted in exceedance of a receiving water quality objective.

During the period of participation in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program, the Discharger shall continue to report any individually conducted receiving water monitoring data in the Electronic Self-Monitoring Reports (eSMR) according to the Monitoring and Reporting Program. In addition, 1)

with each submitted eSMR, the Discharger's eSMR cover letter shall state that the Discharger is participating in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program in lieu of conducting the individual receiving water monitoring program required by the permit, and 2) with each annual report, the Discharger shall attach a copy of the letter originally submitted to the Central Valley Water Board describing the monitoring location(s) and constituent combinations that will no longer be conducted individually.

A. Monitoring Locations RSW-001, RSW-002, RSW-003, and RSW-004

1. The Discharger shall monitor Old Alamo Creek at RSW-001 and RSW-002 and New Alamo Creek at RSW-003 and RSW-004 as follows:

Table E-5. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow[2]	cfs	Meter[3]	1/week	
Temperature	^{o}F (^{o}C)	Grab	1/week	[1]
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/week	[1]
pH	standard units	Grab	1/week	[1]
Electrical Conductivity	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/month	[1]
TDS	mg/L	Grab	1/month	[1]
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/week	[1]

[1] 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.

[2] Flow monitoring only required in New Alamo Creek, upstream of the confluence with Old Alamo Creek.

[3] Estimate of receiving water flow, recorded for each day of sample collection. Use flow meter or nearby gauging station, if available.

B. Monitoring Location RSW-005

1. The Discharger shall monitor Old Alamo Creek at RSW-005 as follows:

Table E-6. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Carbon Tetrachloride	µg/L	Grab	2/month[2,3]	[1]
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	Grab	2/month[2,3]	[1]
Chloroform	µg/L	Grab	2/month[2,3]	[1]
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	Grab	2/month[2,3]	[1]

[1] 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.

[2] Monitoring only required from 1 November 2017 – 31 March 2018.

[3] Concurrent with effluent monitoring.

C. Monitoring Location RGW-001, RGW-002, RGS-003, RGW-004, RGW-005, RGW-006, and RGW-007

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. Once installed, all new wells shall be added to the monitoring network (which currently consists of Monitoring Well Nos. RGW-001, RGW-002, RGW-003, RGW-004, RGW-005, RGW-006, and RGW-007) and 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 RGW-001, RGW-002, RGW-003, RGW-004, RGW-005, RGW-006 and RGW-007, and any new groundwater monitoring wells shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Table E-7. Groundwater Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Depth to Groundwater	±0.01 feet	Measurement	1/Quarter	--
Groundwater Elevation [1]	±0.01 feet	Calculated	1/Quarter	--
Gradient	feet/feet	Calculated	1/Quarter	--
Gradient Direction	degrees	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 plus Nitrite, Total (as N)[4]	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Ammonia, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[2]
Standard Minerals [3]	µg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	[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, sulfate, 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. Biosolids

1. Monitoring Location BIO-001

a. A composite sample of sludge shall be collected **annually** at Monitoring Location BIO-001 in accordance with EPA's *POTW Sludge Sampling and Analysis Guidance Document*, August 1989, and tested for priority pollutants listed in 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix D, Tables II and III (excluding total phenols).

b. Biosolids monitoring shall be conducted using the methods in Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical methods (EPA publication SW-846), as required in 40 CFR 503.8(b)(4). All results must be reported on a 100% dry weight basis. Records of all analyses must state on each page of the laboratory report whether the results are expressed in "100% dry weight" or "as is."

c. Sampling records shall be retained for a minimum of **5 years**. A log shall be maintained of sludge quantities generated and of handling and disposal activities. The frequency of entries is discretionary; however, the log must be complete enough to serve as a basis for part of the annual report.

B. Emergency Storage Pond Monitoring

1. Monitoring Location PND-001

a. The Discharger shall keep a log related to the use of the Emergency Storage Pond (ESP). In particular the Discharger shall record the following when any type of wastewater is directed to the ESP;

- The date(s) when the wastewater is directed to the ESP;
- The type(s) of wastewater (e.g., untreated due to plant upset, tertiary treated) directed to the ESP;
- The total estimated volume of wastewater directed to the ESP (gallons); and
- The freeboard available in the ESP.

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

C. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization (July 2017 – June 2018)

If the Discharger is participating in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program as described in Attachment E, Section VIII, the Receiving Water portion of this Characterization Monitoring is not required. However, the Report of Waste Discharge for the next permit renewal shall include, at minimum, one representative ambient background characterization monitoring event for priority pollutant constituents during the term of the permit. Data from the Delta Regional Monitoring Program may be utilized to characterize the receiving water in the permit renewal. The Discharger may request that the RMP perform sampling and laboratory analysis to address all or a portion of the monitoring under this Characterization Monitoring with the understanding that the Discharger will provide funding to the RMP sufficient to reimburse all of the costs of this additional effort. Alternatively, the Discharger may conduct any site-specific receiving water monitoring deemed appropriate by the Discharger and submit that monitoring data with this Characterization Monitoring. In general, monitoring

data from samples collected in the immediate vicinity of the discharge will be given greater weight in permitting decisions than receiving water monitoring data collected at greater distances from the discharge point.

1. **Monthly Monitoring**. Monthly samples shall be collected from the effluent and upstream receiving water (EFF-001 and RSW-003) and analyzed for the constituents listed in Table E-8, below. Monthly monitoring shall be conducted from July 2017 through June 2018 (12 consecutive samples, evenly distributed throughout the year) and the results of such monitoring be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board with the monthly self-monitoring reports. 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-8, below.

Table E-8. 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[2]	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chloroform[2]	µg/L	Grab	2
Chloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Dibromochloromethane[2]	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichlorobromomethane[2]	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
Parachlorometa cresol	µg/L	Grab	
Tetrachloroethene	µg/L	Grab	0.5

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
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-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-dichoroethane	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
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

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
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	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	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Barium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
Beryllium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	2
Cadmium	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Chromium (III)	µg/L	24-hr Composite	50
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	Grab	10
Copper	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Cyanide	µg/L	24-hr Composite	5
Fluoride	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Iron	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Lead	µg/L	24-hr Composite	0.5
Mercury[2]	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Manganese	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
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	Grab	0.05
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	Grab	0.05
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	Grab	0.01
alpha-Endosulfan	µg/L	Grab	0.02
alpha-Hexachlorocyclohexane (BHC)	µg/L	Grab	0.01
Alachlor	µg/L	Grab	
Aldrin	µg/L	Grab	0.005
beta-Endosulfan	µg/L	Grab	0.01
beta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	Grab	0.005
Chlordane	µg/L	Grab	0.1
delta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	Grab	0.005
Dieldrin	µg/L	Grab	0.01
Endosulfan sulfate	µg/L	Grab	0.01
Endrin	µg/L	Grab	0.01
Endrin Aldehyde	µg/L	Grab	0.01
Heptachlor	µg/L	Grab	0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide	µg/L	Grab	0.02
Lindane (gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane)	µg/L	Grab	0.5
PCB-1016	µg/L	Grab	0.5

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
PCB-1221	µg/L	Grab	0.5
PCB-1232	µg/L	Grab	0.5
PCB-1242	µg/L	Grab	0.5
PCB-1248	µg/L	Grab	0.5
PCB-1254	µg/L	Grab	0.5
PCB-1260	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Toxaphene	µg/L	Grab	
Atrazine	µg/L	Grab	
Bentazon	µg/L	Grab	
Carbofuran	µg/L	Grab	
2,4-D	µg/L	Grab	
Dalapon	µg/L	Grab	
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	µg/L	Grab	
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	µg/L	Grab	
Dinoseb	µg/L	Grab	
Diquat	µg/L	Grab	
Endothal	µg/L	Grab	
Ethylene Dibromide	µg/L	Grab	
Methoxychlor	µg/L	Grab	
Molinate (Ordram)	µg/L	Grab	
Oxamyl	µg/L	Grab	
Picloram	µg/L	Grab	
Simazine (Princep)	µg/L	Grab	
Thiobencarb	µg/L	Grab	
2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)[3]	µg/L	Grab	
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	µg/L	Grab	
Diazinon	µg/L	Grab	
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	Grab	
Ammonia (as N)	mg/L	Grab	
Boron	µg/L	24-hr Composite	
Chloride	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	µg/L	Grab	
Mercury, Methyl[2]	ng/L	Grab	
Nitrate (as N)[2]	mg/L	Grab	
Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	Grab	
pH	Std Units	Grab	

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
Phosphorus, Total (as P)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Specific conductance (EC) [2]	µmhos/cm	24-hr Composite	
Sulfate	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Sulfide (as S)	mg/L	Grab	
Sulfite (as SO_3)	mg/L	Grab	
Temperature[2]	^oC	Grab	
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) [2]	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	mg/L	24-hr Composite	
Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC)	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] Receiving water monitoring only.

[3] Two samples: once during wet weather and once during dry weather during the 12-month period.

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 Web site (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html). The CIWQS Web site 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.

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

Table E-9. 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
Hourly	Permit effective date	Hourly	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 WDR's; 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.

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

   a. **Calendar Annual Average Limitations**. For constituents with effluent limitations 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 BOD5, TSS, and 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 BOD5 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 Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

e. **Temperature Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the temperature difference in the receiving water based on the temperature measured at RSW-003 and RSW-004 for the averaging periods specified in Section V.A.16.b. and c. of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

C. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs)

1. At any time during the term of this permit, the State Water Board or Central Valley Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit DMRs. Until such notification is given specifically for the submittal of DMRs, the Discharger shall submit DMRs in accordance with the requirements described below.

2. DMRs must be signed and certified as required by the standard provisions (Attachment D). The Discharger shall submit the original DMR and one copy of the DMR to the address listed below:

STANDARD MAIL	**FEDEX/UPS/ OTHER PRIVATE CARRIERS**
State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality c/o DMR Processing Center PO Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-1000	State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality c/o DMR Processing Center 1001 I Street, 15th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

3. All discharge monitoring results must be reported on the official U.S. EPA pre-printed DMR forms (EPA Form 3320-1) or on self-generated forms that follow the exact same format of EPA Form 3320-1.

D. Other Reports

1. **Special Study Reports and Progress Reports.** As specified in the compliance time schedules required in the Special Provisions contained in section VI of the Order, special study and progress reports shall be submitted in accordance with the following reporting requirements. At minimum, the progress reports shall include a discussion of the status of final compliance, whether the Discharger is on schedule to meet the final compliance date, and the remaining tasks to meet the final compliance date.

Table E-10. Reporting Requirements for Special Provisions Reports

Special Provision	Reporting Requirements
Municipal Water Supply Characterization Study (Section VI.C.2.c.)	**1 February**, annually

1. **Within 60 days of permit adoption**, the Discharger shall submit a report outlining reporting levels (RLs), method detection limits, and analytical methods for approval. 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 (MLs) 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 RLs, 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.

2. **Annual Operations Report. By 30 January of each year**, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer 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.

3. **Annual Pretreatment Reporting Requirements**. The Discharger shall submit annually a report to the Central Valley Water Board, with copies to USEPA Region 9 and the State Water Board, describing the Discharger's pretreatment activities over the previous 12 months (1 January through 31 December). In the event that the Discharger is not in compliance with any conditions or requirements of this Order, including noncompliance with pretreatment audit/compliance inspection requirements, then the Discharger shall also include the reasons for noncompliance and state how and when the Discharger shall comply with such conditions and requirements.

   An annual report shall be submitted by **28 February** and include at least the following items:

   a. A summary of analytical results from representative sampling of the POTW's influent and effluent for those pollutants USEPA has identified under section 307(a) of the CWA which are known or suspected to be discharged by nondomestic users. This will consist of an annual full priority pollutant scan. The Discharger is not required to sample and analyze for asbestos. The Discharger shall submit the results of the annual priority pollutant scan electronically to the Central Valley Water Board using the State Water Board's CIWQS Program Website.

      Sludge shall be sampled and analyzed for the same pollutants as the influent and effluent sampling and analysis. The sludge analyzed shall be a composite sample of a minimum of 12 discrete samples taken at equal time intervals over the 24-hour period. Wastewater and sludge sampling and analysis shall be performed at least annually. The Discharger shall also provide any influent, effluent or sludge monitoring data for non-priority pollutants which may be causing or contributing to Interference, Pass-Through or adversely impacting sludge quality. Sampling and analysis shall be performed in accordance with the techniques prescribed in 40 CFR Part 136 and amendments thereto.

   b. A discussion of Upset, Interference, or Pass-Through incidents, if any, at the treatment plant, which the Discharger knows or suspects were caused by nondomestic users of the POTW. The discussion shall include the reasons why the incidents occurred, the corrective actions taken and, if known, the name and address of, the nondomestic user(s) responsible. The discussion shall also include a review of the applicable pollutant limitations to determine whether any additional limitations, or changes to existing requirements, may be necessary to prevent Pass-Through, Interference, or noncompliance with sludge disposal requirements.

   c. The cumulative number of nondomestic users that the Discharger has notified regarding Baseline Monitoring Reports and the cumulative number of nondomestic user responses.

   d. An updated list of the Discharger's significant industrial users (SIUs) including their names and addresses, or a list of deletions, additions and SIU name changes keyed to a previously submitted list. The Discharger shall provide a brief explanation for each change. The list shall identify the SIUs subject to federal categorical standards

by specifying which set(s) of standards are applicable to each SIU. The list shall indicate which SIUs, or specific pollutants from each industry, are subject to local limitations. Local limitations that are more stringent than the federal categorical standards shall also be identified.

e. The Discharger shall characterize the compliance status through the year of record of each SIU by employing the following descriptions:

   i. complied with baseline monitoring report requirements (where applicable);

   ii. consistently achieved compliance;

   iii. inconsistently achieved compliance;

   iv. significantly violated applicable pretreatment requirements as defined by 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(vii);

   v. complied with schedule to achieve compliance (include the date final compliance is required);

   vi. did not achieve compliance and not on a compliance schedule; and

   vii. compliance status unknown.

f. A report describing the compliance status of each SIU characterized by the descriptions in items iii through vii above shall be submitted for each calendar quarter by the first day of the second month following the end of the quarter. The report shall identify the specific compliance status of each such SIU and shall also identify the compliance status of the POTW with regards to audit/pretreatment compliance inspection requirements. If none of the aforementioned conditions exist, at a minimum, a letter indicating that all industries are in compliance and no violations or changes to the pretreatment program have occurred during the quarter must be submitted. The information required in the fourth quarter report shall be included as part of the annual report due every 28 February. This quarterly reporting requirement shall commence upon issuance of this Order.

g. A summary of the inspection and sampling activities conducted by the Discharger during the past year to gather information and data regarding the SIUs. The summary shall include:

   i. The names and addresses of the SIUs subjected to surveillance and an explanation of whether they were inspected, sampled, or both and the frequency of these activities at each user; and

   ii. The conclusions or results from the inspection or sampling of each industrial user.

h. The Discharger shall characterize the compliance status of each SIU by providing a list or table which includes the following information:

   i. Name of SIU;

ii. Category, if subject to federal categorical standards;

iii. The type of wastewater treatment or control processes in place;

iv. The number of samples taken by the POTW during the year;

v. The number of samples taken by the SIU during the year;

vi. For an SIU subject to discharge requirements for total toxic organics, whether all required certifications were provided;

vii. A list of the standards violated during the year. Identify whether the violations were for categorical standards or local limits.

viii. Whether the facility is in significant noncompliance (SNC) as defined at 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(viii) at any time during the year; and

ix. A summary of enforcement or other actions taken during the year to return the SIU to compliance. Describe the type of action (e.g., warning letters or notices of violation, administrative orders, civil actions, and criminal actions), final compliance date, and the amount of fines and penalties collected, if any. Describe any proposed actions for bringing the SIU into compliance;

x. Restriction of flow to the POTW.

xi. Disconnection from discharge to the POTW.

i. A brief description of any programs the POTW implements to reduce pollutants from nondomestic users that are not classified as SIUs;

j. A brief description of any significant changes in operating the pretreatment program which differ from the previous year including, but not limited to, changes concerning: the program's administrative structure, local limits, monitoring program or monitoring frequencies, legal authority, enforcement policy, funding levels, or staffing levels;

k. A summary of the annual pretreatment budget, including the cost of pretreatment program functions and equipment purchases; and

l. A summary of activities to involve and inform the public of the program including a copy of the newspaper notice, if any, required under 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(viii).

Pretreatment Program reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and the:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
1001 I Street or P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812

and the

Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency WTR-5
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

As described in section I, 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 includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this Order.

This Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for Dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this 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	**5A48015002**
Discharger	City of Vacaville
Name of Facility	Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address	6040 Vaca Station Road
	Elmira, CA 95625
	Solano County
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Royce Cunningham, Director of Utilities, (707) 469-6400
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Royce Cunningham, Director of Utilities, (707) 469-6400
Mailing Address	650 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688
Billing Address	SAME
Type of Facility	POTW
Major or Minor Facility	Major
Threat to Water Quality	Category 1
Complexity	Category A
Pretreatment Program	Y
Recycling Requirements	Not Applicable
Facility Permitted Flow	15 mgd Average Dry Weather Flow (ADWF)
Facility Design Flow	15 mgd Average Dry Weather Flow (ADWF)
Watershed	Vaca Mountains
Receiving Water	Old Alamo Creek
Receiving Water Type	Agricultural Drainage

A. The City of Vacaville (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Easterly 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.

