

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin



June-July 2019
Executive Officer Report

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LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Investigative Orders: PFAS is a family of more than 3,000 man-made and mostly unregulated chemicals that have been produced since the mid-1900s. They are used in a wide range of products and are mobile and persistent in the environment. When degradation does occur, it often results in the formation of other PFAS compounds. Health risks associated with PFAS compounds are just beginning to be recognized. In coordination with a state-wide effort to evaluate the significance of PFAS contamination, investigative orders were issued in March 2019 to 22 landfills and the Palm Springs Airport and Imperial Regional Airport requiring investigations regarding PFAS. In June and July, workplans were received regarding all of these facilities. Staff have approved most of the workplans while a few are still under review or have been returned as needing changes. Reports regarding the required studies should be received over the next few months. In the near future, additional orders will be issued to chromium plating facilities in the Region (there are three), followed by orders to waste water treatment plants probably around the beginning of next year. [Scot Stormo, EG; Jose Cortez, WRCE]

Tijuana River and New River Transboundary Sewage Stakeholder Meeting: On June 5, 2019, staff attended and presented on the water quality at the United States/Mexico border and provided an update on the status of the New River Strategic Plan. The purpose of the meeting was to review efforts to address transboundary sewage flows in the Tijuana and New Rivers and identify technical and financial solutions. [Paula Rasmussen, EO; Adriana Godinez, WRCE]

Community Meeting/New River Improvement Project Handoff: On July 18, 2019, staff presented an update of the New River Improvement Project and handed off the project to the Lead Agency, the City of Calexico. The City of Calexico will continue with the next steps, which include noticing the project to the public and following through with the environmental process of CEQA. [Frank Gonzalez, AEO; Adriana Godinez, WRCE]

Binational Technical Committee Meeting and New River Tour: On July 24-25, 2019, staff attended the bimonthly New River Tour of the key sewage infrastructure rehabilitation and the Binational Technical Committee meeting. [Frank Gonzalez, AEO]

NPDES Program

Mandatory Minimum Penalty Status

No	Facility	Violation Description	Assessed Penalty	Settlement Offer Date	Waiver Received Date	Public Notice Issuance Date	Comment Due Date	Number of MMPs
1	Calexico WWTP	Bacteria Indicator & Oil/Grease violations	\$6,000	2/13/19	3/12/19	3/13/19	4/11/19 (revising offer)	2

No	Facility	Violation Description	Assessed Penalty	Settlement Offer Date	Waiver Received Date	Public Notice Issuance Date	Comment Due Date	Number of MMPs
2	Holtville WWTP	Oil & Grease, Bis (2-Ethylhexyl)	\$12,000	2/14/19	3/13/19	3/15/19	4/14/19	4
3	Brawley WWTP	Copper & Grease, Bis (2-Ethylhexyl)	\$21,000	2/21/19	3/18/19	3/26/19	4/24/19 (revising offer)	7
4	Imperial City WWTP	Copper & Grease, Bis (2-Ethylhexyl)	\$66,000	3/27/19 8/1/19 (revised offer)	4/18/19 8/30/19 (revised offer)	5/1/19	6/1/19	22
5	Kent SeaTech Fish Farm	Bacteria Indicator & Oil/Grease violations	\$84,000	4/5/19	5/6/19 7/15/19 (settlement discussion)			28
6	Centinela State Prison	Bacteria Indicator Violations	\$33,000	5/10/19	6/10/19	6/19/19	7/19/19	11
7	Valley Sanitary District WWTP	Bacteria Indicator & BOD violations	\$9,000	6/6/19	6/26/19	7/26/19	8/25/19	3
			\$231,000					77

Unaddressed Violations Subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties (July 2019)

No. of Facilities	No. of Violations
11	103

[Maribel Jernegan, SEA and Kai Dunn, Senior WRCE, Ph.D., P.E.]