

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. R5-2007-_____

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
INTERSTATE FIVE UTILITY COMPANY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
KERN COUNTY

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

1. The Interstate 5 Utility Company, a California corporation (hereafter Discharger) owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). The WWTF provides sewerage for about eight service stations, four fast food restaurants, two truck washing facilities, four motels, and one residence.
2. The WWTF is along Interstate Five and Highway 58, approximately three miles east of the City of Buttonwillow, in Section 16, T29S, R24E, MDB&M, as shown on Attachment A, which is attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference.
3. Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 98-005, adopted on 23 January 1998, restricted the monthly average discharge flow to 0.190 mgd. The WDRs prescribed effluent limitations on a monthly basis for 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) and settleable solids (SS).
4. The purpose of this Order is to rescind WDRs Order No. 98-005 and prescribe requirements that are consistent with Regional Water Board plans and policies.

Wastewater Treatment Facility

5. The WWTF consists of the wastewater collection system; influent pump station; headworks with a grinder; two extended aeration package treatment plants (Treatment Units 1 and 2) operated in parallel followed by a third package treatment plant (Treatment Unit 3); and three evaporation and percolation ponds (Ponds 1 through 3). Treatment Units 1 through 3 may be operated in parallel, but typical operation is described above.
6. Typically, effluent from Treatment Unit 3 is discharged to Pond 1 (0.8 acres), which overflows into Pond 2 (0.9 acres). However, effluent from the secondary clarifiers for Treatment Units 1 and 2 also have the capability of discharging directly to Pond 1. Pond 3 is about 8 acres and 800 feet north of Ponds 1 and 2. Pond 3 is rarely used for effluent disposal.
7. Undisinfected secondary treated wastewater is discharged from Ponds 1 through 3 on 23-acres (Use Area) of pasture owned by the Discharger. The pasture is used for grazing horses and non-milking cattle.

8. The Discharger flood or spray irrigates the Use Area as necessary. The Use Area is graded to allow excess applied effluent to flow back into Ponds 1 and 2, preventing off-site discharges.
9. Ponds 1 through 3 and the Use Area are fenced to preclude public access. Attachment B, which is attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference, depicts a general plan view and process flow diagram of the WWTF.
10. Currently, wasted sludge from the secondary clarifier is pumped to an aerobic digester chamber for further treatment and then pumped and hauled offsite for disposal at an authorized facility. Historically, the Discharger dried the sludge onsite and then applied it to areas surrounding the WWTF.
11. Fluctuations in flow occur from the variance in traffic during peak holiday and summer travel.
12. Self-monitoring data from April 2006 to March 2007 and results from a June 2007 Regional Water Board staff inspection characterize the discharge as follows:

<u>Constituent/Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Influent</u>	<u>Effluent</u>	<u>% Removal¹</u>
Monthly Average Discharge Flow	mgd	NS ²	0.10 ³	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Settleable Solids	mL/L	--	<0.1	--
BOD ⁴	mg/L	240	48	80
TSS ⁵	mg/L	300 ⁶	<20 ⁶	>90
Salts				
Chloride	mg/L	--	160 ⁶	--
Boron	mg/L	--	0.22 ⁶	--
Sodium	mg/L	--	160 ⁶	--
EC ⁷	µmhos/cm	--	1100 ⁶	--
Nitrogen Forms				
Nitrate as Nitrogen	mg/L	--	<0.3 ⁶	--
TKN ⁸	mg/L	--	50 ⁶	--
Total Nitrogen ⁹	mg/L	--	50 ⁶	--

¹ Percent removal (% removal)
² Not sampled (NS)
³ Reported incorrectly in Discharger SMRs by an order of magnitude.
⁴ 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)
⁵ Total suspended solids (TSS)
⁶ Based on one-sample taken during a June 2007 Regional Water Board staff inspection.
⁷ Electrical conductivity at 25°C (EC)
⁸ Total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN)
⁹ Calculated by summing the concentrations of nitrate as nitrogen and TKN, and assuming the concentration of nitrite is negligible.