B. The Facility discharges wastewater to Old Alamo Creek tributary to New Alamo Creek, tributary to the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, all waters of the United States. The Discharger was previously regulated by Order R5-2008-0055-01 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0077691 adopted on 25 April 2008 and expired on 1 April 2013. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. The State Water Board retains the jurisdictional authority to enforce such requirements under Water Code section 1211.

C. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge and submitted an application for reissuance of its WDR's and NPDES permit on 2 October 2012. The application was deemed complete on 14 February 2013. A site visit was conducted on 18 June 2013, to observe operations and collect additional data to develop permit limitations and requirements for waste discharge.

II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Discharger provides sewerage service for the City of Vacaville and community of Elmira, serving a population of approximately 97,000. The design average dry weather flow capacity of the Facility is 15 million gallons per day (mgd).

A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls

The wastewater treatment plant consists of a single South Plant treatment train, with the recent removal of the older North Plant treatment train in 2012. The South (Plant), commissioned in November 2004, consists of headworks, primary sedimentation basins, aeration basins, secondary circular clarifiers, a chlorination contact chamber and dechlorination facilities. The Plant nitrifies and denitrifies. Sludge is anaerobically digested, dewatered using a belt filter press, then air-dried to produce biosolids, which are subsequently hauled to the Recology Landfill. The Plant is rated for an average dry weather flow capacity of 15 mgd and a peak wet weather flow capacity of 55 mgd. The Discharger is constructing the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant Filtration Project in order to comply with California Code of Regulations, Title 22, or equivalent, disinfection requirements by 1 May 2015.

B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

1. The Facility is located in Section 19, T6N, R1E, MDB&M, as shown in Attachment B, a part of this Order.

2. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged at Discharge Point No. 001 to Old Alamo Creek, at a point Latitude 38°, 20', 48" N and longitude 121°, 54', 06"W. Old Alamo Creek is a water of the United States, and tributary to New Alamo Creek, which is tributary to a section of Ulatis Creek found within the legal boundaries of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

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

After adoption of the 2001 NPDES permit, Order 5-01-044, by the Central Valley Water Board in March 2001, the Discharger petitioned the adopted Order to the State Water Board. The

major issues of the petition were regarding the tributary rule and beneficial use designations; beneficial uses of Old Alamo Creek; Sources of Drinking Water Policy (State Water Board Resolution 88-63); disinfection requirements; bypass prohibition; and effluent, groundwater, and receiving water limitations. The State Water Quality Order 2002-0015 upheld Order 5-01-044. The Discharger and the California Association of Sanitation Agencies challenged WQO 2002-0015 in Superior Court. The Court filed its decision 30 August 2012 upholding Order 5-01-044.

Since the adoption of Order 5-01-044, the Basin Plan was amended to de-designate the COLD and MUN beneficial uses in Old Alamo Creek. This Order reflects the changes in beneficial uses of Old Alamo Creek. Since adoption of R5-2008-0055-01, the Basin Plan was amended 27 May 2010, to include site-specific objectives for chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane and chloroform for New Alamo Creek. This Order reflects the site-specific objectives for chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane and chloroform.

On 23 May 2008, the Discharger petitioned R5-2008-0055-01 to the State Water Resources Control Board. The major issues of the petition were regarding beneficial uses of New Alamo Creek; Sources of Drinking Water Policy (State Water Board Resolution 88-63); disinfection requirements; bypass prohibition; and effluent, groundwater, and receiving water limitations. The SWRCB has held the petition in abeyance and will continue to hold it in abeyance until 23 May 2014 pending additional requests from the Discharger.

Effluent limitations/Discharge Specifications contained in R5-2008-0055-01 for discharges from Monitoring Location EFF-001 and representative monitoring data from the term of R5-2008-0055-01 are as follows:

Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation (Interim Limitations)			Monitoring Data (July 2008 – July 2012)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
BOD 5-day 20°C	mg/L	20	25	30	4.5	--	13
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	20	25	30	3.4		17.6
Settleable Solids	ml/L	0.1	0.2				1.2
pH	Standard units			6.5-8.5			6.4-8.3
Ammonia	mg/L	1.3		3.2	Non-detect		0.3
Cyanide	mg/L	4.1		8.9 (21)	1.9		4.2
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	0.41		0.86 (49)			49
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	0.63		0.99 (62)			54
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	17		(40)			31

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation (Interim Limitations)			Monitoring Data (July 2008 – July 2012)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Total Coliform	MPN/100 mL			240			900
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/L			122			144

( )= Interim limits

D. Compliance Summary

The Discharger previously accrued Mandatory Minimum Penalties (MMPs) that were assessed by Administrative Civil Liability Complaints (ACLC) R5-2010-0540 and ACLC R5- 2013-0565 for violations from 1 January 2008 to 31 April 2013 in the total amount of twelve thousand dollars ($12,000). These cases are now closed. Most violations were for chlorine residual, settleable solids, total coliform and pH limits. The Discharger also accrued Mandatory Minimum Penalties (MMPs) that were assessed by Administrative Civil Liability Complaints (ACLC) R5-2014-0513 for violations from 1 May 2013 to 31 December 2013 in the total amount of twelve thousand dollars ($21,000).

Interim limitations for chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane and total trihalomethanes were exceeded in September 2013. During construction of the Facility upgrades to add filtration, it was necessary to take the Facility out of service and store influent waste streams in emergency storage basins. When the plant flow resumed, the stored wastewater was added to normal flows, which decreased process treatment times and resulted in lower process removal efficiencies than normal operations. The increased biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and total suspended solids (TSS) in the secondary effluent requires more chlorine (sodium hypochlorite) be added to achieve proper disinfection. More chlorine increases disinfection by products such as chlorodibromomethane and dichlorobromomethane. The interim limitations for chlorodibromomethane and dichlorobromomethane were increased to accommodate the change in operations and included in the Time Schedule Order R5-2008-0056-03. Construction of the filtration facilities will be complete by the end of 2014 and no additional violations of chlorodibromomethane and dichlorobromomethane are expected after that date.

E. Planned Changes

The Discharger has completed construction of denitrification facilities which included modification to existing aeration basins and adding aeration basins. Construction has begun on the filtration facilities and is expected to be complete by the end of 2014.

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 Plans.** 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 April 2010), for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (hereinafter Basin Plan) on 15 September 1998 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. On 28 April 2005, the Central Valley Water Board adopted an amendment to the Basin Plan to de-designate four beneficial uses of Old Alamo Creek. And on 27 May 2010, the Central Valley Water Board adopted an amendment establishing site-specific objectives for chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane and chloroform. Requirements in this Order implement the Basin Plan and these amendments.

   The Basin Plan at II-2.00 states that the beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams. The Basin Plan in Table II-1, Section II, does not specifically identify beneficial uses for Old Alamo Creek, but does identify present and potential uses for Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, to which Old Alamo Creek, via New Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek, are tributary. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. The Basin Plan de-designated beneficial uses for Old Alamo Creek.

   • *MUN, COLD, MIGR and SPWN do not apply to Old Alamo Creek (Solano County) from its headwaters to the confluence with New Alamo Creek.*

   Thus, beneficial uses applicable to Old Alamo Creek and New Alamo Creek are as follows:Ù

Table F-3. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001	Old Alamo Creek	Existing: Irrigation and stock watering agricultural supply (AGR), industrial process (PRO) and service supply (IND), contact (REC-1) and non-contact (REC-2) water recreation, warm freshwater habitat (WARM), wildlife habitat (WILD) and navigation (NAV).
3.2 miles downstream of 001	New Alamo Creek	Existing: Municipal and domestic supply (MUN), irrigation and stock watering agricultural supply (AGR), industrial process (PRO) and service supply (IND), contact and non-contact water recreation (REC-1 and REC-2), freshwater habitat for both warm (WARM) and cold (COLD) species, migration (MIGR) waters for both warm (striped bass, sturgeon, and shad) and cold water freshwater species (salmon and steelhead), spawning (SPWN) for warm water species (striped bass, sturgeon, and shad), wildlife habitat (WILD) and navigation (NAV).
Groundwater	Groundwater	Existing: Municipal and domestic supply (MUN), irrigation and stock watering agricultural supply (AGR), industrial process (PRO) and service supply (IND).

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, which 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. Resolution 68-16 is deemed to incorporate the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law.
Resolution 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is

justified based on specific findings. The 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 State Water Board Resolution 68-16.

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. **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.

7. **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 Central Valley Water Board has adopted numeric water quality objectives in the Basin Plan for the following constituents: arsenic, barium, copper, cyanide, iron, manganese, silver and zinc. As detailed elsewhere in this Permit, available effluent quality data indicate that none of these constituents have a 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).

8. **Storm Water Requirements.** USEPA promulgated federal regulations for storm water on 16 November 1990 in 40 CFR 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.

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 30 November 2006 USEPA gave final approval to California's 2006 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 CFR 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*." There are no 303(d) listings for Old Alamo Creek, New Alamo Creek, or Ulatis Creek. However, the listing for the northwestern portion of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta includes: chlorpyrifos, dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), diazinon, electrical conductivity, group A pesticides, invasive species, mercury and unknown toxicity.

2. **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).** USEPA requires the Central Valley Water Board to develop TMDLs for each 303(d) listed pollutant and water body combination. Table F-4, below, identifies the 303(d) listings and the status of each TMDL.

Table F-4. 303 (d) List for Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Pollutant	Potential Sources	TMDL Completion
Chlorpyrifos		October 2007
DDT		[2]
Diazinon		October 2007
Electrical Conductivity		(January 2019)
Group A Pesticides		[2]
Invasive Species		(January 2019)
Mercury	Abandoned Mines	January 2009
Unknown Toxicity		(January 2019)

[1] Dates in parenthesis are proposed TMDL completion dates.
[2] TMDL completion date will be updated when the next 303(d) list is updated.

3. The 303(d) listings and TMDLs 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. The waste consists primarily of domestic sewage and treated effluent;

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

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

IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations 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 water quality-based effluent limitations to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

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 CFR 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 CFR 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 CFR 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 CFR 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards; and 40 CFR 122.44(d) requires that permits include WQBELs to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water where numeric water quality objectives have not been established. 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 CFR 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 CFR 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 report of waste discharge (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 Part 122.41(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 CFR 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 CFR 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 CFR 122.41(m), as allowing bypass only for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. However, on 8 May 2003, the State Water Board and Central Valley Water Board agreed to Stay the bypass prohibition contained in the Discharge Prohibitions of Order 5-01-044 until the Contra Costa County Superior Court considers the Discharge's petition for Writ challenging the prohibition on bypass. Subsequently on 5 September 2003, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution No. R5-2003-0129, amending Provision F.4 of Order No. 5-01-044, to stay the time schedule until the Court considers the Discharger's Petition for Writ. The allowance of bypass of the secondary treatment facilities during wet

weather high flows conditions were extended in Order R5-2008-0055-01 to 30 April 2015, pending Court action. The Court acted on the Discharger's petition filed on 30 August 2012; however it did not address the bypass issue. Therefore, the original compliance schedule in R5-2008-0055-01 is continued in this Order.

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 CFR Part 122.41 et seq. that requires the proper design and operation of treatment facilities

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 and Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 125.3.

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 POTWs [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, 40 CFR Part 133, establish the minimum weekly and monthly average level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment for BOD_5 and TSS. Tertiary treatment is necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving stream and the final effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS are based on the technical capability of the tertiary process. BOD_5 is a measure of the amount of oxygen used in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter. The secondary and tertiary treatment standards for BOD_5 and TSS are indicators of the effectiveness of the treatment processes. The principal design parameter for wastewater treatment plants is the daily BOD_5 and TSS loading rates and the corresponding removal rate of the system. In applying 40 CFR Part 133 for weekly and monthly average BOD_5 and TSS limitations, the application of tertiary

treatment processes results in the ability to achieve lower levels for BOD_5 and TSS than the secondary standards currently prescribed; the 30-day average BOD_5 and TSS limitations have been revised to 10 mg/L, which is technically based on the capability of a tertiary system. In addition to the average weekly and average monthly effluent limitations, a daily maximum effluent limitation for BOD_5 and TSS is included in the Order to ensure that the treatment works are not organically overloaded and operate in accordance with design capabilities. In addition, 40 CFR 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. If 85 percent removal of BOD_5 and TSS must be achieved by a secondary treatment plant, it must also be achieved by a tertiary (i.e., treatment beyond secondary level) treatment plant. This Order contains a limitation requiring an average of 85 percent removal of BOD_5 and TSS over each calendar month. This Order requires Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs) that are equal to or more stringent than the secondary technology-based treatment described in 40 CFR Part 133. (See section IV.C.3.d of this Attachment for the discussion on Pathogens which includes WQBELs for BOD_5 and TSS.)

b. **Flow.** The Facility was designed to provide a secondary and tertiary level of treatment for up to a design flow of 15 mgd. Therefore, this Order contains an average dry weather discharge flow effluent limit of 15 mgd.

c. **pH.** The secondary treatment regulations at 40 CFR Part 133 also require that pH be maintained between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units.

Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations

Discharge Point No. 001

Table F-5a. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations – 1 November – 30 April

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
BOD[1]	mg/L	20	25	30		
	lbs/day[2]	2506	3127	3753		
TSS[1]	mg/L	30	45	50		
	lbs/day[2]	3753	5630	6255		
pH[3]					6.0	9.0

Table F-5b. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations – 1 May – 31 October

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
BOD[1]	mg/L	10	15	20		
	lbs/day[2]	1252	1878	2504		
TSS[1]	mg/L	10	15	20		
	lbs/day[2]	1252	1878	2504		

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
pH[3]					6.0	9.0

1-The average monthly percent removal of BOD_5-day 20^oC and total suspended solids shall not be less than 85 percent.

2-Based on a design average dry weather flow (ADWF) of 15.0 mgd.

3- More stringent water quality-based effluent limitations for pH have been applied in the Order.

C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

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. This Order contains requirements, expressed as a technology equivalence requirement, more stringent than secondary treatment requirements that are necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The rationale for these requirements, which consist of tertiary treatment, is discussed in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

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, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) 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 WQBELs 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. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply.

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. Section 131.3(e), 40 CFR, 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 CFR 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 July 2008 through 31 July 2012, which includes effluent and ambient background data submitted in SMRs and the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD). Additional data outside of this range was also analyzed where there was inadequate data to perform an analysis. Data for trihalomethanes were also collected from 1 October 2012 through 13 September 2013 to assist in reasonable potential analyses and attenuation factors for chlorodibromomethane and dichlorobromomethane.

c. **Assimilative Capacity/Mixing Zone.**

i. **Background.** The Facility discharges to Old Alamo Creek. Although Old Alamo Creek does not have the beneficial use of municipal and domestic water supply (MUN), New Alamo Creek has the MUN beneficial use and is only three miles downstream of the discharge. The discharge of nitrate into Old Alamo Creek has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the nitrate primary maximum contaminant level (MCL) in New Alamo Creek. Therefore water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) are required and the Discharger conducted a mixing zone study and requested a dilution credit for nitrate. Previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 allows a nitrate mixing zone in New Alamo Creek with a dilution credit of 1.1:1, which resulted in an average monthly effluent limit (AMEL) of 17 mg/L (as N). Previous Order R5-2008-005-01 required the Discharger to conduct an updated mixing zone/dilution study and determine the available dilution based on the harmonic mean flow in New Alamo Creek.

ii. **Receiving Water Characteristics.** Alamo Creek originates in the Vaca Mountains and flows east-southeast through the City of Vacaville ultimately

joining Ulatis Creek on the Sacramento Valley floor. In the early 1960s, the Solano County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service built the Ulatis Creek Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Project (Solano County 1966-1968). As part of this project, portions of Alamo Creek were realigned to form a new channel bypassing the City of Vacaville.

Part of the original Alamo Creek channel was left in place and renamed Old Alamo Creek. The realignment of the creek cut off flows from the upper watershed to Old Alamo Creek leaving it dry with the exception of discharges from the Easterly WWTP, Kinder-Morgan groundwater remediation project, storm water runoff, and agricultural runoff. Old Alamo Creek discharges into New Alamo Creek.

New Alamo Creek is an engineered earthen channel that conveys all of Alamo Creek's flows from just above Leisure Town Road to the confluence with Ulatis Creek. Overall, Alamo/New Alamo Creek travels roughly 20 miles before joining Ulatis Creek. Land uses within the Alamo/New Alamo Creek watershed include: agriculture at 57 percent; natural/forest at 25 percent; and urban at 18 percent.

iii. **Regulatory Guidance for Dilution Credits and Mixing Zones.** 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 TMDLs, 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.

iv. **Dilution/Mixing Zone Study Results.** The Discharger developed a mixing zone study titled *City of Vacaville Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant Nitrate Dilution Credit and Mixing Zone Assessment*, Robertson – Bryan, Inc., December 2012 (Study). The Study evaluated assimilative capacity for nitrate and dilution in New Alamo Creek. The SIP's mixing zone requirements were evaluated for the proposed mixing zone and potential far-field nutrient enrichment impacts that could occur due to discharges of nitrate were also evaluated. The Study demonstrated that a mixing zone of 50 feet from the confluence with Old Alamo Creek meets the SIP's mixing zone requirements and the far-field nutrient enrichment effects would be immeasurable.

v. **Evaluation of Available Dilution for Nitrate+Nitrite.** As discussed in section IV.C.2.c.iii of this Fact Sheet, for priority pollutants, the SIP supersedes the Basin Plan mixing zone provisions. Nitrate plus nitrite is not a priority pollutant, therefore, the Central Valley Water Board has exercised discretion concerning the application of the SIP mixing zone requirements. Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP, provides that mixing zones should not be allowed at or near drinking water intakes. Furthermore, regarding the application of a mixing zone for protection of human health, the TSD states that, "...*the presence of mixing zones should not result in significant health risks, when evaluated using reasonable assumptions about exposure pathways. Thus, where drinking water contaminants are a concern, mixing zones should not encroach on drinking water intakes.*" There are no drinking water intakes in New Alamo Creek and based on a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) conducted by the Discharger, MUN is neither an existing nor an attainable use.

