

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

Office
73-720 Fred Waring Dr. #100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

WaterBoards.ca.gov/Coloradoriver/

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin



April 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM.....	2
2. WATER QUALITY/NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAMS	5
3. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AND SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM	5
4. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM	8

The Executive Officer (EO) of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board) hereby provides the following report on recent staff activities for February 2024 in the region:

1. LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM

New River Sampling: During the month of February 2024, staff from the Land Disposal Unit coordinated the New River Sampling Program by preparing sample bottles, coordinating lab contracts, and assisting in record keeping. Emma McCorkle, Hajer Dawoody, and Ryan Culhane of the Water Quality Standards Unit performed New River Sampling at the International Boundary on February 21, 2024. Imperial County [*Julya Mestas*].

Facility Inspections: During the month of February, the Land Disposal Unit conducted complaint and compliance inspections for facilities regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements. The following facilities were inspected:

Facility	Inspection Date	Board Order	County	Inspector
Niland Sanitary Sewer System	02/07/2024	unregulated	Imperial	Zakary Owens, Michael Perez, and Kai Dunn
Niland Waste Management Facility	02/12/2024	R7-2009-002	Imperial	Zakary Owens
Cushenbury Class III Waste Management Facility	02/13/2024	R7-2020-0016	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens
Cushenbury Percolation Ponds	02/13/2024	R7-2019-0009	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens
Cushenbury Onsite Wastewater Treatment System	02/13/2024	97-500	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens
Specialty Minerals Inert Waste Management Facility	02/16/2024	R7-2001-018	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens
Specialty Minerals Vehicle Wash Station	02/16/2024	93-600	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens
Specialty Minerals Onsite Wastewater Treatment System	02/16/2024	97-500	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens
OMYA Inert Waste Management Facility	02/20/2024	R7-2000-140	San Bernardino	Zakary Owens

Facility	Inspection Date	Board Order	County	Inspector
Morongo Valley Class III Waste Management Facility	02/21/2024	R7-2020-0033	San Bernardino	Bryanna Allen
City of Blythe Sanitary Sewer System	02/27/2024	2022-0103-DWQ	Riverside	Zakary Owens, Julya Mestas, Michael Perez
Niland Sanitary Sewer System	02/29/2024	2022-0103-DWQ	Imperial	Zakary Owens, State Water Board staff

Notices of Violation: Three Notice of Violations were issued to dischargers for violations of Waste Discharge Requirements and the California Water Code in the month of February.

- A Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued on February 23, 2024, to Keni Yang (Landowner) for activities related to cannabis cultivation that occurred in Anza, CA. The violations that threatened water quality in the nearby areas included but were not limited to failing to submit a Report of Waste Discharge, storing fertilizer and pesticides without secondary containment near ephemeral streams, and disposing of domestic waste near an ephemeral stream, and disposing of soils and other cultivation waste both in and near an ephemeral stream. The Landowner was required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to the Regional Water Boards by March 28, 2024. [*Cannabis Group, Riverside County*]
- A Notice of Violation was issued on February 23, 2024, to Two-Nine Hospitality (Discharger) in response to their report titled “Holiday Inn 29 Palms Response to CDO for Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) and Laundry System Unit”, dated December 28, 2023, for submitting a technical report that violated Cease and Desist Order R7-2023-0043. The violations included but are not limited to failing to document that flowmeters have been installed and calibrated to measure the discharge from the WWTF and the laundry septic tank. The Discharger is required to review and respond to the violations by March 29, 2024. [*Wendy Wyels, San Bernardino County*]
- A Notice of Violation was issued on February 23, 2024, to Two-Nine Hospitality (Discharger) in response to the Discharger’s November 2023 through January 2024 Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs). The violations include, failing to submit the November SMR (due December 31, 2023); exceeding the biological oxygen demand, pH, and total nitrogen effluent limits; failing to monitor the influent flow continuously using a flow meter as well as incorrectly calculating the influent flow; failing to monitor the domestic water supply for total dissolved solids; and failure to include a cover letter that included a penalty of perjury statement signed by an authorized representative.