13. The EC of the WWTF effluent is about 800 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ over source water, based on one effluent sample. Insufficient data exists to adequately characterize the effluent for EC.

Site-Specific Conditions

14. The WWTF is in an arid climate characterized by hot dry summers and mild winters. The rainy season generally extends from November through March. Occasional rains occur during the spring and fall months, but summer months are dry. Average annual precipitation and evaporation in the discharge area are about 5.69 inches and 108 inches, respectively, according to information published by California Department of Water Resources (DWR).
15. Areal soils are Garces silty loam and Panoche clay loam, according to the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service. These soils drain well and are saline-alkali. Percolation rates within the upper five feet of soils are about 1.4 feet/day, according to tests conducted by the Discharger.
16. The WWTF is not within a 100-year floodplain according to Federal Emergency Management Agency maps.
17. The Discharger is not required to obtain coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System general industrial storm water permit for the WWTF because all storm water runoff is retained onsite and does not discharge to a water of the United States.
18. Land use in the WWTF vicinity is primarily agricultural with several acres of native vegetation surrounding the WWTF. The primary crops grown within five miles of the WWTF include cotton, wheat, alfalfa, corn (forage), barley, grasses, almonds, and to a lesser extent carrots and grains according to DWR land use data published in 1998. Irrigation water is supplied by both groundwater and surface waters. Some salt sensitive crops (e.g., carrots, almonds) are grown in the area.

Groundwater Considerations

19. In the discharge vicinity, groundwater is about 100 feet bgs and flows generally north to northeasterly, with a perched groundwater table at about 20 feet bgs according to information in the Kern County Water Agency's *Water Supply Report 1999* (Water Supply Report), dated May 2003. In the discharge vicinity, the "modified E-clay" layer occurs about 350 to 400 feet bgs and is about 20 feet thick, according to *Geology of Fresh Ground-Water Basin, Central Valley, California, with Texture Maps and Sections*, by R. W. Page (U. S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1401 – C, Washington, 1986). Regional groundwater data from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) show varying quality of first encountered groundwater with respect to EC (941 to 4,400 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$) and nitrate as N (<0.2 to 27 mg/L). The Water Supply Report shows EC (converted from TDS) in the unconfined aquifer ranging from about 850 to 1100 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$. However, groundwater data within the area is limited.

20. The Discharger obtains its source water from two onsite wells owned by the Discharger. The wells are about 600 feet southeast of the WWTF. The source water is of good quality according to data obtained from the State Water Board's Geotracker database. Excerpts of this data are presented below.

<u>Constituent/Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Range</u>
Arsenic	µg/L	4.2 – 11
Chloride	mg/L	11 – 19
EC	µmhos/cm	300 – 301
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	<0.2 – 5
TDS	mg/L	170 - 180

Basin Plan, Beneficial Uses, and Water Quality Objectives

21. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, 2nd Edition, (hereafter Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses, establishes numerical and narrative water quality objectives, contains implementation plans and policies for protecting all waters of the basin, and incorporates by reference plans and policies of the State Water Board. Pursuant to Section 13263(a) of the California Water Code (CWC), these waste discharge requirements implement the Basin Plan.
22. Water in the Tulare Lake Basin is in short supply, requiring importation of surface water from other parts of the State. The Basin Plan encourages recycling on irrigated crops wherever feasible and indicates that evaporation of recyclable wastewater is not an acceptable permanent disposal method where the opportunity exists to replace an existing use or proposed use of fresh water with recycled water.
23. The WWTF is in Detailed Analysis Unit (DAU) No. 255 within the Kern County Basin hydrologic unit. The Basin Plan designates the beneficial uses of groundwater in this DAU as municipal and domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial service supply, and wildlife habitat [supply].
24. The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for chemical constituents that, at a minimum, require waters designated as domestic or municipal supply to meet the MCLs specified in Title 22. The Basin Plan's incorporation of these provisions by reference is prospective, and includes future changes to the incorporated provisions as the changes take effect. The Basin Plan recognizes that the Regional Water Board may apply limits more stringent than MCLs to ensure that waters do not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
25. The Basin Plan establishes narrative water quality objectives for Chemical Constituents, Tastes and Odors, and Toxicity. The Toxicity objective, in summary, requires that groundwater be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life associated with

designated beneficial uses. Quantifying a narrative water quality objective requires a site-specific evaluation of those constituents that have the potential to impact water quality and beneficial uses.