> "The UAA documented that no drinking water use of segment waters has occurred in the past or is occurring presently. The UAA concluded that MUN is neither an existing nor an attainable use in these water body segments, and that no form of MUN use is reasonably expected to occur in the future in these water body segments based on system hydrologic and water quality characteristics, as well as the availability of higher quality water sources in the area." Final Staff Report, New Alamo and Ulatis Creeks BPA, May 2010

In using its discretion and using reasonable assumptions about exposure pathways, Central Valley Water Board staff used the SIP's procedures for human health criteria to determine the appropriate dilution credit and assimilative capacity. The harmonic mean flow for New Alamo Creek was used to determine a dilution credit for nitrate. Based on the Discharger's mixing zone studies, a dilution credit of 0.49:1 is allowed for nitrate in New Alamo Creek. For evaluating the assimilative capacity, the average ambient background nitrate concentration

was used to calculate the WQBELs. The nitrate mixing zone meets the requirements of the SIP as follows:

(a) *Shall 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." New Alamo Creek is about 20 miles long and the mixing zone for nitrate is only 50 feet. The nitrate mixing zone is small as compared to the New Alamo Creek. 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* – At the concentrations in the mixing zone, nitrate is not toxic to aquatic life. Therefore, acutely toxic conditions will not occur in the mixing zone.

(c) *Shall not restrict the passage of aquatic life* – At the concentrations in the mixing zone, nitrate is not toxic to aquatic life. Therefore, the mixing zone will not restrict the passage of aquatic life.

(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* – At the concentrations in the mixing zone, nitrate is not toxic to aquatic life. In addition, New Alamo Creek is not listed on any State or federal register of critical habitats, nor is the mixing zone reach known to contain or provide habitat for threatened or endangered biological species. Therefore, the mixing zone will not impact biologically sensitive or critical habitats.

(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* – This Order includes permit requirements that do not allow floating debris, oil, or scum, prevent the production of objectionable color, odor, taste, or turbidity; and prevent objectionable bottom deposits and nuisance. Nutrients can cause eutrophication, which could result in the production of undesirable or nuisance aquatic life. The Discharger's Study evaluated the possible nutrient enrichment impacts of the discharge, both in the near-field and the far-field. The Study demonstrates that the allowance of a mixing zone for nitrate will not result in these impacts. Therefore, the allowance of a nitrate+nitrite mixing zone 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* – As discussed in subsection (a), above, the nitrate+nitrite mixing zone is small relative to the water body, so it will not dominate the water body. Furthermore, there are no other mixing zones in New Alamo Creek, so the mixing zone does not overlap mixing zones from other outfalls.

(g) *Shall not be allowed at or near any drinking water intake* – There are no drinking water intakes in New Alamo Creek, nor in the lower reach of Ulatis Creek or Cache Slough downstream of New Alamo Creek.

The nitrate+nitrite 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, 2d Edition* (updated July 2007), Section 5.1, and Section 2.2.2 of the TSD. The SIP incorporates the same guidelines.

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). The receiving water contains assimilative capacity for nitrate+nitrite and a mixing zone for meets 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 historic monitoring data, the Facility would be unable to achieve consistent compliance with more stringent effluent limitations calculated based on Facility performance, but is capable of meeting the effluent limitations with the allowed dilution credits. Therefore the mixing zone for nitrate+nitrite is considered as small as practicable, and fully meets the requirements of the SIP.

Table F-6. Nitrate+Nitrite Mixing Zone Specifications

Length	Width	Mean Background Nitrate+Nitrite Concentration	Dilution Credit
50 feet	~30 feet[1]	2.6 mg/L (as N)	0.49:1

[1] Comprises entire width of New Alamo Creek, which varies depending on stream flow.

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:

- 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.

- 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.

- 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 50 feet downstream of the discharge) relative to the large size of the receiving water (approximately 20 miles), is not at or near a drinking water intake, and does not overlap a mixing zone from a different outfall**.**

- The Central Valley Water Board is allowing a mixing zone for nitrate+nitrite only and has determined allowing such mixing zone will not cause acutely toxic conditions to aquatic life passing through the mixing zone.

- 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 for a human health constituent only, 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.

- 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.

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

- The mixing zone study indicates the maximum allowed dilution factor to be 0.49:1 for nitrate+nitrite based on the harmonic mean of flow in New Alamo Creek. 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 a dilution factor of 0.49:1 is needed or necessary for the Discharger to achieve compliance with this Order.

- 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.

- 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

nitrate+nitrite. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 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 Resolution 68-16 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."*

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,

The Central Valley Water Board also determined establishing effluent limitations for nitrate+nitrite that have been adjusted for dilution credits provided in Table F-5 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 nitrate+nitrite that have been adjusted for dilution credits provided in Table F-5 are appropriate and necessary to comply with the Basin Plan, SIP, Federal anti-degradation regulations and Resolution 68-16.

d. Conversion Factors. The CTR contains aquatic life criteria for cadmium, chromium III, 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.

e. **Hardness-Dependent CTR Metals Criteria.** The *California Toxics Rule* and the *National Toxics Rule* 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 reasonable worst-case ambient hardness as required by the SIP[1], the CTR[1] and State

[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.

Water Board Order No. WQO 2008-0008 (City of Davis). The SIP and the CTR require the use of "receiving water" or "actual ambient" hardness, respectively, to determine effluent limitations for these metals. (SIP, § 1.2; 40 CFR § 131.38(c)(4)) The CTR does not define whether the term "ambient," as applied in the regulations, necessarily requires the consideration of upstream as opposed to downstream hardness conditions. Therefore, where reliable, representative data are available, the hardness value for calculating criteria can be the downstream receiving water hardness, after mixing with the effluent (Order WQO 2008-0008, p. 11). The Central Valley Water Board thus has considerable discretion in determining ambient hardness (*Id.*, p.10).

As discussed below, scientific literature provides a reliable method for calculating protective hardness-dependent CTR criteria, considering all discharge conditions. This methodology produces hardness-dependent CTR criteria based on the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness that ensure these metals do not cause receiving water toxicity under any downstream receiving water condition. Under this methodology, the Central Valley Water Board considers all hardness conditions that could occur in the ambient downstream receiving water after the effluent has mixed with the water body[2]. This ensures that effluent limitations are fully protective of aquatic life in all areas of the receiving water affected by the discharge under all flow conditions, at the fully mixed location, and throughout the water body including at the point of discharge into the water body.

i. **Conducting the Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA).** The SIP in Section 1.3 states, "The RWQCB shall…determine whether a discharge may: (1) cause, (2) have a reasonable potential to cause, or (3) contribute to an excursion above any applicable priority pollutant criterion or objective." Section 1.3 provides a step-by-step procedure for conducting the RPA. The procedure requires the comparison of the Maximum Effluent Concentration (MEC) and Maximum Ambient Background Concentration to the applicable criterion that has been properly adjusted for hardness. Unless otherwise noted, for the hardness-dependent CTR metals criteria the following procedures were followed for properly adjusting the criterion for hardness when conducting the RPA.

a) The SIP requires water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) if the MEC is equal to or exceeds the applicable criterion, adjusted for hardness. For comparing the MEC to the applicable criterion, the "fully mixed" reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness was used to adjust the criterion. In this evaluation the portion of the receiving water affected by the discharge is analyzed. For hardness-dependent criteria, the hardness of the effluent has an impact on the determination of the applicable criterion in areas of the receiving water affected by the discharge. Therefore, for comparing the MEC to the applicable criterion, the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness was used to adjust the criterion. For this

[1] 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. It further requires that the hardness values used must be consistent with the design discharge conditions for design flows and mixing zones.

[2] All effluent discharges will change the ambient downstream metals concentration and hardness. It is not possible to change the metals concentration without also changing the hardness.

situation it is necessary to consider the hardness of the effluent in determining the applicable hardness to adjust the criterion. The procedures for determining the applicable criterion after proper adjustment using the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness is outlined in subsection ii, below.

b) The SIP requires WQBELs if the receiving water is impaired upstream (outside the influence) of the discharge, i.e., if the Maximum Ambient Background Concentration of a pollutant exceeds the applicable criterion, adjusted for hardness[1]. For comparing the Maximum Ambient Background Concentration to the applicable criterion, the reasonable worst-case upstream ambient hardness was used to adjust the criteria. This is appropriate, because this area is outside the influence of the discharge. Since the discharge does not impact the upstream hardness, the effect of the effluent hardness was not included in this evaluation.

ii. **Calculating Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations.** The remaining discussion in this section relates to the development of WQBELs when it has been determined that the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR hardness-dependent metals criteria in the receiving water.

A 2006 Study[2] developed procedures for calculating the effluent concentration allowance (ECA)[3] for CTR hardness-dependent metals. The 2006 Study demonstrated that it is necessary to evaluate all discharge conditions (e.g. high and low flow conditions) and the hardness and metals concentrations of the effluent and receiving water when determining the appropriate ECA for these hardness-dependent metals. This method is superior to relying on downstream receiving water samples alone because it captures all possible mixed conditions in the receiving water. Both receiving water and effluent hardness vary based on flow and other factors, but the variability of receiving water and effluent hardness is sometimes independent. Using a calculated hardness value ensures that the Central Valley Water Board considers all possible mixed downstream values that may result from these two independent variables. Relying on receiving water sampling alone is less likely to capture all possible mixed downstream conditions.

The equation describing the total recoverable regulatory criterion, as established in the CTR[4], is as follows:

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

[1] The pollutant must also be detected in the effluent.

[2] Emerick, R.W.; Borroum, Y.; & Pedri, J.E., 2006. California and National Toxics Rule Implementation and Development of Protective Hardness Based Metal Effluent Limitations. WEFTEC, Chicago, Ill.

[3] The ECA is defined in Appendix 1 of the SIP (page Appendix 1-2). The ECA is used to calculate WQBELs in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP.

[4] 40 CFR § 131.38(b)(2).

Where:

H = hardness (as $CaCO_3$)[1]

WER = water-effect ratio

m, b = metal- and criterion-specific constants

In accordance with the CTR, the default value for the WER is 1. A WER study must be conducted to use a value other than 1. The constants "m" and "b" are specific to both the metal under consideration, and the type of total recoverable criterion (i.e., acute or chronic). The metal-specific values for these constants are provided in the CTR at paragraph (b)(2), Table 1.

The equation for the ECA is defined in Section 1.4, Step 2, of the SIP and is as follows:

$$ECA = C \quad \text{(when } C \leq B\text{)}^{2} \qquad \text{(Equation 2)}$$

Where:

C = the priority pollutant criterion/objective, adjusted for hardness (see Equation 1, above)

B = the ambient background concentration

The 2006 Study demonstrated that the relationship between hardness and the calculated criteria is the same for some metals, so the same procedure for calculating the ECA may be used for these metals. The same procedure can be used for chronic cadmium, chromium III, copper, nickel, and zinc. These metals are hereinafter referred to as "Concave Down Metals". "Concave Down" refers to the shape of the curve represented by the relationship between hardness and the CTR criteria in Equation 1. Another similar procedure can be used for determining the ECA for acute cadmium, lead, and acute silver, which are referred to hereafter as "Concave Up Metals".

ECA for Cadmium (Chronic), Chromium III, Copper, Nickel, and Zinc – For Concave Down Metals (i.e., cadmium (chronic), chromium III, copper, nickel, and zinc) the 2006 Study demonstrates that when the effluent is in compliance with the CTR criteria and the upstream receiving water is in compliance with the CTR criteria, any mixture of the effluent and receiving water will always be in compliance with the CTR criteria[3]. The 2006 Study proves that regardless of whether the effluent hardness is lower or greater than the upstream hardness, the reasonable worst-case flow condition is the effluent dominated condition (i.e., no receiving water flow)[4]. Consequently, for Concave Down Metals, the CTR

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

[2] The 2006 Study assumes the ambient background metals concentration is equal to the CTR criterion (i.e. C ≤ B)

[3] 2006 Study, p. 5700

[4] There are two typographical errors in the 2006 Study in the discussion of Concave Down Metals when the effluent hardness is less than the receiving water hardness. The effluent and receiving water hardness were

criteria have been calculated using the downstream ambient hardness under this condition.

The effluent hardness ranged from 150 mg/L to 250 mg/L, based on 56 samples from July 2008 to December 2011. The upstream receiving water hardness varied from 190 mg/L to 300 mg/L, based on 11 samples from January 2011 to December 2011. Under the effluent dominated condition, the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness is 150 mg/L. As demonstrated in the example shown in Table F-6, below, using this hardness to calculate the ECA for all Concave Down Metals will result in WQBELs that are protective under all flow conditions, from the effluent dominated condition to high flow condition. This example for copper assumes the following conservative conditions for the upstream receiving water:

- Upstream receiving water always at the lowest observed upstream receiving water hardness (i.e., 150 mg/L)

- Upstream receiving water copper concentration always at the CTR criteria (i.e., no assimilative capacity).

Using these reasonable worst-case receiving water conditions, a simple mass balance (as shown in Equation 3, below) accounts for all possible mixtures of effluent and receiving water under all flow conditions.

$$C_{MIX} = C_{RW} \times (1\text{-}EF) + C_{Eff} \times (EF) \qquad \text{(Equation 3)}$$

Where:

C_{MIX} = Mixed concentration (e.g. metals or hardness)
C_{RW} = Upstream receiving water concentration
C_{Eff} = Effluent concentration
EF = Effluent Fraction

In this example, for copper, for any receiving water flow condition (high flow to low flow), the fully-mixed downstream ambient copper concentration is in compliance with the CTR criteria.[1].

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transposed in the discussion, but the correct hardness values were used in the calculations. The typographical errors were confirmed by the author of the 2006 Study, by email dated 1 April 2011, from Dr. Robert Emerick to Mr. James Marshall, Central Valley Water Board.

[1] This method considers the actual lowest observed upstream hardness and actual lowest observed effluent hardness to determine the reasonable worst-case ambient downstream hardness under all possible receiving water flow conditions. Table F-7 demonstrates that the receiving water is always in compliance with the CTR criteria at the fully-mixed location in the receiving water. It also demonstrates that the receiving water is in compliance with the CTR criteria for all mixtures from the point of discharge to the fully-mixed location. Therefore, a mixing zone is not used for compliance.

Table F-7. Copper ECA Evaluation

Lowest Observed Effluent Hardness					**150 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$)**
Lowest Observed Upstream Receiving Water Hardness					**190 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$)**
Highest Assumed Upstream Receiving Water Copper Concentration					**16.1 µg/L[1]**
Copper $ECA_{chronic}$[2]					**13.2 µg/L**
Effluent Fraction[6]		**Fully Mixed Downstream Ambient Concentration**			
		Hardness[3] (mg/L)	**CTR Criteria[4] (µg/L)**	**Copper[5] (µg/L)**	**Complies with CTR Criteria**
High Flow	1%	189.6	16.1	16.1	**Yes**
	5%	188	16.0	16.0	**Yes**
	15%	184	15.7	15.7	**Yes**
	25%	180	15.4	15.4	**Yes**
	50%	170	14.7	14.7	**Yes**
	75%	160	13.9	13.9	**Yes**
Low Flow	100%	150	13.2	13.2	**Yes**

1 Highest assumed upstream receiving water copper concentration calculated using Equation 1 for chronic criterion at a hardness of 190 mg/L.

2 ECA calculated using Equation 1 for chronic criterion at a hardness of 150 mg/L.

3 Fully mixed downstream ambient hardness is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent hardness at the applicable effluent fraction using Equation 3.

4 Fully mixed downstream ambient criteria are the chronic criteria calculated using Equation 1 at the mixed hardness.

5 Fully mixed downstream ambient copper concentration is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent copper concentrations at the applicable effluent fraction using Equation 3.

6 The effluent fraction ranges from 1% at the high receiving water flow condition, to 100% at the lowest receiving water flow condition (i.e., effluent dominated).

ECA for Cadmium (Acute), Lead, and Silver – For Concave Up Metals (i.e., cadmium (acute), lead, and silver), the relationship between hardness and the metals criteria is different than for Concave Down Metals. The 2006 Study demonstrates that for Concave Up Metals, the effluent and upstream receiving water can be in compliance with the CTR criteria, but the resulting mixture may contain metals concentrations that exceed the CTR criteria and could cause toxicity. For these metals, the 2006 Study provides a mathematical approach to calculate the ECA that is protective of aquatic life, in all areas of the receiving water affected by the discharge, under all discharge and receiving water flow conditions (see Equation 4, below).