The Discharger is required to review and respond to the violations by March 20, 2024, as well as to ensure that all future SMRs are submitted in a timely manner and are complete and accurate. [*Wendy Wyels, San Bernardino County*]

Approvals and Notifications: Three Approval/Notifications were issued to dischargers in the month of February:

- On February 21, 2024, the Regional Water Board issued a Notice of Applicability (NOA) for the Big Bear Sanitary Landfill, that is owned and operated by the San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division (Discharger), to be enrolled into the General Order for Closed Landfills, R7-2022-0033. The NOA included a site-specific Monitoring and Reporting Program that was based off the site-specific conditions and historical technical documents submitted by the Discharger. [*Zakary Owens, San Bernardino County*]
- On February 21, 2024, the Regional Water Board issued an updated Notice of Applicability for the Pilot Knob RV Resort (Facility) that is enrolled in the General Waste Discharge Requirements for On-Site Subsurface Disposal Systems for Mobile Home and Recreational Vehicle Parks and other Similar Facilities, 97-500. An updated Notice of Intent was submitted on March 29, 2022, that updated the legal name and contact information for the new owner, Equity Lifestyle Properties, Inc. The Facility's name was also changed to MHC Pilot Knob RV, L.P. The Facility is located at 3707 Highway 80, Frontage Road, Winterhaven, CA 92283. [*Julya Mestas, Imperial County*]

Notice of Terminations: Three Notices of Termination were issued to dischargers in the month of February:

- On February 21, 2024, the Regional Water Board issued a Notice of Termination for Green Savants LLC (Discharger), located at 888 Research Drive, Palm Springs, CA. The Discharger submitted a request for termination of coverage from Order WQ 2019-0001-DWQ on February 1, 2024. The Discharger's Site Closure Report stated that cannabis cultivation activities never occurred at the site. [*Cannabis Group, Riverside County*]
- On February 21, 2024, the Regional Water Board issued a Notice of Termination for DCR Transmission LLC (Discharger). The project was located in eastern Riverside County near the California/Arizona border and was for construction dewatering associated with the construction of the Ten West Link 500 kilovolt Transmission Line. The Discharger submitted a request for termination of coverage from the Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality, 2003-0003-DWQ, on February 1, 2024. The Discharger's request for termination stated that the discharge of dewatering never occurred because it was reused or stored in a tank and allowed to evaporate. [*Adriana Godinez, Riverside County*]
- On February 21, 2024, the Regional Water Board issued a Notice of Termination for Planta Supra LLC (Discharger), located at 69375 Ramon Road, Cathedral City, CA. The Discharger submitted a request for termination of coverage from

the WQ 2019-0001-DWG on January 2, 2024. The Discharger's Site Closure Report stated that cannabis cultivation activities never occurred at the site. [Cannabis Group, Riverside County]

2. WATER QUALITY/NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAMS

Salton Sea Beneficial Uses Review Basin Plan Amendment Tribal Consultation

On February 23, 2024, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff consulted with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. The government-to-government consultation focused on the development of the Salton Sea Beneficial Uses Review Basin Plan Amendment and on concerns related to impacts to tribal cultural resources near geothermal facilities. [Ravleen Kaur, ES, Emma McCorkle, SES]

3. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AND SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM

Regional Water Board staff continues to work with staff from the Department of Defense (DoD) to expedite ongoing activities at cleanup sites located at military facilities within the Colorado River Basin Region. The UST and SCP staff issued correspondence reviewing technical reports, requesting site access, providing direction for site assessment, and approving remedial action plans for sites currently in the assessment and cleanup process. The following table lists the correspondence regarding DoD, UST and SCP projects issued in February 2024.

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
February 1, 2024	Approval of First Semi-Annual 2023 Groundwater Monitoring Report	Munguia Lot, 1002 East H Street, Brawley, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0602564848	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
February 1, 2024	Approval of Second Semi-Annual 2023 Groundwater Monitoring Report	Munguia Lot, 1002 East H Street, Brawley, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0602564848	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
February 1, 2024	Review of First Semi-Annual 2023 Groundwater Monitoring Report	Meaders Cleaners Site, 711 South Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, California 92264 (SCP: Meaders Cleaners SLT7P006115)	Monica Aragon Guzman, Engineering Geologist
February 1, 2024	Approval of Soil, Soil Vapor and Vapor Intrusion Investigation Work Plan, Addendum No. 1, and Addendum No. 2	Meaders Cleaners Site, 711 South Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, California 92264 (SCP: Meaders Cleaners SLT7P006115)	Monica Aragon Guzman, Engineering Geologist