26. The Basin Plan identifies the greatest long-term problem facing the entire Tulare Lake Basin as the increase in salinity in groundwater, which has accelerated due to the intensive use of soil and water resources by irrigated agriculture. The Basin Plan recognizes that degradation is unavoidable until there is a long-term solution to the salt imbalance. Until then, the Basin Plan establishes several salt management requirements, including:
- a. The incremental increase in salts from use and treatment must be controlled to the extent possible. The maximum EC shall not exceed the EC of the source water plus 500 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$. When the source water is from more than one source, the EC shall be a weighted average of all sources.
 - b. Discharges to areas that may recharge good quality groundwaters shall not exceed an EC of 1,000 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$, a chloride content of 175 mg/L, or boron content of 1.0 mg/L.

These effluent limits are considered best practicable treatment or control (BPTC).

27. The list of crops in Finding 18 is not intended as a definitive inventory of crops that are or could be grown in the area affected by the discharge, but is representative. Crops sensitive to salt and boron are currently being grown in the area are primarily due to the importation of high quality surface water. Additional monitoring is necessary to determine the characteristics of the effluent.
28. The Basin Plan requires municipal WWTFs that discharge to land to comply with treatment performance standards for BOD₅ and TSS. The Basin Plan allows flexibility in the standards based on site-specific conditions, such as the potential for nuisance or to degrade groundwater.

Antidegradation Analysis

29. State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16 ("Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters of the State") (hereafter Resolution No. 68-16) prohibits degradation of groundwater unless it has been shown that:
- a. The degradation is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State;
 - b. The degradation will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated future beneficial uses;
 - c. The degradation does not result in water quality less than that prescribed in state and regional policies, including violation of one or more water quality objectives; and
 - d. The discharger employs BPTC to minimize degradation.

30. The discharge is an existing discharge and will not change in character or volume from that allowed by WDRs Order No. 92-035. The overall mass of constituents, and therefore, the potential to impact water quality, remain unchanged.

Treatment and Control Practices

31. The WWTF described in Findings 5 through 10, provides treatment and control of the discharge that incorporates:

- a. low salinity source water;
- b. recycles effluent;
- c. secondary treatment;
- d. appropriate biosolids disposal practices; and
- e. an operation and maintenance (O&M) manual.

32. This Order establishes groundwater limitations for the WWTF that will not unreasonably threaten present and anticipated beneficial uses or result in groundwater quality that exceeds water quality objectives set forth in the Basin Plan.

Water Recycling Criteria

33. Domestic wastewater contains pathogens harmful to humans that are typically measured by means of total or fecal coliform, as indicator organisms. California Department of Health Services (DHS), which has primary statewide responsibility for protecting public health, has established statewide criteria in Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section 60301 et seq., (hereafter Title 22) for the use of recycled water and has developed guidelines for specific uses. Revisions of the water recycling criteria in Title 22 became effective on 2 December 2000. The revised Title 22 expands the range of allowable uses of recycled water, establishes criteria for these uses, and clarifies some of the ambiguity contained in the previous regulations.

34. A 1988 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DHS and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on the use of recycled water establishes basic principles relative to the agencies and the regional water boards. In addition, the MOA allocates primary areas of responsibility and authority between these agencies, and provides for methods and mechanisms necessary to assure ongoing, continuous future coordination of activities relative to the use of recycled water in California.

35. State Water Board Resolution No. 77-1, Policy with Respect to Water Recycling in California, encourages recycling projects that replace or supplement the use of fresh water, and the Water Recycling Law (California Water Code Section 13500-13529.4) declares that utilization of recycled water is of primary interest to the people of the State in meeting future water needs.