The ECA, as calculated using Equation 4, is based on the reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water hardness, the lowest observed effluent hardness, and assuming no receiving water assimilative capacity for metals (i.e., ambient background metals concentrations are at their respective CTR criterion). Equation 4 is not used in place of the CTR equation (Equation 1). Rather,

Equation 4, which is derived using the CTR equation, is used as a direct approach for calculating the ECA. This replaces an iterative approach for calculating the ECA. The CTR equation has been used to evaluate the receiving water downstream of the discharge at all discharge and flow conditions to ensure the ECA is protective (e.g., see Table F-7).

$$ECA = \left[\frac{m\left(H_e - H_{rw}\right)\left(e^{m\{\ln(H_{rw})\}+b}\right)}{H_{rw}} + e^{m\{\ln(H_{rw})\}+b}\right] \qquad \text{(Equation 4)}$$

Where:

m, b = criterion specific constants (from CTR)

H_e = lowest observed effluent hardness

H_{rw} = reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water hardness

An example similar to the Concave Down Metals is shown for lead**,** a Concave Up Metal, in Table F-8, below. As previously mentioned, the lowest effluent hardness is 150 mg/L, while the upstream receiving water hardness ranged from 190 mg/L to 300 mg/L, and the downstream receiving water hardness ranged from 150 mg/L to 300 mg/L. In this case, the reasonable worst-case receiving water hardness to use in Equation 4 to calculate the ECA is 150 mg/L.

In this case for lead, the lowest possible fully-mixed downstream hardness is 150 mg/L (see last row of Table F-8), which corresponds to a total recoverable chronic criterion of 5.3 µg/L, using Equation 1. However, a lower chronic ECA is required to ensure the discharge does not cause toxicity at any location in the receiving water, at or downstream of the discharge, which would be a violation of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective[1]. This is because for Concave Up metals, mixing two waters with different hardness with metals concentrations at their respective CTR criteria will always result in CTR criteria exceedances[2]. As shown in Table F-8, a chronic ECA of 4.7 µg/L is necessary to protective under all discharge conditions. In this example for lead, for any receiving water flow condition (high flow to low flow), the fully-mixed downstream ambient lead concentration is in compliance with the CTR criteria.

Using the procedures discussed above to calculate the ECA for all Concave Up Metals will result in WQBELs that are protective under all potential effluent/receiving water flow conditions (high flow to low flow) and under all known hardness conditions, as demonstrated in Table F-8, for lead.

[1] -"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, p. III-8.01)

[2] Emerick, R.W., Borroum, Y., & Petri, J. E., 2006. California and National Toxics Rule Implementation and Development of Protective Hardness Based Metal Effluent Limitations. WEFTEC, Chicago, Ill. (p. 5702)

Table F-8. Lead ECA Evaluation

Lowest Observed Effluent Hardness	**150 mg/L**
Reasonable Worst-case Upstream Receiving Water Hardness	**300 mg/L**
Reasonable Worst-case Upstream Receiving Water Lead Concentration	**12.9 µg/L[1]**
Lead $ECA_{chronic}$[2]	**4.7 µg/L**

Effluent Fraction[6]		**Fully Mixed Downstream Ambient Concentration**			
		Hardness[3] (mg/L) (as $CaCO_3$)	**CTR Criteria[4] (µg/L)**	**Lead[5] (µg/L)**	**Complies with CTR Criteria**
High Flow	1%	298.5	12.8	12.8	**Yes**
	5%	292.5	12.5	12.5	**Yes**
↓	15%	277.5	11.7	11.7	**Yes**
	25%	262.5	10.9	10.8	**Yes**
	50%	225.0	8.9	8.8	**Yes**
	75%	187.5	7.1	6.7	**Yes**
Low Flow	100%	150	5.3	4.7	**Yes**

1 Reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water lead concentration calculated using Equation 1 for chronic criterion at a hardness of 300 mg/L.

2 ECA calculated using Equation 4 for chronic criteria.

3 Fully mixed downstream ambient hardness is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent hardness at the applicable effluent fraction.

4 Fully mixed downstream ambient criteria are the chronic criteria calculated using Equation 1 at the mixed hardness.

5 Fully mixed downstream ambient lead concentration is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent lead concentrations at the applicable effluent fraction.

6 The effluent fraction ranges from 1% at the high receiving water flow condition, to 100% at the lowest receiving water flow condition (i.e., effluent dominated).

Based on the procedures discussed above, Table F-9 lists all the CTR hardness-dependent metals and the associated ECA used in this Order.

Table F-9. Summary of ECA Evaluations for CTR Hardness-dependent Metals

CTR Metals	ECA (µg/L, total recoverable)[1]	
	acute	chronic
Copper	21	13
Chromium III	2400	290
Cadmium	6.8	3.4
Lead	120	4.7
Nickel	660	74
Silver	3.8	--
Zinc	170	170

[1] Metal criteria rounded to two significant figures in accordance with the CTR.

3. Determining the Need for WQBELs

a. **Constituents with No Reasonable Potential.** WQBELs are not included in this Order for constituents that do not demonstrate reasonable potential (i.e. constituents were not detected in the effluent or receiving water); 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. However, the following constituents were found to have no reasonable potential after assessment of the data:

i. **Aluminum**

Aluminum is the third most abundant element in the earth's crust and is ubiquitous in both soils and aquatic sediments. When mobilized in surface waters, aluminum has been shown to be toxic to various fish species. However, the potential for aluminum toxicity in surface waters is directly related to the chemical form of aluminum present, and the chemical form is highly dependent on water quality characteristics that ultimately determine the mechanism of aluminum toxicity. Surface water characteristics, including pH, temperature, colloidal material, fluoride and sulfate concentrations, and total organic carbon, all influence aluminum speciation and its subsequent bioavailability to aquatic life. Calcium [hardness] concentrations in

surface water may also reduce aluminum toxicity by competing with monomeric aluminum (Al^{3+}) binding to negatively charged fish gills.

(a) **WQO.** State of California Department of Public Health (DPH) has established Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) to assist public drinking water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic conditions such as taste, color, and odor. The Secondary MCL for aluminum is 200 µg/L for protection of the MUN beneficial use, which is not a beneficial use for Old Alamo Creek, but applies downstream in New Alamo Creek. Title 22 requires compliance with Secondary MCLs on an annual average basis.

The Code of Federal Regulations promulgated criteria for priority toxic pollutants for California's surface waters as part of section 131.38 Establishment of Numeric Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants for the State of California (California Toxics Rule or CTR), including metals criteria. However, aluminum criteria were not promulgated as part of the CTR. Absent numeric aquatic life criteria for aluminum, WQBEL's in the Central Valley Region's NPDES permits are based on the Basin Plans' narrative toxicity objective. The Basin Plans' *Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives* requires the Central Valley Water Board to consider, "*on a case-by-case basis, direct evidence of beneficial use impacts, all material and relevant information submitted by the discharger and other interested parties, and relevant numerical criteria and guidelines developed and/or published by other agencies and organizations. In considering such criteria, the Board evaluates whether the specific numerical criteria which are available through these sources and through other information supplied to the Board, are relevant and appropriate to the situation at hand and, therefore, should be used in determining compliance with the narrative objective*." Relevant information includes, but is not limited to (1) USEPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) and subsequent Correction, (2) site-specific conditions of Old Alamo Creek, the receiving water, and (3) site-specific aluminum studies conducted by dischargers within the Central Valley Region. (Basin Plan, p. IV.-17.00; see also, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(vi).)

USEPA NAWQC. USEPA recommended the NAWQC aluminum acute criterion at 750 µg/L based on test waters with a pH of 6.5 to 9.0. USEPA also recommended the NAWQC aluminum chronic criterion at 87 µg/L based upon the following two toxicity tests. All test waters contained hardness at 12 mg/L as $CaCO_3$.

(1) Acute toxicity tests at various aluminum doses were conducted in various acidic waters (pH 6.0 – 6.5) on 159- and 160-day old striped bass. The 159-day old striped bass showed no mortality in waters with pH at 6.5 and aluminum doses at 390 µg/L, and the 160-day old striped bass showed 58% mortality at a dose of 174.4 µg/L in same pH waters. However, the 160-day old striped bass showed 98% mortality at aluminum dose of 87.2 µg/L in waters with pH at 6.0, which is USEPA's basis for the 87 µg/L chronic criterion. The varied results draw into question this study and the applicability of the NAWQC chronic criterion of 87 µg/L.

(2) Chronic toxicity effects on 60-day old brook trout were evaluated in circumneutral pH waters (6.5-6.9 pH) in five cells at various aluminum doses (4, 57, 88, 169, and 350 µg/L). Chronic evaluation started upon

hatching of eyed eggs of brook trout, and their weight and length were measure after 45 days and 60 days. The 60-day old brook trout showed 24% weight loss at 169 µg/L of aluminum and 4% weight loss at 88 µg/L of aluminum, which is the basis for USEPA's chronic criteria. Though this test study shows chronic toxic effects 4% reduction in weight after exposure for 60-days, the chronic criterion is based on 4-day exposure; so again, the applicability of the NAWQC chronic criterion of 87 µg/L is questionable.

Site-specific Conditions. USEPA advises that a water effects ratio may be more appropriate to better reflect the actual toxicity of aluminum to aquatic organisms when the pH and hardness conditions of the receiving water are not similar to that of the test conditions.[1] Effluent and Old Alamo Creek monitoring data indicate that the pH and hardness values are not similar to the low pH and hardness conditions under which the chronic criterion for aluminum was developed, as shown in the table below, and therefore, the Central Valley Water Board does not expect aluminum to be as reactive in Old Alamo Creek as in the previously described toxicity tests. The pH of Old Alamo Creek, the receiving water, ranged from 6.0 to 8.5 with a median of 7.6 based on 155 monitoring results obtained between August 2010 and June 2013. These water conditions typically are circumneutral pH where aluminum is predominately in the form of $Al(OH)_3$ and non-toxic to aquatic life. The hardness of Old Alamo Creek ranged from 190 mg/L to 300 mg/L, based on 11 samples from January 2011 to December 2011, which is above the conditions, and thus less toxic, than the tests used to develop the chronic criterion.

Parameter	Units	Test Conditions for Applicability of Chronic Criterion	Effluent	Receiving Water
pH	standard units	6.0 – 6.5	6.9 - 7.4	6.8 - 8.5
Hardness, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	12	150	190
Aluminum, Total Recoverable	µg/L	87.2 - 390	20	3160

Local Environmental Conditions and Studies. Twenty-one site-specific aluminum toxicity tests have been conducted within the Central Valley Region. The pH and hardness of Old Alamo Creek are similar, as shown in the table below, and thus the results of these site-specific aluminum toxicity tests are relevant and appropriate for Old Alamo Creek. As shown in the following table, all EC_{50}[2] toxicity study result values are at concentrations of aluminum above 5,000 µg/L. Thus, the toxic effects of aluminum in these surface waters and in

[1] "The value of 87 micro-g/L is based on a toxicity test with striped bass in water with pH = 6.5-6.6 and hardness < 10 mg/L. Date in [a 1994 Study] indicate that aluminum is substantially less toxic at higher pH and hardness, but the effects of pH and hardness are not well quantified at this time." USEPA 1999 NAWQC Correction, Footnote L.

[2] The effect concentration is 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_{50} is a point estimate of the toxicant concentration that would cause an observable adverse effect in 50 percent of the test organisms. The EC_{50} is used in toxicity testing to determine the appropriate chronic criterion.

Old Alamo Creek, is less toxic (or less reactive) to aquatic species then demonstrated in the toxicity tests that USEPA used for the basis of establishing the chronic criterion of 87 µg/L. This new information, and review of the toxicity tests USEPA used to establish the chronic criterion, indicates that 87 µg/L is overly stringent and not applicable to Old Alamo Creek.

Central Valley Region Site-Specific Aluminum Toxicity Data

Discharger (City)	Species	Test Waters	Hardness Value	Total Aluminum EC_{50} Value	pH	WER
Auburn	*Ceriodaphnia dubia*	Effluent	99	>5270	7.44	>19.3
	" "	Surface Water	16	>5160	7.44	>12.4
Manteca	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	124	>8800	9.14	N/C
	" "	Effluent	117	>8700	7.21	>27.8
	" "	Surface Water	57	7823	7.58	25.0
	" "	Effluent	139	>9500	7.97	>21.2
	" "	Surface Water	104	>11000	8.28	>24.5
	" "	Effluent	128	>9700	7.78	>25.0
	" "	Surface Water	85	>9450	7.85	>25.7
	" "	Effluent	106	>11900	7.66	>15.3
	" "	Surface Water	146	>10650	7.81	>13.7
Modesto	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	120/156	31604	8.96	211
Yuba City	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	114/164[1]	>8000	7.60/7.46	>53.5
Placer County	" "	Effluent	150	>5000	7.4 – 8.7	>13.7
Manteca	*Daphnia magna*	Surface Water/Effluent	124	>8350	9.14	N/C
Modesto	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	120/156	>11900	8.96	>79.6
Yuba City	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	114/164[1]	>8000	7.60/7.46	>53.5
Manteca	*Oncorhynchus mykiss* (rainbow trout)	Surface Water/Effluent	124	>8600	9.14	N/C
Auburn	" "	Surface Water	16	>16500	7.44	N/C
Modesto	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	120/156	>34250	8.96	>229
Yuba City	" "	Surface Water/Effluent	114/164[1]	>8000	7.60/7.46	>53.5

[1] Hardness values may be biased high because the EDTA titrimetic method is subject to interferences that measure as hardness (barium, cadmium, lead, manganese, strontium, and zinc will be measured as hardness) producing hardness numbers that are likely to be greater than the calculation of hardness based upon the ICP analysis of calcium and magnesium. Upstream receiving water hardness ranged from 30 to 50.9 mg/L as $CaCO_3$ between January 2008 and August 2011. Furthermore, the upstream receiving water hardness was 37 mg/L as $CaCO_3$ on 4 October 2005, 7 days prior to the Feasibility Assessment (first phase of a Water Effects Ratio study) sample collection date of 11 October 2005. It is likely that matrix interferences from other metals were responsible for the unexpected hardness values reported by Pacific EcoRisk.

The Discharger has not conducted a toxicity test for aluminum; however, the Cities of Manteca and Modesto conducted toxicity tests in the San Joaquin River. As shown, the test water quality characteristics of the San Joaquin River

near Manteca and Modesto are similar for pH and hardness in Old Alamo Creek, with the hardness ranging from 57 to 156 mg/L as $CaCO_3$ in comparison to the hardness of the Old Alamo Creek near the discharge that averages 243 mg/L as $CaCO_3$. Thus results of site-specific studies conducted on the San Joaquin River near Manteca and Modesto would represent conservative assumptions for Old Alamo Creek near the discharge. Therefore, the Cities of Manteca and Modesto aluminum toxicity test studies are relevant and represent conservative assumptions in this case for use in determining the specific numerical criteria to be used in determining compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. The Cities of Manteca and Modesto aluminum toxicity study resulted in a minimum site-specific aluminum objective of 7,823 µg/L. Thus, these results support the conclusion that the 87 µg/L chronic criterion is overly stringent for Old Alamo Creek near the discharge.

Applicable WQOs. MUN is not a beneficial use of Old Alamo Creek, but applies downstream in New Alamo Creek. This Order implements the Secondary MCL of 200 µg/L as an annual average for the protection of MUN in New Alamo Creek, and implements the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective for the protection of aquatic life using an acute (1-hour) criterion and chronic (4-day) criterion of 750 µg/L based on USEPA's NAWQC and the discussion above.

(b) **RPA Results**. For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Aluminum 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 had used its judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent. The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odor, laundry staining), not for toxicity. Secondary MCLs are drinking water standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Title 22 requires compliance with these standards on an annual average basis, when sampling at least quarterly. To be consistent with how compliance with the standards is determined, the RPA was conducted based on the calendar annual average effluent aluminum concentrations.

The maximum observed effluent concentration for aluminum was 20 µg/L based on 12 monthly samples collected in 2011. Effluent aluminum is consistently less than the concentrations in the receiving water and below the Secondary MCL for the protection of the MUN beneficial use in New Alamo Creek, and the NAWQC acute criterion. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance in the receiving water and the Facility is adequately controlling the discharge of aluminum.

ii. **Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 1.8 µg/L for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed and 5.9 µg/L for fish consumption-only. Since MUN is not a beneficial use for Old Alamo Creek, the criterion of 5.9 µg/L for fish consumption-only applies.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate was 1.0 µg/L out of fourteen samples and the maximum background concentration in New Alamo Creek was non-detect at the method detection limit of 0.95 µg/L. Therefore, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criterion of 5.9 µg/L for Old Alamo Creek nor the 1.8 µg/L for New Alamo Creek.

iii. **Carbon Tetrachloride**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.25 µg/L for carbon tetrachloride for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed and 4.4 µg/L for fish consumption-only. Since MUN is not a beneficial use for Old Alamo Creek, the criterion of 4.4 µg/L for fish consumption-only applies.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for carbon tetrachloride was 0.7 µg/L out of fourteen samples with thirteen samples non-detect with a Method Detection Level (MDL) of 0.2 µg/L and Reporting Level (RL) of 0.5 µg/L and the maximum background concentration in New Alamo Creek was non-detect at the method detection limit of 0.2 µg/L. Therefore, carbon tetrachloride in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criterion of 4.4 µg/L for Old Alamo Creek. There is no carbon tetrachloride data at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek (RSW-005) to assist in the determination if there is reasonable potential in New Alamo Creek. However, it is unlikely the discharge of carbon tetrachloride has reasonable potential in New Alamo Creek based on the reductions from the effluent to New Alamo Creek concentrations for chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and chloroform (effluent concentrations were 5-7 times greater than New Alamo Creek concentrations). A similar reduction would be expected for carbon tetrachloride, because it is a volatile organic compound and the vapor pressure for carbon tetrachloride is higher. Additional monitoring is required for carbon tetrachloride at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek to confirm concentrations less than the criterion are entering New Alamo Creek. This Order requires this monitoring.

iv. **Chlorodibromomethane**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.41 µg/L for chlorodibromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed and 34 µg/L for fish consumption-only. Since MUN is not a beneficial use for Old Alamo Creek, the criterion of 34 µg/L for fish consumption-only applies. For New Alamo Creek where MUN does apply, the Central Valley Water Board amended the Basin Plan to include a site-specific water quality objective of 4.9 µg/L for chlorodibromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for chlorodibromomethane was 14.0 µg/L and the maximum background concentration in New Alamo Creek was non-detect at

the method detection limit of 0.17 µg/L. Therefore chlorodibromomethane in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criterion of 34 µg/L for Old Alamo Creek.