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
February 7, 2024	Approval of Request for Extension Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10; Corrective Action Requirements	Ten Four Corporation Property, 1621 N Street, Needles, CA, San Bernardino County; Global ID No. T0607192343 (APN 0185-085-31-0000)	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
February 7, 2024	Review of Groundwater Monitoring Report for Third Quarter 2023, Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267 Investigative Order No. R7-2019-0055	Sidewinder Chevron, 611 Sidewinder Road, Winterhaven, CA 92283, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000014255	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 7, 2024	Requirement For A Technical Report Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigation Order No. R7-2023-0029-1 (To Chevron Environmental Management Company)	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 8, 2024	Approval of Second Revised Interim Remedial Action Plan	Munguia Lot, 1002 East H Street, Brawley, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0602564848	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
February 13, 2024	Review of Environmental Assessment Documents, 99021 Highway 195 (66 th Avenue), Mecca, Riverside County	Former Mecca Chervon, 99021 Highway 195 (66 th Avenue), Mecca, Riverside County; Global ID No. T000000307	Jeff Fitzsimmons, Engineering Geologist
February 13, 2024	Review of Second Quarter 2023 Oxygen Injection and Vapor Extraction System Operation and Maintenance and Corrective Action Site Status Update	Antunez Autobody, 238 E. Main St., El Centro, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000007153	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 20, 2024	Review of Draft Spring 2023 Semiannual Long-Term Monitoring, Landfill	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, California,	Jessie Del Mastro, Engineering Geologist

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
	Inspection, and Maintenance Report, Installation Restoration Sites 1 and 2	GeoTracker ID NOs: DOD100312800 and DOD100317400	
February 21, 2024	Comments on Work Plan for Bulk Liquid Phase Hydrocarbon Removal, High-Resolution Site Characterization, Conceptual Site Model Update, Advanced Remediation Technology Pilot Testing, and Corrective Action Plan Preparation	7-Eleven Store No. 23409, 904 Imperial Ave., Calexico. GeoTracker Global I.D. T0602560028	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 22, 2024	Requirement For a Technical Report Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0024-1 (To Beck Oil, Inc.)	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 22, 2024	Requirement For a Technical Report Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0027-1 (To Lee Escher)	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0606529297 APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 26, 2024	Concurrence With the Final Proposed Plan, Munitions Response Program Site 4	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, California, GeoTracker ID T10000011419	Jessie Del Mastro, Engineering Geologist
February 27, 2024	Approval of Work Plan for Additional Site Activities	Coca-Cola Bottling Company, 126 South Third Street, El Centro, Imperial County, California 92243 GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000019745	Monica Aragon Guzman, Engineering Geologist

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
February 27, 2024	Approval of Revised Remedial Pilot Testing Workplan	Calipatria Queen Market 7788, 101 East Main Street, Calipatria, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000011602	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 28, 2024	Notification Requirement Upon Completion of Site Assessment Closure Request Report: Mailing List	Former Tremendez Automotive, 82980 Highway 111, Indio, Riverside County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T0606500699	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
February 29, 2024	Approval Of An Addendum to Soil and Groundwater Evaluation Workplan	Ten Four Corporation Property, 1621 N Street, Needles, San Bernardino County; Global ID No. T0607192343 (APN 0185-085-31-0000)	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist

4. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM

Salton CSD Collection System Inspection

On February 28, 2024, NPDES staff participated in an inspection of the Salton Community Services District (Salton CSD) collection system in Imperial County. The Inspection Team was comprised of Regional Water Board and State Water Board staff. The Inspection Team met with Salton CSD staff at their office in Thermal California to discuss issues regarding the inspection and requested information about the Salton CSD collection and pumping systems. The Inspection Team then conducted a field inspection of the collection system. The first stop during the inspection tour was at a lift station located in the Desert Shores area. The team then stopped at and observed four manholes, two more pumping stations in the Salton Sea area, before finishing the tour with an observation of a corroded sewer pipe which was scheduled to be repaired in March 2024. *[Jose Figueroa-Acevedo, WRCE]*

401 Water Quality Certifications (Dredge or Fill Discharge)

The following table shows the certifications that the Colorado River Basin Water Board issued in February 2024. *[Logan Raub, SES, Fatima Alrahem, WRCE]*

Issuance Date	Applicant	Project	WDID#
2/15/2024	City of Holtville	Holtville Alamo River Wetlands Construction Project	7A133179001

Table 1: Mandatory Minimum Penalty Status

Number	Facility	Violation Description	Assessed Penalty	Settlement Offer Date	Waiver Received Date	Public Notice Issuance Date	Comment Due Date	EO Execution Date	Number of MMPs
1	Seeley CWD	Bacteria indicator, Free Cyanide & Selenium	\$150,000	12/8/23	12/27/23		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		50
2	Niland SD	Bacteria indicator, BOD, Chlorine Residual	\$45,000	7/29/2022	8/29/22		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		15
3	Calexico WPCP	Bacteria indicator, BOD	\$78,000	2/21/2024					26
4	IID Hatchery	Total Suspended Solids	\$24,000	2/21/2024					8
	TOTAL:		*\$397,000						99

Unaddressed Violations Subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties (February 2024)

No. of Facilities	No. of Violations
3	23

[Maribel Schiavone, SEA; Logan Raub, SES; Kai Dunn, Supervising WRCE]