36. The Basin Plan encourages recycling on irrigated crops wherever feasible and indicates that evaporation of recyclable wastewater is not an acceptable permanent disposal method where the opportunity exists to replace an existing use or proposed use of fresh water with recycled water.
37. Title 22, Section 60303 provides exceptions to the statewide criteria and requirements for water recycling if public access is precluded. The WWTF qualifies for this exception, as the entire facility is fenced with a locked gate.

Other Regulatory Considerations

38. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has promulgated biosolids reuse regulations in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 503, Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge, which establishes management criteria for protection of ground and surface waters, sets application rates for heavy metals, and establishes stabilization and disinfection criteria. The Discharger may have separate and/or additional compliance, reporting, and permitting responsibilities to EPA. The RWD states that all biosolids will be hauled to a separate permitted facility.
39. As the discharge consists of treated domestic sewage and incidental discharges from treatment and storage facilities associated with a domestic wastewater treatment plant, and as these discharges are regulated by waste discharge requirements consistent with applicable water quality objectives, the WWTF and its discharge is exempt from containment pursuant to Title 27, Section 20090(a).

CEQA

40. The Discharger is not increasing discharge flow or changing the nature and character of its discharge, therefore the issuance of this Order is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et, seq.) and the State CEQA guidelines (Title 14, Division 6, California Code of Regulations, as amended).

General Findings

41. All the above and the supplemental information and details in the attached Information Sheet, which is incorporated by reference herein, were considered in establishing the following conditions of discharge.
42. Pursuant to CWC Section 13263(g), discharge is a privilege, not a right, and adoption of this Order does not create a vested right to continue the discharge.
43. The Regional Water Board will review this Order periodically and will revise requirements when necessary.
44. California Water Code Section 13267(b) states that: "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 or 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 that 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.”

45. The technical reports required by this Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R5-2007-_____ are necessary to assure compliance with these waste discharge requirements. The Discharger operates the WWTF that discharges the waste subject to this Order.

Public Notice

46. The Discharger and interested agencies and persons have been notified of the intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for this discharge, and they have been provided an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.

47. All comments pertaining to the discharge were heard and considered in a public meeting.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 98-005 is rescinded and that, pursuant to Sections 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, the Interstate Five Utility Company and its agents, successors, and assigns, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the CWC and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. Prohibitions

1. Discharge of wastes to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
2. Bypass or overflow of untreated wastes, except as allowed by *Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements*, dated 1 March 1991, E.2 is prohibited.
3. Discharge of waste classified as ‘hazardous’, as defined in Section 2521(a) of Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 2510 et seq., is prohibited. Discharge of waste classified as ‘designated,’ as defined in California Water Code Section 13173, in a manner that causes violation of groundwater limitations, is prohibited.

B. Effluent Limitations

1. The monthly average discharge flow shall not exceed 0.190 mgd.
2. The effluent discharge to the Ponds shall not exceed the following limitations:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>
BOD ₅ ¹	mg/L	40	80
TSS ²	mg/L	40	80

¹ Five day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅)

² Total suspended solids (TSS)

3. The annual average electrical conductivity at 25 °C (EC) of the discharge shall not exceed 1,000 µmhos/cm calculated on a monthly basis.

C. Discharge Specifications

1. All conveyance, treatment, storage, and disposal units shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.
2. Public contact with effluent (treatment works, Ponds, or Use Area) shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs (in accordance with Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 60310(g)), or acceptable alternatives.
3. Objectionable odors shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the WWTF property at an intensity that creates or threatens to create nuisance conditions.
4. Disposal ponds shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow and design seasonal precipitation and ancillary inflow and infiltration during the winter. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.
5. On or about **1 October** of each year, available disposal pond storage capacity shall at least equal the volume necessary to comply with Discharge Specification C.4.
6. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular,
 - a. An erosion control plan should assure that coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
 - b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, and herbicides.