The Basin Plan amendment includes implementation procedures for the reasonable potential analysis for the site-specific water quality objective for chlorodibromomethane in New Alamo Creek. The Basin Plan amendment requires the use of the maximum Old Alamo Creek concentration at the terminus of the Old Alamo Creek before entering New Alamo Creek. The maximum concentration of chlorodibromomethane at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek is 0.9 µg/L, which does not exceed the site-specific objective. Therefore, chlorodibromomethane does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the site-specific water quality objective of 4.9 µg/L for New Alamo Creek. The effluent limitations for chlorodibromomethane have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

v. **Chloroform**

(a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan site-specific water quality objective for chloroform is 46 µg/L for protection of MUN for New Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed. There are no applicable WQOs for chloroform in Old Alamo Creek, because MUN is not a beneficial use.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for chloroform was 70 µg/L and the maximum background concentration in New Alamo Creek was non-detect at the method detection limit of 0.19 µg/L. The Basin Plan amendment includes implementation procedures for the reasonable potential analysis for the site-specific water quality objective for chloroform. The Basin Plan amendment requires the use of the maximum Old Alamo Creek concentration at the terminus of the Old Alamo Creek before entering New Alamo Creek. The maximum concentration of chloroform at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek is 14 µg/L. Therefore, chloroform does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the site-specific water quality objective of 46 µg/L.

vi. **Cyanide**

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

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for cyanide was 4.2 µg/L out of fifty-six samples while the maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration was non-detect with a MDL of 0.6 µg/L and RL of 3.0 µg/L. Therefore, cyanide in the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential,

the effluent limitations for cyanide have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

vii. **Dichlorobromomethane**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.56 µg/L for dichlorobromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed and 46 µg/L for fish consumption-only. Since MUN is not a beneficial use for Old Alamo Creek, the criterion of 46 µg/L for fish consumption-only applies. For New Alamo Creek where MUN does apply the Central Valley Water Board amended the Basin Plan to include a site-specific water quality objective of 16.0 µg/L for dichlorobromomethane.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for dichlorobromomethane was 35.0 µg/L and the maximum background concentration in New Alamo Creek was non-detect at the method detection limit of 0.16 µg/L. Therefore chlorodibromomethane in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criterion of 46 µg/L for Old Alamo Creek for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed.

The Basin Plan amendment includes implementation procedures for the reasonable potential analysis for the site-specific water quality objective for dichlorobromomethane. The Basin Plan amendment requires the use of the maximum Old Alamo Creek concentration at the terminus of the Old Alamo Creek before entering New Alamo Creek. The MEC for dichlorobromomethane at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek is 7.1 µg/L. Therefore dichlorobromomethane does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the site-specific water quality objective of 16.0 µg/L for New Alamo Creek. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitations for dichlorobromomethane have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

viii. **Iron**

(a) **WQO.** The Secondary MCL – Consumer Acceptance Limit for iron is 300 µg/L, which is used to implement the Basin Plan's chemical constituent objective for the protection of municipal and domestic supply. The Secondary MCL does not apply in Old Alamo Creek, but does apply downstream in New Alamo Creek.

(b) **RPA Results.** The maximum observed effluent concentration for iron was 240 µg/L out of twelve samples while the maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration in New Alamo Creek was 4200 µg/L. The maximum observed annual average effluent concentration is 177 µg/L. For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Iron 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.

The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odor, laundry staining), not for toxicity. The receiving water is not listed as impaired on the 303(d) list for iron. Additionally, the effluent iron is below the Secondary MCL. Therefore, iron in the discharge has no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the secondary MCL in New Alamo Creek.

ix. **Manganese**

(a) **WQO.** The Secondary MCL – Consumer Acceptance Limit for manganese is 50 µg/L, which is used to implement the Basin Plan's chemical constituent objective for the protection of municipal and domestic supply. The Secondary MCL does not apply in Old Alamo Creek, but does apply downstream in New Alamo Creek.

(b) **RPA Results**. The maximum observed effluent concentration for manganese was 14 µg/L out of twelve samples while the maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration in New Alamo Creek was 152 µg/L. The maximum observed annual average effluent concentration is 9.4 µg/L. For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Manganese 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.

The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odor, laundry staining), not for toxicity. The receiving water is not listed as impaired on the 303(d) list for manganese. Additionally, the effluent manganese is below the Secondary MCL. Therefore, manganese in the discharge has no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the secondary MCL in New Alamo Creek.

x. **Mercury**

(a) **WQO.** The current NAWQC for protection of freshwater aquatic life, continuous concentration, for mercury is 0.77 µg/L (30-day average, chronic criteria). The CTR contains a human health criterion (based on a threshold dose level causing neurological effects in infants) of 0.050 µg/L for waters from which both water and aquatic organisms are consumed (applicable to New Alamo Creek), and for fish consumption only of 0.051 µg/L (applicable to Old Alamo Creek). These values are controversial and subject to change. In 40 CFR Part 131, USEPA acknowledges that the human health criteria may not be protective of some aquatic or endangered species and that "…*more stringent mercury limits may be determined and implemented through use of*

the State's narrative criterion." In the CTR, USEPA reserved the mercury criteria for freshwater and aquatic life and may adopt new criteria at a later date.

(b) **RPA Results.** The maximum observed effluent mercury concentration was 0.0044 µg/L out of forty samples while the maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration 0.0042 µg/L. Mercury bioaccumulates in fish tissue and, therefore, the discharge of mercury to the receiving water may contribute to exceedances of the narrative toxicity objective and impact beneficial uses. The Old Alamo Creek, New Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek receiving waters are not listed as an impaired water body pursuant to CWA section 303(d) because of mercury. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitations for mercury have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

xi. **Total Trihalomethanes**

(a) **WQO.** Total trihalomethanes include bromoform, dichlorobromomethane, chlorodibromomethane and chloroform. The USEPA primary MCL of total trihalomethanes is 80 µg/L, which is protective of the Basin Plan's chemical constituent objective. However, MUN is not a beneficial use for Old Alamo Creek, therefore the criterion of 80 µg/L does not apply to Old Alamo Creek. .

(b) **RPA Results.** Although the Primary MCL does not apply in Old Alamo Creek, the maximum effluent concentration is 98 µg/L for total trihalomethanes exceeding the Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes, so it is necessary to evaluate if the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance in New Alamo Creek. The maximum observed concentration for total trihalomethanes at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek is 23.5 µg/L and the maximum background concentration in New Alamo Creek was non-detect. Therefore, total trihalomethanes does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Primary MCL for New Alamo Creek. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitations for total trihalomethanes have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

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, chlorpyrifos and diazinon, nitrate plus nitrite, pH, pathogens, and salinity. WQBELs 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.** In August 2013, U.S. EPA updated its National Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia[1]. The 2013 NAWQC for ammonia recommends acute (1-hour average; criteria maximum concentration or CMC) and chronic (30-day average; criteria continuous concentration or CCC) standards that vary based on pH and temperature. U.S. EPA also recommends that no 4-day average concentration should exceed 2.5 times the 30-day CCC. The 2013 NAWQC for ammonia takes into account data for several sensitive freshwater mussel species and non-pulmonate snails that had not previously been tested.

U.S. EPA found that as pH and temperature increased, both the acute and chronic toxicity of ammonia increased for invertebrates. However, U.S. EPA found that only pH significantly influenced acute and chronic ammonia toxicity for fish. Therefore, the 2013 acute NAWQC for ammonia is primarily based on the ammonia effects on species in the genus *Oncorhyncus* (salmonids) at lower temperatures and invertebrates at higher temperatures. However, due to the significant sensitivity unionid mussels have to the chronic toxicity effects of ammonia, the 2013 chronic NAWQC for ammonia is determined primarily by the effects of mussels.

The U.S. NAWQC document states that "*unionid mussel species are not prevalent in some waters, such as the arid west.*" Therefore, the 2013 ammonia NAWQC, in Appendix N, includes acute and chronic criteria for waters where mussels are not present. Appendix N of the 2013 ammonia NAWQC also provides criteria for waters where *Oncorhynchus* species are not present and where protection of early life stages of fish genera is unnecessary.

A report prepared by The Nature Conservancy, *Sensitive Freshwater Mussel Surveys in the Pacific Southwest Region: Assessment of Conservation Status (*published August 2010), demonstrates the results of a strategic mussel study and survey conducted during 2008-2009. The study does not contain any survey information for the Old Alamo Creek in the vicinity of the Facility discharge. The Central Valley Water Board is currently in the process of determining the best way to evaluate receiving waters within the Central Valley for the presence of mussels. Therefore, since the Central Valley Water Board is not aware of any documentation recording the presence of mussels in the Old Alamo Creek, the site-specific ammonia criteria for waters where mussels are not present were used. Furthermore, because Old Alamo Creek does not have the beneficial use of cold freshwater habitat (COLD), the ammonia criteria have been calculated with salmonids absent. However, it is likely that early fish life stages may be present in Old Alamo Creek, the recommended criteria for waters where early life stages are present were used.

The Central Valley Water Board may require additional information from the Discharger in the future to evaluate whether more restrictive ammonia criteria for other species (i.e., unionid mussels) is applicable for Old Alamo

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

Creek. However, at this time, ammonia criteria have been calculated with the assumption that mussels are not present.

As discussed above, the ammonia criteria vary based on pH and temperature. Since end-of-pipe effluent limits are applied in this Order, the criteria were calculated using paired effluent pH and temperature.

An acute criterion was calculated using the maximum permitted pH of 8.5 and the maximum measured temperature of 26.9ºC, measured on 9 July 2008. The acute criterion assuming mussels absent and salmonids absent is 2.3 mg/L (as N).

A chronic criterion was calculated for each day when paired temperature data and pH were measured using effluent data for temperature and pH. Rolling 30-day average criteria were calculated from effluent data using the criteria calculated for each day and the minimum observed 30-day average criterion was established as the applicable 30-day average chronic criterion, or 30-day CCC. The most stringent 30-day CCC was 0.96 mg/L (as N). The 4-day average concentration is derived in accordance with the U.S. EPA criterion as 2.5 times the 30-day CCC. Based on the 30-day CCC of 0.96 mg/L (as N), the 4-day average concentration that should not be exceeded is 2.4 mg/L.

(b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that, without treatment, would be harmful to fish and would violate the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective if discharged to the receiving water. Reasonable potential therefore exists and effluent limitations 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. 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 WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs 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 POTWs, USEPA recommends that, "*POTWs 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 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 WQBELs are required.

(c) **WQBELs.** The Central Valley Water Board calculates WQBELs 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 maximum daily effluent limitation (MDEL). The remainder of the WQBEL calculation for ammonia was performed according to the SIP procedures. This Order contains a final AMEL and MDEL for ammonia of 1.4 mg/L and 2.3 mg/L, respectively, based on the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia as N.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the MEC of 0.3 mg/L is less than the applicable WQBELs. 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 µg/L and 0.019 µg/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 WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs 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 POTWs, USEPA recommends that, "*POTWs 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 sodium bisulfite process to dechlorinate the effluent prior to discharge to Old Alamo Creek, 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) **WQBELs.** 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 µg/L and 0.019 µg/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 MEC of non-detect is less than the applicable WQBELs. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

iii. **Nitrate and Nitrite**

(a) **WQO.** DPH has adopted Primary MCLs for the protection of human health for nitrite and nitrate that are equal to 1 mg/L and 10 mg/L (measured as nitrogen), respectively. DPH has also adopted a primary MCL of 10 mg/L for the sum of nitrate and nitrite, measured as nitrogen. USEPA has developed a primary MCL and an MCL goal of 1 mg/L for nitrite (as nitrogen). For nitrate, USEPA has developed Drinking Water Standards (10 mg/L as Primary MCL) MUN is not a beneficial use of Old Alamo Creek, but since the use applies downstream in New Alamo Creek the MCL must be considered in the RPA.

(b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that, if untreated, will be harmful to fish and will violate the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. This Order, therefore, requires removal of ammonia (i.e., nitrification). Nitrification is a biological process that converts ammonia to nitrate and nitrite, and will result in effluent nitrate concentrations above the primary MCL for nitrate plus nitrite. Nitrate concentrations in a drinking water supply above the primary MCL threatens the health of human fetuses and newborn babies by reducing the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood (methemoglobinemia). Reasonable potential for nitrate and nitrite therefore exists and WQBELs 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. Nitrate and nitrite are not priority pollutants. 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 WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs 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 POTWS, USEPA recommends that, "*POTWs should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and ammonia problems.*" (TSD, p. 50)

The concentration of nitrogen in raw domestic wastewater is sufficiently high that the resultant treated wastewater has a reasonable potential to exceed or threaten to exceed the primary MCL for nitrate plus nitrite unless the wastewater is treated for nitrogen removal, and therefore an effluent limit for nitrate plus nitrite is required. 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/denitrification to remove ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate from the waste stream. Inadequate or incomplete denitrification may result in the discharge of nitrate and/or nitrite to the receiving stream. Discharges of nitrate plus nitrite in concentrations that exceed the primary MCL would violate the Basin Plan narrative chemical constituents' objective. Although the Discharger denitrifies the discharge, inadequate or incomplete denitrification creates the potential for nitrate and nitrite 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 primary MCL. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for nitrate plus nitrite and WQBELs are required.

(c) **WQBELs.** As discussed in section IV.C.2.c, above, New Alamo Creek contains assimilative capacity for nitrate+nitrite and a dilution credit of 0.49:1 was allowed in the development of the WQBELs. Based on the allowable dilution credit, an AMEL of 13.6 mg/L is calculated. This Order contains a final AMEL for nitrate plus nitrite of 13.6 mg/L (total as N), based on the Primary MCL to protect the MUN beneficial use in New Alamo Creek.

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

iv. **Pathogens**

(a) **WQO.** The Discharger evaluated the public health risks of its wastewater effluent and presented the revised final report, "Evaluation of Public Health Risks Concerning Infectious Disease Agents Associated with Exposure to Treated Wastewater Discharged by the City of Vacaville, Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant", August 2001 (Revised January 2002). Based on a review and the report, the Department of Public Health, North Coastal Region, Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management, in a letter dated 22 March 2002, concluded tertiary filtration is appropriate and necessary during the dry weather period for public health protection. However, during winter months when the beneficial uses of agricultural irrigation and contact recreational activities do not occur, secondary treatment with disinfection to 23 MPN is adequate for public health protection. Therefore, Title 22 disinfection criteria for a peak hourly dry weather flow (27 mgd) is required to protect agricultural irrigation and contact recreation during the dry weather period. The Department of Public Health determined the dry months for the Vacaville area are May 1 through October 31st. From November 1 through April 30th, secondary treatment to 23 MPN/100mL monthly median is adequate protection of the beneficial uses.

(b) **RPA Results.** Raw domestic wastewater inherently contains human pathogens that threaten human health and life, and constitute a threatened pollution and nuisance under CWC Section 13050 if discharged untreated to the receiving water. Reasonable potential for pathogens therefore exists and WQBELs 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. Pathogens are not priority pollutants. 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 WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs 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 beneficial uses of Old Alamo Creek include water contact recreation, and agricultural irrigation supply, and there is, at times, less than 20:1 dilution. To protect these beneficial uses, the Central Valley Water Board finds that the wastewater must be disinfected and adequately treated to prevent disease. Although the Discharger provides disinfection, inadequate or incomplete disinfection creates the potential for pathogens to be discharged. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for pathogens and WQBELs are required.

(c) **WQBELs.** In accordance with the recommendation by DPH, this Order includes seasonal effluent limitations for total coliform organisms. From 1 May – 31 October the total coliform organism effluent limits are 2.2 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median; 23 MPN/100 mL not to be exceeded more than once in a 30-day period; and 240 MPN/100 mL as an instantaneous maximum. From 1 November – 30 April the total coliform organism effluent limits are 23 MPN/100 mL as a monthly median and 240 MPN/100 mL as an instantaneous maximum.

The tertiary treatment process, or equivalent, is capable of reliably treating wastewater to a turbidity level of 2 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) as a daily average. Failure of the filtration system such that virus removal is impaired would normally result in increased particles in the effluent, which result in higher effluent turbidity. Turbidity has a major advantage for monitoring filter performance. Coliform testing, by comparison, is not conducted continuously and requires several hours, to days, to identify high coliform concentrations. Therefore, to ensure compliance with the DPH recommended Title 22 disinfection criteria, weekly average specifications are impracticable for turbidity. Seasonally from 1 May – 31 October, this Order includes operational specifications for turbidity of 2 NTU as a daily average; 5 NTU, not to be exceeded more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period; and 10 NTU as an instantaneous maximum. The turbidity specifications do not apply the remainder of the year.

This Order contains effluent limitations for BOD_5, total coliform organisms, and TSS and requires a tertiary level of treatment, or equivalent, necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. The Central Valley Water Board has previously considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing these requirements.

Seasonally from 1 May – 31 October this Order contains final WQBELs for BOD_5 and TSS based on the technical capability of the tertiary process, which is necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. BOD_5 is a measure of the amount of oxygen used in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter. The tertiary treatment standards for BOD_5 and

TSS are indicators of the effectiveness of the tertiary treatment process. The principal design parameter for wastewater treatment plants is the daily BOD_5 and TSS loading rates and the corresponding removal rate of the system. The application of tertiary treatment processes results in the ability to achieve lower levels for BOD_5 and TSS than the secondary standards currently prescribed. Therefore, seasonally from 1 May – 31 October this Order requires AMELs for BOD_5 and TSS of 10 mg/L, which is technically based on the capability of a tertiary system. In addition to the average weekly and average monthly effluent limitations, a daily maximum effluent limitation for BOD_5 and TSS is included in the Order to ensure that the treatment works are not organically overloaded and operate in accordance with design capabilities. For the remainder of the year the technology-based effluent limits for BOD_5 and TSS apply.

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 WQBELs 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 WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs 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. Based on 1461 samples taken from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2012, the maximum pH reported was 8.3 and the minimum was 6.4. The Facility exceeded the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation once on 6 December 2009. 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, WQBELs for pH are required in this Order.

(c) **WQBELs.** 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.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the minimum pH exceeds the applicable WQBELs. However, the exceedance is only once in 1461 samples therefore, the Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

vi. **Salinity**

(a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan contains a chemical constituent objective that incorporates state MCLs, contains a narrative objective, and contains numeric water quality objectives for certain specified water bodies for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, sulfate, and chloride. The USEPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Chloride recommends acute and chronic criteria for the protection of aquatic life. There are no USEPA water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, and sulfate. Additionally, there are no USEPA numeric water quality criteria for the protection of agricultural, livestock, and industrial uses. Numeric values for the protection of these uses are typically based on site specific conditions and evaluations to determine the appropriate constituent threshold necessary to interpret the narrative chemical constituent Basin Plan objective. The Central Valley Water Board must determine the applicable numeric limit to implement the narrative objective for the protection of agricultural supply. The Central Valley Water Board is currently implementing the CV-SALTS initiative to develop a Basin Plan Amendment that will establish a salt and nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. Through this effort the Basin Plan will be amended to define how the narrative water quality objective is to be interpreted for the protection of agricultural use. All studies conducted through this Order to establish an agricultural limit to implement the narrative objective will be reviewed by and consistent with the efforts currently underway by CV-SALTS.

Table F-10. Salinity Water Quality Criteria/Objectives

Parameter	Agricultural WQ Objective[1]	Secondary MCL[3]	USEPA NAWQC	Effluent[2]	
				Average	Maximum
EC (µmhos/cm)	Varies	900, 1600, 2200	N/A	**1038**	**1250**
TDS (mg/L)	Varies	500, 1000, 1500	N/A	**671**	**760**
Sulfate (mg/L)	Varies	250, 500, 600	N/A	**81**	**110**
Chloride (mg/L)	Varies	250, 500, 600	860 1-hr 230 4-day	**124**	**141**

1 Narrative chemical constituent objective of the Basin Plan. Procedures for establishing the applicable numeric limitation to implement the narrative objective can be found in the Policy for Application of Water Quality, Chapter IV, Section 8 of the Basin Plan. However, the Basin Plan does not require improvement over naturally occurring background concentrations. In cases where the natural background concentration of a particular constituent exceeds an applicable water quality objective, the natural background concentration will be considered to comply with the objective.

2 Maximum calendar annual average.

3 The secondary MCLs are stated as a recommended level, upper level, and a short-term maximum level. The secondary MCLs are for protection of the MUN beneficial use in New Alamo Creek.

1) **Chloride.** The Secondary MCL for chloride is 250 mg/L, as a recommended level, 500 mg/L as an upper level, and 600 mg/L as a short-term maximum. The Bay-Delta Plan contains a site-specific chloride limit of 250 mg/L from October through September for Cache Slough at the City of Vallejo Intake.

2) **Electrical Conductivity.** The Secondary MCL for EC is 900 µmhos/cm as a recommended level, 1600 µmhos/cm as an upper level, and 2200 µmhos/cm as a short-term maximum.

3) **Sulfate.** The secondary MCL for sulfate is 250 mg/L as a recommended level, 500 mg/L as an upper level, and 600 mg/L as a short-term maximum.

4) **Total Dissolved Solids.** The Secondary MCL for TDS is 500 mg/L as a recommended level, 1000 mg/L as an upper level, and 1500 mg/L as a short-term maximum.

(b) **RPA Results.**

1) **Chloride.** Chloride concentrations in the effluent ranged from 100 mg/L to 141 mg/L, with an average of 124 mg/L. These levels do not exceed the Secondary MCL or the Basin Plan site-specific chloride limit of 250 mg/L. Background concentrations in New Alamo Creek ranged from 9.7 mg/L to 108 mg/L, with an average of 40 mg/L, for 12 samples collected by the Discharger from 1 January 2011 through 6 December 2011. Therefore, the discharge does not have reasonable potential for chloride.

2) **Electrical Conductivity.** A review of the Discharger's monitoring reports shows an average effluent EC of 1038 µmhos/cm (maximum annual average is 1045 µmhos/cm), with a range from 783 µmhos/cm to 1250 µmhos/cm. These levels exceed the Secondary MCL EC limit of 900 µmhos/cm, applicable to New Alamo Creek. The background receiving water EC averaged 676 µmhos/cm.

3) **Sulfate.** Sulfate concentrations in the effluent ranged from 1.4 mg/L to 110 mg/L, with an average of 81 mg/L. These levels do not exceed the secondary MCL that is applicable in New Alamo Creek. Background concentrations in New Alamo Creek ranged from 28 mg/L to 101 mg/L, with an average of 68 mg/L.

4) **Total Dissolved Solids.** The average TDS effluent concentration was 671mg/L with concentrations ranging from 602 mg/L to 760 mg/L. These levels exceed the Secondary MCL TDS limit of 500 mg/L, applicable in New Alamo Creek. The background receiving water TDS ranged from 186 mg/L to 602 mg/L, with an average of 429 mg/L.

(c) **WQBELs.** Effluent limitations based on the MCL or the Basin Plan would likely require construction and operation of a reverse osmosis treatment plant. The State Water Board, in Water Quality Order 2005-005 (for the City of Manteca), states, "*…the State Board takes official notice [pursuant to Title 23 of California Code of Regulations, Section 648.2] of the fact that operation of a large-scale reverse osmosis treatment plant would result in production of highly saline brine for which an acceptable method of disposal would have to be developed. Consequently, any decision that would require use of reverse osmosis to treat the City's municipal wastewater effluent on a large scale should involve thorough consideration of the expected environmental effects.*" The State Water Board states in that Order, "*Although the ultimate solution to southern Delta salinity problems have not yet been determined, previous actions establish that the State Board intended for permit limitations to play a limited role with respect to achieving compliance with the EC water quality objectives in the southern Delta.*" The State Water Board goes on to say, "*Construction and operation of reverse osmosis facilities to treat discharges…prior to implementation of other measures to reduce the salt load in the southern Delta, would not be a reasonable approach*."

The Central Valley Water Board, with cooperation of the State Water Board, has begun the process to develop a new policy for the regulation of salinity in the Central Valley. In a statement issued at the 16 March 2006, Central Valley Water Board meeting, Board Member Dr. Karl Longley recommended that the Central Valley Water Board continue to exercise its authority to regulate discharges of salt to minimize salinity increases within the Central Valley. Dr. Longley stated, "*The process of developing new salinity control policies does not, therefore, mean that we should stop regulating salt discharges until a salinity Policy is developed. In the meantime, the Board should consider all possible interim approaches to continue controlling and regulating salts in a reasonable manner, and encourage all stakeholder*

groups that may be affected by the Regional Board's policy to actively participate in policy development."

The maximum effluent concentration (MEC) for total dissolved solids and EC was 760 mg/L and 1250 µmhos/cm while the maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration was 602 mg/L and 1050 µmohs/cm. Therefore, EC and total dissolved solids in the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the narrative chemical constituents objective in New Alamo Creek.

Until the Central Valley Water Board completes development of a new salinity policy for the Central Valley, this Order includes a performance-based average annual effluent limitation of 1320 µmhos/cm for EC, which has been carried forward from Order R5-2008-0055-01. Order R5-2008-0055-01 required the Discharger to complete a site-specific crop pH and salt tolerance study pending results of the final "Salinity Effects on Agricultural Irrigation-Related Uses" for CV-SALTS. The Central Valley Water Board is currently implementing the CV-SALTS initiative to develop a Basin Plan Amendment that will establish a salt and nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. Through this effort the Basin Plan will be amended to define how the narrative water quality objective is to be interpreted for the protection of agricultural use. Therefore, the study requirement has been removed pending completion of the Basin Plan amendment. This Order includes a reopener provision to modify the permit to incorporate salinity requirements in accordance with the CV-SALTS initiative.

This Order also requires the Discharger to update and implement its salinity pollution prevention plan to reduce the salinity in its discharge to Old Alamo Creek. Implementation measures to reduce salt loading may include source control, mineralization reduction, chemical addition reductions, changing to water supplies with lower salinity, and limiting the salt load from domestic and industrial dischargers. Compliance with these requirements will result in a salinity reduction in the effluent discharged to the receiving water; however, the discharge may cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality objective for salinity until adequate measures are implemented to meet those objectives.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the MEC of 1250 µmhos/cm is less than the applicable effluent limits. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

vii. **Settleable Solids**

(a) **WQO.** For inland surface waters, the Basin Plan states that "[w]*ater shall not contain substances in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.*"

(b) **RPA Results.** The discharge of domestic wastewater has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above the Basin Plan's narrative objective for settleable solids.

(c) **WQBELs.** This Order contains average monthly and average daily effluent limitations for settleable solids of an AMEL and MDEL of 0.1 ml/L and 0.2 ml/L, respectively. Because the amount of settleable solids is measured in terms of volume per volume without a mass component, it is impracticable to calculate mass limitations for inclusion in this Order. A daily maximum effluent limitation for settleable solids is included in the Order, in lieu of a weekly average, to ensure that the treatment works operate in accordance with design capabilities.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Settleable solids concentration exceeded the limitations only twice with concentrations between 0.5 – 1.2 ml/L out of 1460 samples therefore, the Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

4. WQBEL Calculations

a. This Order includes WQBELs for BOD, TSS, total coliforms, ammonia, nitrate-nitrite, diazinon and chlorpyrifos, settleable solids, pH, chlorine residual and electrical conductivity. The general methodology for calculating WQBELs based on the different criteria/objectives is described in subsections IV.C.4.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. For ECAs based on MCLs, which implement the Basin Plan's chemical constituents objective and are applied as annual averages, an arithmetic mean is also used for B due to the long-term basis of the criteria.

c. **Basin Plan Objectives and MCLs.** For WQBELs based on site-specific numeric Basin Plan objectives or MCLs, the effluent limitations are applied directly as the ECA as either an MDEL, AMEL, or average annual effluent limitations, depending on the averaging period of the objective.

d. **Aquatic Toxicity Criteria.** WQBELs based on acute and chronic aquatic toxicity criteria 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.

e. **Human Health Criteria.** WQBELs based on human health criteria, are also calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The AMEL are set equal to the ECAs and a statistical multiplier was used to calculate the MDEL.

$$AMEL = mult_{AMEL}\left[\min\left(\overbrace{M_A ECA_{acute}}^{LTA_{acute}}, M_C ECA_{chronic}\right)\right]$$

$$MDEL = mult_{MDEL}\left[\min\left(M_A ECA_{acute}, \underbrace{M_C ECA_{chronic}}_{LTA_{chronic}}\right)\right]$$

$$MDEL_{HH} = \left(\frac{mult_{MDEL}}{mult_{AMEL}}\right) AMEL_{HH}$$

where:

$mult_{AMEL}$ = statistical multiplier converting minimum LTA to AMEL
$mult_{MDEL}$ = statistical multiplier converting minimum LTA to MDEL
M_A = statistical multiplier converting acute ECA to LTA_{acute}
M_C = statistical multiplier converting chronic ECA to $LTA_{chronic}$

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
Ammonia, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.4	--	2.3	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	175	--	288	--	--
Nitrate plus Nitrite, Total (as N)	mg/L	13.6	--	--	--	--
Total Coliform 1 May – 31 October	MPN/100mL	--	2.2[2]	23[3]	--	240
Total Coliform 1 November – 30 April	MPN/100mL	23[4]	--	--	--	240
Settleable Solids 1 November – 30 April	ml/L	0.1	--	0.2	--	--
pH	su		--		6.5	8.5
Chlorine Residual	mg/L	0.011	--	0.019	--	--
Acute Toxicity[5]	% Survival		--	--	--	--

1 Based upon a design treatment capacity of 15 mgd) ADWF
2 Expressed as a 7-day median.
3 Not to be exceeded more than one time in any 30-day period.
4 Expressed as a 30-day median.
5 Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

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 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 for discharges in the Sac/SJ Basins. 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 WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs 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.) <Based on chronic WET testing performed by the Discharger from 8 January 2008 through 1 July 2012, 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. As shown in Table F-12 below.

Table F-12. Whole Effluent Chronic Toxicity Testing Results

	Fathead Minnow		**Water Flea**		**Green Algae**
	Pimephales promelas		*Ceriodaphnia dubia*		*Selenastrum capricornutum*
Date	Survival (TUc)	Growth (TUc)	Survival (TUc)	Reproduction (TUc)	Growth (TUc)
01/08/2008	1	1	1	1	1
04/08/2008	1	1	1	1	1
07/08/2008	1	1	1	1	1
10/07/2008	1	1	1	1	1
01/06/2009	1	1	Error	Error	1
02/03/2009 (retest)	--	--	1	1	--
04/07/2009	1	1	1	1	1
07/07/2009	1	1	1	1	1
10/06/2009	1	1	1	1	1
01/05/2010	1	1	1	1	1
04/13/2010	1	1	1	1	1
07/13/2010	1	1	1	1	1
10/05/2010	1	1	1	1	1
01/11/2011	1	1	1	1	1
04/12/2011	1	1	1	1	1
07/11/2011	1	1	1	1	1
01/10/2012	1	1	1	1	1
04/10/2012	1	1	1	1	1
07/01/2012	1	1	1	1	1

The Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Order requires quarterly chronic WET monitoring for demonstration of compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. In addition to WET monitoring, the Special Provision in section VI.C.2.a of the Order includes a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, requirements for accelerated monitoring, and requirements for TRE initiation if toxicity is demonstrated. The Discharger submitted a TRE Work Plan dated September 2008, which was approved by the Executive Officer on 30 September 2008.

To ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, the Discharger is required to conduct chronic WET testing, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E section V.). Furthermore, the Special Provision contained at VI.C.2.a. of this Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify and implement corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge demonstrates toxicity exceeding the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, the Discharger is required to initiate a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) in accordance with its approved TRE work plan. The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to perform accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, as well as, the threshold to initiate a TRE if effluent toxicity has been demonstrated.

D. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations

1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations

40 CFR 122.45(f)(1) requires effluent limitations be expressed in terms of mass, with some exceptions, and 40 CFR 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 CFR 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 MCLs) 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.g of this Order.

2. Averaging Periods for Effluent Limitations

40 CFR 122.45 (d) requires average weekly and average monthly discharge limitations for publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) unless impracticable. However, for toxic pollutants and pollutant parameters in water quality permitting, USEPA recommends the use of a maximum daily effluent limitation in lieu of average weekly effluent limitations for two reasons. "*First, the basis for the 7-day average for POTWs derives from the secondary treatment requirements. This basis is not related to the need for assuring achievement of water quality standards. Second, a 7-day average, which could comprise up to seven or more daily samples, could average out peak toxic concentrations and therefore the discharge's potential for causing acute toxic effects would be missed.*" (TSD, pg. 96) This Order uses maximum daily effluent limitations in lieu of average weekly effluent limitations for ammonia as recommended by the TSD for the achievement of water quality standards and for the protection of the beneficial uses of the receiving stream. Furthermore, for ammonia 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. 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 cyanide, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes. The effluent limitations for these pollutants are less stringent than those in Order R5-2008-0055-01. 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 304(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 TMDLs 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.

Old Alamo Creek is considered an attainment water for cyanide, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes because the receiving water is not listed as impaired on the 303(d) list for this constituent.[1] As discussed in section IV.D.4, below, removal of the effluent limits complies with federal and state antidegradation requirements. Thus, removal of the effluent limitations for cyanide, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes from Order R5-2008-0055-01 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 R5-2008-0055-01 was issued indicates that cyanide, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes do not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in the receiving water. Additionally, updated information that was not available at the time Order R5-2008-0055-01 was issued indicates that less stringent effluent limitations for cyanide, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes 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.** The maximum effluent concentration (MEC) for cyanide was 4.2 µg/L out of fifty-six samples while the maximum observed upstream receiving water concentration was non-detect with a MDL of 0.6 µg/L and RL of 3.0 µg/L. Therefore, cyanide in the discharge has no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitations for cyanide have not been retained in this Order.

ii. **Chlorodibromomethane (CDBM), Dichlorobromomethane (DCBM) and total Trihalomethanes (THMs).** The maximum effluent concentration (MEC) for CDBM and DCBM was 14 µg/L and 35 µg/L, respectively. Therefore CDBM and DCBM in the discharge do not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criterion of 34 µg/L and

[1] "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.

46 µg/L for Old Alamo Creek for fish consumption only. There are no applicable water quality objectives for total THMs in Old Alamo Creek.