- c. Dead algae, vegetation and other debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.
 - d. Vegetation management operations in areas in which nesting birds have been observed shall be carried out either before or after, but not during, the 1 April to 30 June bird nesting season.
7. No waste constituent shall be released or discharged, or placed where it will be released or discharged, in a concentration or in a mass that causes violation of groundwater limitations.

D. Recycling Specification

The following specifications apply to the Use Area under the ownership or control of the Discharger. Other use areas are covered by separate water recycling requirements.

- 1. Use of recycled water shall be limited to flood irrigation of fodder, fiber, seed crops not eaten by humans or for grazing of non-milking cattle and shall comply with the provisions of Title 22.
- 2. The Discharger will maintain the following setback distances from areas irrigated with recycled water:

<u>Setback Distance (feet)</u>	<u>To</u>
25	Property Line
30	Public Roads
50	Drainage courses
100	Irrigation wells
150	Domestic wells

- 3. No physical connection shall exist between recycled water piping and any domestic water supply or domestic well, or between recycled water piping and any irrigation well that does not have an air gap or reduce pressure principle device.
- 4. The perimeter of the Use Area shall be graded to prevent ponding along public roads or other public areas and prevent runoff onto adjacent properties not owned or controlled by the Discharger.
- 5. Areas irrigated with recycled water shall be managed to prevent nuisance conditions or breeding of mosquitoes. More specifically:
 - a. All applied irrigation water must infiltrate completely within a 48-hour period;

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- b. Ditches not serving as wildlife habitat should be maintained free of emergent, marginal, and floating vegetation; and
 - c. Low-pressure and unpressurized pipelines and ditches accessible to mosquitoes shall not be used to store recycled water.
6. Recycling of WWTF effluent shall be at reasonable agronomic rates considering the crop, soil, climate, and irrigation management plan. The annual nutrient loading of reclamation areas, including the nutritive value of organic and chemical fertilizers and of the recycled water, shall not exceed crop demand.

E. Sludge 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 WWTF. Biosolids refers to sludge that has undergone sufficient treatment and testing to qualify for reuse pursuant to federal and state regulations as a soil amendment for agriculture, silviculture, horticulture, and land reclamation.

1. Sludge and solid waste shall be removed from screens, sumps, aeration basins, ponds, clarifiers, etc. as needed to ensure optimal plant operation.
2. Treatment and storage of sludge generated by the WWTF shall be confined to the WWTF property.
3. Any handling and storage of residual sludge, solid waste, and biosolids on property of the WWTF shall be temporary (i.e., no longer than two years) 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 of this Order.
4. Residual sludge, biosolids, and solid waste shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer and consistent with Title 27. Removal for further treatment, disposal, or reuse at sites (i.e., landfill, composting sites, soil amendment sites) operated in accordance with valid waste discharge requirements issued by a regional water quality control board will satisfy this specification.
5. Use of biosolids as a soil amendment shall comply with valid waste discharge requirements issued by a regional water quality control board or State Water Board or a local (e.g., county) program authorized by a regional water quality control board. In most cases, this means the General Biosolids Order (State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2004-12-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Biosolids to Land for Use as a Soil Amendment in Agricultural, Silvicultural, Horticultural, and Land Reclamation Activities"). For a biosolids use project to be

authorized by the General Biosolids Order, the Discharger must file a complete Notice of Intent and receive a Notice of Applicability for each project.

6. Any proposed change in sludge use or disposal practice shall be reported in writing to the Executive Officer at least 90 days in advance of the change.

F. Pretreatment Requirements

1. The Discharger shall implement the necessary controls to ensure incompatible wastes are not introduced to the treatment system. These include, at a minimum: (a) wastes that create a fire or explosion hazard, or corrosive structural damage to the treatment works; (b) solid or viscous wastes in amounts that cause obstruction to flow in sewers, or which cause other interference with proper operation or treatment works; (c) petroleum oil, nonbiodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through; (d) pollutants that result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the treatment works; and (e) any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at points predesignated by the Discharger.
2. The Discharger shall implement the controls necessary to ensure that the following incompatible wastes are not introduced to the treatment system, where incompatible wastes are:
 - a. Flow through the system to the receiving water in quantities or concentrations that cause a violation of this Order, or
 - b. Inhibit or disrupt treatment processes, treatment system operations, or sludge processes, use, or disposal and either cause a violation of this Order or prevent sludge use or disposal in accordance with this Order.