The Basin Plan amendment includes site-specific objectives for CDBM, DCBM, and chloroform along with implementation procedures for the reasonable potential analysis. The Basin Plan amendment requires the use of the maximum Old Alamo Creek concentration at the terminus of the Old Alamo Creek before entering New Alamo Creek. The maximum concentrations for CDBM, DCBM, and chloroform at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek are 0.9 µg/L, 7.1 µg/L, and 14 µg/L, respectively, which are less than the site-specific water quality objectives of 4.9 µg/L, 16.0 µg/L, and 46 µg/L, respectively, for New Alamo Creek. Therefore CDBM, DCBM, and chloroform do not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the site-specific water quality objectives.

Total THMs is the sum of bromoform, CDBM, DCBM, and chloroform. The primary MCL for protection of the MUN beneficial use is 80 µg/L and applies in New Alamo Creek. The effluent limitation for total THMs included in R5-2008-0055-01 was established to control chloroform, because the CTR criterion has not yet been established. The Basin Plan amendment established a site-specific objective for chloroform in New Alamo Creek, which is now the applicable objective. As discussed above, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the site-specific water quality objective for chloroform, so the effluent limits for total THMs has been removed in this Order. Regardless, even applying the Total THMs primary MCL in the New Alamo Creek there is no reasonable potential. The maximum observed concentration of Total THMs at the terminus of Old Alamo Creek is 23.5 µg/L, which is less than the primary MCL.

c. **Turbidity.** Order R5-2008-0055-01 contained effluent limitations for turbidity. The prior limitations were solely an operational check to ensure the treatment system was functioning properly and could meet the limits for solids and coliform. The prior effluent limitations were not intended to regulate turbidity in the receiving water. Rather, turbidity is an operational parameter to determine proper system functioning and not a WQBEL.

This Order contains operational turbidity specifications to be met in lieu of effluent limitations. The revised Order does not include effluent limitations for turbidity. However, the performance-based specification in this Order is an equivalent limit that is not less stringent, and therefore does not constitute backsliding.

The revised operational specifications for turbidity are the same as the effluent limitations in Order R5-2008-0055-01. These revisions are consistent with State regulations implementing recycled water requirements. The revision in the turbidity limitation is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16 because this Order imposes equivalent or more stringent requirements than Order R5-2008-0055-01 and therefore does not allow degradation.

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 WQBELs 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 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16. 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.

Removal of the effluent limits for cyanide, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes complies with federal and state antidegradation requirements, because compliance with the proposed Order will result in the use of best practicable treatment or control of the discharge and the impact on existing water quality will be insignificant. For cyanide, it has been demonstrated that with the modification of the analytical method to eliminate false positives, the actual effluent concentrations are below the CTR criteria. For chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes, there is no evidence to suggest these disinfection by-products are expected to increase if the effluent limits are removed. Rather, with the installation of tertiary filtration by 1 May 2015, per this Order, the concentrations of these compounds are expected to decrease due to the removal of organic constituents (e.g., total organic carbon) that are precursors to the formation of disinfection by-product production prior to chlorine disinfection. In addition, this Order includes effluent and receiving water monitoring to examine possible upward trends in these constituents.

5. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants

This Order contains both technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for individual pollutants. The technology-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on BOD_5 and TSS. The water quality-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on turbidity and pathogens. 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. Specifically, this Order includes effluent limitations for BOD, TSS, turbidity and pathogens that are more stringent than applicable federal standards, but that are nonetheless necessary to meet numeric objectives or protect beneficial uses. The rationale for including these limitations is explained in section IV.C.3, above. In addition, the Central Valley Water Board has considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing these requirements.

Summary of Final Effluent Limitations

Discharge Point No. 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	
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day at 20ºC)	mg/L	May-Oct 10 Nov-Apr 20	May-Oct 15 Nov-Apr 25	May-Oct 20 Nov-Apr 30			TTC
	lbs/day[1]	May-Oct 1252 Nov-Apr 2504	May-Oct 1878 Nov-Apr 3129	May-Oct 2504 Nov-Apr 3755			DC
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	May-Oct 10 Nov-Apr 30	May-Oct 15 Nov-Apr 45	May-Oct 20 Nov-Apr 50			TTC
	lbs/day[1]	May-Oct 1252 Nov-Apr 3755	May-Oct 1878 Nov-Apr 5633	May-Oct 2504 Nov-Apr 6259			DC
pH	standard units				6.5	8.5	BP
Total Coliform 1 May-31 October	MPN/100 mL		2.2[3]	23[4]			Title 22
Total Coliform 1 November-30 April	MPN/100 mL	23[5]				240	Title 22
Settleable Solids 1 November-30 April	ml/L	0.1		0.2			BP
Ammonia, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.4		2.3			BP
	lbs/day[1]	175		288			
Nitrate plus Nitrite, Total (as N)	mg/L	13.6					MCL
Chlorine Residual	µg/L	0.011[6]		0.019[6]			BP
Electrical Conductivity	µmhos/cm					1320[7]	SEC MCL
Acute Toxicity	% Survival[8]						BP

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis[1]
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	

[1] Based upon a design treatment capacity of 15 mgd (ADWF).

[2] Effluent turbidity shall not exceed 2 NTU, as a daily average; 5 NTU, more than 5% of the time within a 24-hour period, and 10 NTU at any time. No turbidity effluent limits from 1 November – 30 April.

[3] Expressed as a 7-day median.

[4] Not to be exceeded more than one time in any 30-day period.

[5] Expressed as a 30-day median.

[6] Expressed as 1-hour and 4-day average.

[7] Annual Average

[8] Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

DC – Based on the design capacity of the Facility.
TTC – Based on tertiary treatment capability. These effluent limitations reflect the capability of a properly operated tertiary treatment plant.
BP – Based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan.
TMDL – Based on the TMDL for salinity and boron in the lower San Joaquin River.
MCL – Based on the Primary Maximum Contaminant Level.
Title 22 – Based on CA Department of Public Health Reclamation Criteria, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3 (Title 22).

E. Interim Effluent Limitations

The State Water Board's Resolution 2008-0025 "Policy for Compliance Schedules in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits" (Compliance Schedule Policy) requires the Central Valley Water Board to establish interim numeric effluent limitations in this Order for compliance schedules longer than one year. As discussed in section VI.B.7 of this Fact Sheet, the Central Valley Water Board is approving a compliance schedule longer than one year for electrical conductivity, total coliforms, turbidity, BOD and TSS. The Compliance Schedule Policy requires that interim effluent limitations must be based on current treatment plant performance or existing permit limitations, whichever is more stringent.

The interim effluent limitations for electrical conductivity, turbidity, total coliforms, BOD and TSS are based on existing permit limitations.

1. **Interim Limits for BOD, TSS, turbidity and Pathogens.** The Compliance Schedule Policy requires the Central Valley Water Board to establish interim requirements and dates for their achievement in the NPDES permit. Interim numeric effluent limitations are required for compliance schedules longer than one year. Interim effluent limitations must be based on current treatment plant performance or previous final permit limitations, whichever is more stringent. When feasible, interim limitations must correspond with final permit effluent limitations with respect to averaging bases (e.g., AMEL, MDEL, average monthly, etc.) for effluent limitations for which compliance protection is intended.

The establishment of tertiary-level limitations was previously required for this discharge for BOD_5, TSS, total coliform organisms, and turbidity; however, this requirement was stayed in State Water Board WQO 2002-0015, therefore, a schedule for compliance with the tertiary treatment requirements was included in previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 and included interim effluent limitations for BOD_5, TSS, and total coliform organisms based on the existing effluent limitations required by the 2001 NPDES permit, Order 5-01-044. The interim effluent limits for BOD_5, TSS, and total coliform organisms have been carried forward from previous Order R5-2008-0055-01. Full compliance with the final effluent limitations for BOD_5, TSS, total coliform organisms, and the operational specifications for turbidity are not required by this Order until **1 May 2015**.

F. Land Discharge Specifications - Not Applicable

G. Recycling Specifications –Not Applicable

V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water

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 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.

a. **Temperature**. Old Alamo Creek has designated the beneficial use WARM. New Alamo Creek has the beneficial uses of both COLD and WARM. The Basin Plan includes the objective that "[a]*t no time or place shall the temperature of COLD or WARM intrastate waters be increased more than 5ºF above natural receiving water temperature*." The 2006 "Characterization of Water Body and Reach-specific Seasonal Temperature Regimes Within the Alamo Creek Watershed and Recommended Temperature Limitations for the City of Vacaville's Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant" reported adult Fall-run Chinook salmon occasionally stray into New Alamo Creek. The adult salmon are constrained by physical barriers from continuing up-stream and the lack of suitable habitat precludes successful spawning and reproduction in the lower reaches. The study recommended seasonal temperatures that are protective of adult salmon. Thus, for New Alamo Creek, this Order includes receiving water limitations based on the Basin Plan objective and additional proposed seasonal receiving water temperature limitations based on the temperature study conducted by the Discharger, which was approved by National Marine Fisheries Services on 20 November 2006, to be protective of New Alamo Creek beneficial uses of COLD and MIGR.

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 671 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 12 mg/L as nitrogen, 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 6.9 to 7.3 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 [1], 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 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

[1] 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).

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 Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE). This Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE. Additionally, if a numeric chronic toxicity water quality objective is adopted by the State Water Board, this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation based on that objective.

b. **CV-SALTS.** The Central Valley Water Board is currently implementing the CV SALTS initiative to develop a Basin Plan Amendment that will establish a salt and nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. This Order may be reopened to implement the CV-SALTS initiative.

c. **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.

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.) Based on whole effluent chronic toxicity testing performed by the Discharger from January 2009 through July 2012, 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 for demonstration of compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. In addition to WET monitoring, this provision requires the Discharger to submit to the Central Valley Water Board an Initial Investigative TRE Workplan for approval by the Executive Officer, to ensure the Discharger has a plan to immediately move forward with the initial tiers of a TRE, in the event effluent toxicity is encountered in the future. The provision also includes a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, requirements for accelerated monitoring, and requirements for TRE initiation if toxicity is demonstrated.

Monitoring Trigger. A numeric toxicity monitoring trigger of **> 1** TUc (where TUc = 100/NOEC) is applied in the provision, because this Order does not allow any dilution for the chronic condition. Therefore, a TRE is triggered when the effluent exhibits toxicity at 100% effluent.

Accelerated Monitoring. The provision requires accelerated WET testing when a regular WET test result exceeds the monitoring trigger. The purpose of accelerated monitoring is to determine, in an expedient manner, whether there is toxicity before requiring the implementation of a TRE. Due to possible seasonality of the toxicity, the accelerated monitoring should be performed in a timely manner, preferably taking no more than 2 to 3 months to complete.

The provision requires accelerated monitoring consisting of four chronic toxicity tests in a six-week period (i.e., one test every two weeks) using the species that exhibited toxicity. Guidance regarding accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation is provided in the *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control,* EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991 (TSD). The TSD at page 118 states, "*EPA recommends if toxicity is repeatedly or periodically present at levels above effluent limits more than 20 percent of the time, a TRE should be required.*" Therefore, four accelerated monitoring tests are required in this provision. If no toxicity is demonstrated in the four accelerated tests, then it demonstrates that toxicity is not present at levels above the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time (only 1 of 5 tests are toxic, including the initial test). However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of effluent toxicity (i.e. toxicity present exceeding the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time), the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.

See the WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart (Figure F-1), below, for further clarification of the accelerated monitoring requirements and for the decision points for determining the need for TRE initiation.

TRE Guidance. The Discharger is required to prepare a TRE Workplan in accordance with USEPA guidance. Numerous guidance documents are available, as identified below:

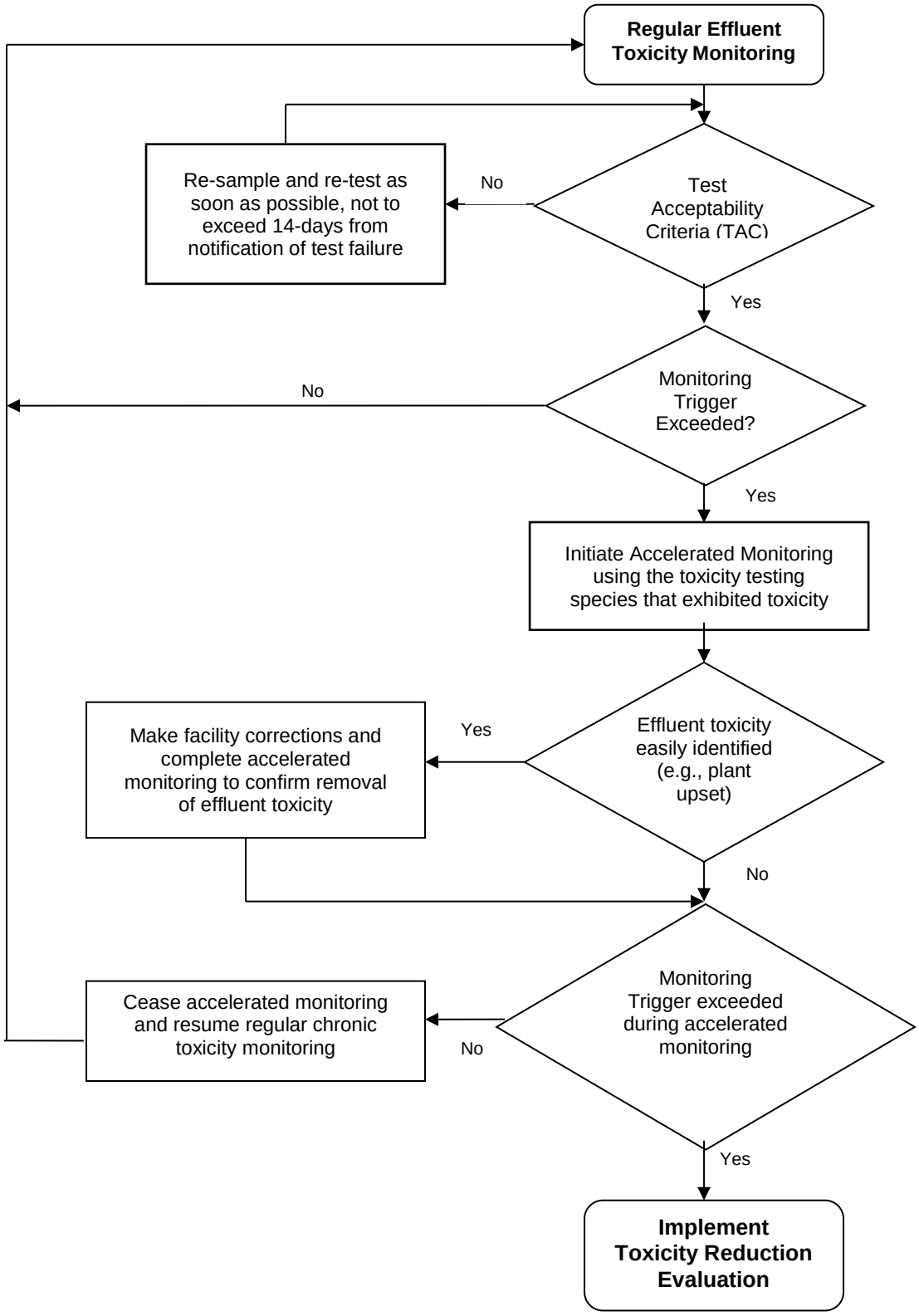
- Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants, EPA/833-B-99/002, August 1999.
- Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations (TREs), EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989.
- Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures, Second Edition, EPA 600/6-91/003, February 1991.
- Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I, EPA/600/6-91/005F, May 1992.
- Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity, Second Edition, EPA/600/R-92/080, September 1993.
- Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity, Second Edition, EPA 600/R-92/081, September 1993.

- Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms, Fifth Edition, EPA-821-R-02-012, October 2002.

- 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.

- Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991.

Figure F-1
WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart



b. **Municipal Water Supply Characterization Study.** The Discharger shall collect and submit annual municipal water supply quality and quantity data from water purveyors within the Discharger's service area. Total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity or specific conductance shall be reported as a weighted average of groundwater and surface water quality using the most recent published information from the water purveyors and other databases available to the public. In addition to characterizing the water supply in the service area, the Discharger shall report the influent and effluent total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity of the discharge in the annual report. The Discharger shall compile the information and provide updates on **1 February, annually**.

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. **Salinity Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP).** In accordance with previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 the Discharger submitted an updated salinity PPP in December 2008, which was approved on 12 January 2009. The Discharger shall continue to implement the salinity PPP and by 1 February 2015 submit an updated salinity PPP.

b. **Mercury Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP).** In accordance with previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 the Discharger submitted an updated mercury PPP in December 2008, which was approved on 12 January 2009. The Discharger shall continue to implement the mercury PPP and by 1 February 2015 submit an updated mercury PPP.

4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications

a. The operation and maintenance specifications for the emergency basins are necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the groundwater. The specifications included in this Order are retained from R5-2008-0055-01. In addition, reporting requirements related to use of the emergency basins are required to monitor their use and the potential impact on groundwater. The emergency basins will be operated such that there is no public contact with wastewater, mosquito breeding in prevented, erosion is controlled, weeds are minimized, debris doesn't accumulate on the water, and freeboard is never less than two feet and no infiltration of wastewater into soils or groundwater.

b. **Bypass (blending) Requirements**. Effective immediately and until 30 April 2015, the bypass of the secondary treatment facilities may be allowed under conditions provided is Special Provisions Section VI.C.4.d. of this Order.

During dry weather operation, all influent wastewater is directed to the South Plant. The North Plant primary treatment system is only used during wet weather events producing high flows. Secondary treatment flows are split between the two parallel plants. The flow split is 40 percent (6 mgd) to the North Plant, and 60 percent (9 mgd) to the South Plant. During wet weather flows exceeding the capacity of the secondary treatment facilities (~40 mgd), the Discharger bypasses secondary treatment for a portion of the wastewater. A portion of the primary treated effluent is directed around the secondary treatment processes and blended with secondary treated effluent prior to passage through the disinfection system, then discharged to Old Alamo Creek.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) requires POTWs to meet secondary treatment performance-based requirements, as defined by 40 CFR 133.102 as achieving a BOD_5

30-day average of 30 mg/L, a 7-day average of 45 mg/l and a 30-day average percent removal of at least 85 percent. The combined effluent described in this permit will be capable of meeting secondary effluent limitations contained in 40 CFR 133.102 as a technology based standard.

The Discharger has indicated that additional expansions, scheduled after 2020 and 2030, will phase out the bypass of the secondary treatment units during high flow conditions. The previous permits have allowed bypasses, however, the CWA, Section 402 prohibits sewage bypasses, which are defined in 40 CFR 122.41 (m) (1), as an "*intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility"*, except in certain circumstances specified in the regulations. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has previously provided guidance in interpreting the bypass prohibition and exceptions. USEPA has stated that peak wet weather discharges from POTWs routed around biological treatment units prior to discharge can be approved by an NPDES permit where all the following principles are met: (1) The discharge meets all effluent limitations; (2) The permit recognizes the specific treatment schemes for peak flow management; (3) Alternative flow routing scenarios are only used when flows exceed the capacity of storage/equalization units; (4) The treatment system is operated as it is designed to be operated; and (5) The permit requires permittees to properly design, operate and maintain its collection system. The exception to the bypass requirement of 40 CFR 122.41 (m) assumes generally accepted good engineering practices are utilized, such as storage/equalization units to provide initial capacity for peak wet weather flows to a reasonable extent. The Discharger has not provided information demonstrating that the bypass would meet the exceptions to the prohibition, including demonstrating that all generally accepted good engineering practices have been considered, such as the construction of storage/equalization units. Furthermore, the practice of bypassing secondary treatment facilities likely does not meet best practicable treatment or control requirements, as mandated by State Water Board Resolution 68-16. Therefore, this permit does not allow bypass of secondary treatment.

The State Water Board in Water Quality Order WQO 2002-0015 concluded that the Regional Water Board appropriately implemented the federal mandatory bypass prohibition in Order No. 5-01-044. If new information is submitted to the Regional Water Board that demonstrates that the bypass would meet the requirements for an exception under 40 CFR 122.41(m) consistent with USEPA's guidance, this permit may be reopened for further consideration of the bypass prohibition.

On 8 May 2003 the State Water Board and Regional Water Board agreed to Stay the bypass prohibition until the Contra Costa County Superior Court considered the Discharger's petition for Writ challenging the prohibition on bypass. Subsequently on 5 September 2003, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R5-2003-0129, amending Provision F.4 of Order No. 5-01-044, to stay the time schedule until the Court considers the Discharger's Petition for Writ. Therefore, Special Provisions VI.C.7.a of this Order includes a time schedule to discontinue the bypass practices, pending the resolution of the Court action.

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)

a. **Pretreatment Requirements.**

i. The federal CWA section 307(b), and federal regulations, 40 CFR Part 403, require publicly owned treatment works to develop an acceptable industrial pretreatment program. A pretreatment program is required to prevent the introduction of pollutants, which will interfere with treatment plant operations or sludge disposal, and prevent pass through of pollutants that exceed water quality objectives, standards or permit limitations. Pretreatment requirements are imposed pursuant to 40 CFR Part 403.

ii. The Discharger shall implement and enforce its approved pretreatment program and is an enforceable condition of this Order. If the Discharger fails to perform the pretreatment functions, the Central Valley Water Board, the State Water Board or USEPA may take enforcement actions against the Discharger as authorized by the CWA.

b. The State Water Board issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order 2006-0003-DWQ (General Order) on May 2, 2006. The Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for the General Order were amended by Water Quality Order WQ 2008-0002-EXEC on February 20, 2008. 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.

Furthermore, the General Order contains requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows. Inasmuch that the Discharger's collection system is part of the system that is subject to this Order, certain standard provisions are applicable as specified in Provisions, section VI.C.5. For instance, the 24-hour reporting requirements in this Order are not included in the General Order. The Discharger must comply with both the General Order and this Order. The Discharger and public agencies that are discharging wastewater into the facility were required to obtain enrollment for regulation under the General Order by December 1, 2006.

6. Other Special Provisions

a. **Ownership Change.** To maintain the accountability of the operation of the Facility, the Discharger is required to notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter if, and when, there is any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger.

7. Compliance Schedules

In general, an NPDES permit must include final effluent limitations that are consistent with CWA section 301 and with 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d). There are exceptions to this general rule. The State Water Board's Resolution 2008-0025 "Policy for Compliance Schedules in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits" (Compliance Schedule Policy) allows compliance schedules for new, revised, or newly interpreted water quality objectives or criteria, or in accordance with a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). All compliance schedules must be as short as possible, and may not exceed ten years from the effective date of the adoption, revision, or new interpretation of the applicable water quality objective or criterion, unless a TMDL allows a longer schedule. Where a compliance schedule for a final effluent limitation exceeds one year, the Order must include interim numeric effluent limitations for that constituent or parameter, interim requirements and dates toward achieving compliance, and compliance reporting within 14 days after each interim date. The Order may also include interim requirements to control the pollutant, such as pollutant minimization and source control measures.

The permit requirements for Title 22 (or equivalent) disinfection and a prohibition of bypass were required in previous Order R5-2008-0055-01 and were more stringent than the limitations previously implemented. Compliance with these new requirements requires the Discharger to construct new or expanded treatment facilities. These new requirements are interrelated; therefore, it is cost effective for the Discharger to address the necessary upgrades in one comprehensive plan. Multiple overlapping construction schedules would not be efficient, due to the significant risk of poor coordination, likely resulting in process disruption, discharge violations, and contractual arguments. The construction of one project to comply with all of the new requirements is desirable. Consequently, it is prudent to require one compliance schedule and one final compliance date.

The Discharger submitted a memorandum by West Yost and Associates, dated 24 January 2008, outlining a preliminary construction timeline for upgrades to the Facility for compliance with the new requirements. The timeline took into consideration the efforts the Discharger was making in the development of site-specific objectives for THMs. The Discharger determined it was necessary to delay preliminary design until after the site-specific objective issues were resolved, because it would determine the Discharger's potential need to abandon or retain the chlorine disinfection system. Based on these considerations, the Discharger requested a seven year compliance schedule for meeting the new requirements. The schedule is a short as practicable and necessary to accommodate the many complexities associated with various permit requirements. This Order continues the compliance schedule for Title 22 (or equivalent) Disinfection and Prohibition of Bypass from the previous Order. Final compliance is required by **1 May 2015**.

VII. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Section 122.48 of 40 C.F.R. 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 (MRP), Attachment E, establishes monitoring and reporting 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) have been retained from Order No. R5-2008-0055-01. BOD and TSS monitoring is reduced from monitoring five times per week to once per week. Electrical Conductivity monitoring is reduced from once per day to once per month. TDS monitoring and frequency has been retained from Order No. R5-2008-0055-01.

B. Effluent Monitoring

1. Pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR 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 flow, BOD, TSS, pH, ammonia, chlorine residual, nitrate, temperature, total coliforms, TDS, acute and chronic toxicity have been retained from Order R5-2008-0055-01 to determine compliance with effluent limitations for these parameters.

3. Monitoring data collected over the previous permit term for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, cyanide, nitrite, oil and grease did not demonstrate reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives/criteria. Thus, specific monitoring requirements for these parameters have not been retained from Order R5-2008-0055-01.

4. The SIP states that if "…*all reported detection limits of the pollutant in the effluent are greater than or equal to the C [water quality criterion or objective] value, the RWQCB [Regional Water Board] shall establish interim requirements…that require additional monitoring for the pollutant*…." All reported detection limits for carbon tetrachloride are greater than or equal to corresponding applicable water quality criteria or objectives. Monitoring for these constituents has been included in this Order in accordance with the SIP.

5. California 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 Department of Public Health certifies 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 Clean Water Act. (Wat. Code §§ 13370, subd. (c), 13372, 13377.) Section 13176 is inapplicable to NPDES permits to the extent it is inconsistent with Clean Water Act 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).

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

1. **Acute Toxicity.** Monthly 96-hour bioassay testing is required to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitation for acute toxicity.

2. **Chronic Toxicity.** Quarterly 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.

b. Delta Regional Monitoring Program

The Central Valley Water Board requires individual dischargers and discharger groups to conduct monitoring of Delta waters and Delta tributary waters in the vicinity of their discharge, known as ambient (or receiving) water quality monitoring. This monitoring provides information on the impacts of waste discharges on Delta waters, and on the extant condition of the Delta waters. However, the equivalent funds spent on current monitoring efforts could be used more efficiently and productively, and provide a better understanding of geographic and temporal distributions of contaminants and physical conditions in the Delta, and of other Delta water quality issues, if those funds were used for a coordinated ambient monitoring effort, rather than continue to be used in individual, uncoordinated ambient water quality monitoring programs. The Delta Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) will provide data to better inform management and policy decisions regarding the Delta.

This Order will allow Dischargers to elect to participate in the Delta RMP in lieu of conducting all or part of the individual receiving water monitoring required in the Monitoring and Reporting Program. If the Discharger elects to cease individual receiving water monitoring and participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program, the Discharger shall submit a letter signed by an authorized representative to the Executive Officer informing the Board that the Discharger will participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program and the date on which individual receiving water monitoring under Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1, will cease or be modified. Approval by the Executive Officer is required, and contingent on Delta RMP Steering Committee action on the forthcoming RMP monitoring plan.

Delta RMP data is not intended to be used directly to represent either upstream or downstream water quality for purposes of determining compliance with this Permit. Delta RMP monitoring stations are established generally as "integrator sites" to evaluate the combined impacts on water quality of multiple discharges into the Delta; Delta RMP monitoring stations would not normally be able to identify the source of any specific

constituent, but would be used to identify water quality issues needing further evaluation. Delta RMP monitoring data may be used to help establish background receiving water quality for Reasonable Potential analyses in an NPDES Permit after evaluation of the applicability of the data for that purpose. In general, monitoring data from samples collected in the immediate vicinity of the discharge will be given greater weight in permitting decisions than receiving water monitoring data collected at greater distances from the discharge point. Delta RMP data, as with all environmental monitoring data, can provide an assessment of water quality at a specific place and time that can be used in conjunction with other information, such as other receiving water monitoring data, spatial and temporal distribution and trends of receiving water data, effluent data from the Discharger's discharge and other point and non-point source discharges, receiving water flow volume, speed and direction, and other information to determine the likely source or sources of a constituent that resulted in exceedance of a receiving water quality objective.

If the Discharger begins to participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program in lieu of individual receiving water monitoring, the Discharger shall continue to participate in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program until such time as the Discharger informs the Board that participation in the Delta RMP will cease and individual monitoring is reinstituted. Receiving water monitoring under Attachment E, Sections VIII.A.1 and VIII.B.1, is not required under this Order so long as the Discharger adequately supports the Delta Regional Monitoring Program. Participation in the Delta RMP by a Discharger shall consist of providing funds and/or in-kind services to the Delta RMP at least equivalent to discontinued individual monitoring and study efforts. If a discharger or discharger group fails to maintain adequate participation in the Delta RMP, as determined through criteria to be developed by the Delta RMP Steering Committee, the Steering Committee will recommend to the Central Valley Water Board that an individual monitoring program be reinstated for that discharger or discharger group.

If the Discharger is participating in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program as described in Attachment E, Section VIII, the Receiving Water portion of the required Characterization Monitoring need not be conducted by the Discharger. Instead, data from the Delta Regional Monitoring Program will be utilized to characterize the receiving water in the permit renewal. The Discharger may, however, conduct any site-specific receiving water monitoring deemed appropriate by the Discharger and submit that monitoring data with this Characterization Monitoring. In general, monitoring data from samples collected in the immediate vicinity of the discharge will be given greater weight in permitting decisions than receiving water monitoring data collected at greater distances from the discharge point. Historic receiving water monitoring data taken by the discharger and from other sources may also be evaluated to determine whether or not that data is representative of current receiving water conditions. If found to be representative of current conditions, then that historic data may be used in characterizing receiving water quality for the purposes of Reasonable Potential analysis.

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 Resolution No. 68-16. 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 Resolution No. 68-16 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 Resolution No. 68-16. 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**
Biosolids monitoring is required to ensure compliance with the biosolids disposal requirements contained in the Special Provision contained in section VI.C.6.b. of this Order. Biosolids disposal requirements are imposed pursuant to 40 CFR Part 503 to protect public health and prevent groundwater degradation.

2. **Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study Program**
Under the authority of section 308 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1318), U.S. EPA requires major permittees under the NPDES Program to participate in the annual DMR-QA Study Program.

The DMR-QA Study evaluates the analytical ability of laboratories that routinely perform or support self-monitoring analyses required by NPDES permits. There are two options to satisfy the requirements of the DMR-QA Study Program: (1) The Discharger can obtain and analyze a DMR-QA sample as part of the DMR-QA Study; or (2) Per the waiver issued by U.S.EPA to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the Discharger can submit the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study from their own laboratories or their contract laboratories. A Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study is similar to the DMR-QA Study. Thus, it also evaluates a laboratory's ability to analyze wastewater samples to produce quality data that ensure the integrity of the NPDES Program. The Discharger shall submit annually the results of the DMR-QA Study or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study to the State Water Board. The State Water Board's Quality Assurance Program Officer will send the DMR-QA Study results or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study to U.S. EPA's DMR-QA Coordinator and Quality Assurance Manager.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Central Valley Water Board has considered the issuance of WDR's that will serve as an NPDES permit for Easterly 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 following newspaper, Vacaville Reporter on 30 March 2014.

The public had access to the agenda and any changes in dates and locations through the Central Valley Water Board's website at:
http://r5web.waterboards.ca.gov/

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 Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, 11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

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 21 April 2014.

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:	5/6 June 2014
Time:	8:30 a.m.
Location:	Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region 11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

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 aggrieved person may petition the State Water Board to review the decision of the Central Valley Water Board regarding the final WDR's. The petition must be received by the State Water Board at the following address within 30 calendar days of the Central Valley Water Board's action:

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

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 Kathleen Harder at (916) 464-4778.

ATTACHMENT G – SUMMARY OF REASONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS FOR CONSTITUENTS OF CONCERN

Constituent	Units	MEC	B	C	CMC	CCC	Water & Org	Org. Only	Basin Plan	MCL	Reasonable Potential
Ammonia[2]	mg/L	0.3	ND	0.96	2.3	0.96	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**Yes**
Aluminum[2]	ug/L	20	3160	200	750	750	N/A	N/A	N/A	200	**No**
Carbon tetrachloride[2]	ug/L	0.7	<0.200	0.25	N/A	N/A	0.25	4.4	N/A	0.5	**No**
Chloride[1,2]	mg/L	141	108	106	860	230	N/A	N/A	N/A	250	**No**
Chlorodibromomethane[2]	ug/L	14	<0.170	7.1	N/A	N/A	0.41	34	N/A	80	**No**
Dichlorobromomethane[2]	ug/L	35	<0.160	16	N/A	N/A	0.56	46	N/A	80	**No**
Iron[2]	ug/L	230	4200	300	N/A	1000	N/A	N/A	N/A	300	**No**
Manganese[2]	ug/L	14	88	50	N/A	N/A	N/A	100	N/A	50	**No**
Nitrate (as N)[2]	mg/L	31	3.6	10	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	N/A	10	**Yes**
Specific Conductance (EC) [1,2]	umhos/cm	1250	1050	700	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	900	**No**
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) [1,2]	mg/L	760	602	450	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	**No**

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) Chloride, TDS and EC all covered under effluent limit for EC.

(2) See Fact Sheet, IV.C.3. for reasonable potential analysis

ATTACHMENT H – CALCULATION OF WQBELS

Parameter	Units	Most Stringent Criteria			Dilution Factors			HH Calculations			Aquatic Life Calculations									Final Effluent Limitations	
		HH	CMC	CCC	HH	CMC	CCC	ECA_{HH} = $AMEL_{HH}$	AMEL/MDEL $Multiplier_{HH}$	$MDEL_{HH}$	ECA $Multiplier_{acute}$	LTA_{acute}	ECA $Multiplier_{chronic}$	$LTA_{chronic}$	Lowest LTA	AMEL $Multiplier_{95}$	$AMEL_{AL}$	MDEL $Multiplier_{99}$	$MDEL_{AL}$	Lowest AMEL	Lowest MDEL
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	--	2.3	4.3							0.44	1.0				1.36	1.4	2.27	2.3	1.4	2.3

[1] USEPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria.

Pollutant	Units	ECA[1]	Criterion	Background	Dilution Credit[2]
Nitrate + nitrite (as N)	mg/L	13.6	10	2.6	0.49

[1] Equivalent to the performance-based AMEL or annual average effluent limitation.

[2] The dilution credit is calculated using the steady-state mass balance equation rearranged to solve for the dilution credit, as follows:

$$D = (ECA – C) / (C – B)$$