G. Groundwater Limitations

1. Release of waste constituents from any treatment or storage component associated with the WWTF shall not cause or contribute to groundwater:
 - a. Containing constituent concentrations in excess of the concentrations specified below or natural background quality, whichever is greater.
 - (i) Nitrate as nitrogen of 10 mg/L.
 - (ii) Total coliform organisms of 2.2 MPN/100 mL;
 - (iii) For constituents identified in Title 22, the MCLs quantified therein.
 - b. Containing taste or odor-producing constituents, or toxic substances, or any other constituents, in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

H. Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with the *Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements*, dated 1 March 1991, which are part of this Order. This attachment and its individual paragraphs are referred to as Standard Provision(s).
2. The Discharger shall comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R5-2007-_____, which is part of this Order, and any revisions thereto as adopted by the Regional Water Board or approved by the Executive Officer. The submittal date shall be no later than the submittal date specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program for Discharger self-monitoring reports.
3. The Discharger shall keep at the WWTF a copy of this Order, including its MRP, Information Sheet, attachments, and Standard Provisions, for reference by operating personnel. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its contents.
4. The Discharger shall not allow pollutant-free wastewater to be discharged into the Facility collection, treatment, and disposal systems in amounts that significantly diminish the system's capability to comply with this Order. Pollutant-free wastewater means storm water (i.e., inflow), groundwater (i.e., infiltration), cooling waters, and condensates that are essentially free of pollutants.
5. The Discharger must at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) that are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance also include adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This Provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by the Discharger only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the Order.
6. 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 sections 415 and 3065 of Title 16, CCR, 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.
7. The Discharger must comply with all conditions of this Order, including timely submittal of technical and monitoring reports as directed by the Executive Officer. Accordingly, the Discharger shall submit to the Regional Water Board on or before each report due date the specified document or, if an action is specified, a written report detailing evidence of compliance with the date and task. If noncompliance is being reported, the

reasons for such noncompliance shall be stated, plus an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board by letter when it returns to compliance with the time schedule. Violations may result in enforcement action, including Regional Water Board or court orders requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in revision or rescission of this Order.

8. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste treatment and storage 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 appropriate Regional Water Board office.
9. 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, the address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Regional Water Board and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory paragraph of Standard Provision B.3 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 California Water Code. If approved by the Executive Officer, the transfer request will be submitted to the Regional Water Board for its consideration of transferring the ownership of this Order at one of its regularly scheduled meetings.
10. As a means of discerning compliance with Discharge Specification C.3, the dissolved oxygen content in the upper zone (1 foot) of effluent in disposal ponds shall not be less than 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive sampling events. Should the DO be below 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive sampling events, the Discharger shall report the findings to the Regional Water Board and propose a remedial approach to resolve the low DO results **within 30 days**.
11. The Discharger shall maintain and operate all ponds sufficient to protect the integrity of containment levees and prevent overtopping or overflows. Unless a California civil engineer certifies (based on design, construction, and conditions of operation and maintenance) that less freeboard is adequate, the operating freeboard in any pond shall never be less than two feet (measured vertically). As a means of management and to discern compliance with this Provision, the Discharger shall install and maintain in each pond permanent markers with calibration that indicates the water level at design capacity and enables determination of available operational freeboard.

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2007-_____
INTERSTATE FIVE UTILITY COMPANY WWTF
KERN COUNTY

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I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on _____.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

Order Attachments:

- A Site Location Map
- B. Plan View Map
- Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R5-2007-_____
- Information Sheet
- Standard Provisions (1 March 1991)

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