

# CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin



**June 2024**

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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 April 2024 in the region:

**1. LAND DISPOSAL – WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM**

**New River Sampling:** During the month of April 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. Jeff Fitzsimmons and Theresa Illare of the Site Cleanup Unit performed New River Sampling on April 15, 2024. Imperial County [*Julya Mestas*].

**Facility Inspections:** During the month of April 2024, 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
Blythe Class III Waste Management Facility	4/3/2024	R7-2020-0005	Riverside	Allen, Bryanna
Chuckawalla Correctional Facility Wastewater Treatment Plant	4/3/2024	R7-2013-0033	Riverside	Lopez, Adrian
Gateway of The Americas Wastewater Treatment Plant	4/9/2024	R7-2014-0015	Imperial	Mestas, Julya
Glamis North Domestic Wastewater Disposal Ponds	4/9/2024	R7-2013-0027	Imperial	Mestas, Julya
Bashford's Hot Spa Evaporation-Infiltration Ponds and Disposal Facilities	4/9/2024	R7-2013-0021	Imperial	Mestas, Julya
Fairfield Inn & Suites Wastewater Treatment Plant	4/9/2024	R7-2009-0009	San Bernardino	Wyels, Wendy
Mitchell's Camp Domestic Wastewater Treatment System	4/17/2024	R7-2015-0025	Imperial	Lopez, Adrian

Facility	Inspection Date	Board Order	County	Inspector
Destiny McIntyre RV Onsite Wastewater Treatment System	4/23/2024	97-500	Riverside	Lopez, Adrian
Blythe Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility	4/23/2024	R7-2016-0013	Riverside	Lopez, Adrian
Spreckles Sugar Company Sugar Beet Processing Facility	4/30/2024	R7-2023-0001	Imperial	Godinez, Adriana

**Notices of Violation:** Three Notices of Violation 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 by the Regional Water Board on April 18, 2024, to Salton Community Services District Lansing Avenue Collection System for violations of Water Quality Order 2022-0103-DWQ. On February 28, 2024, the State Water Board and Regional Water Board conducted an inspection of the collection system to evaluate compliance with the Sanitary Sewer System (SSS) WDRs. During the inspection, deficiencies were found in the Discharger’s collection system. On or before May 20, 2024, the Discharger is required to submit a report to the Regional Water Board detailing the corrective actions being taken to bring the collection system into compliance with the SSS WDRs. [*Adrian Lopez, Imperial County*]

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

- On April 9, 2024, a letter was issued to Holiday Inn Express for proposed changes to Cease and Desist Order R7-2023-0043. The Regional Water Board’s letter recommended: a) The more accurate and less ambiguous method is to directly measure the effluent discharged by the wastewater treatment plant and laundry septic tank by installing flow meters, as required in the Order, b) If the Discharger chooses to use on-site test kits to measure pH, then the process must comply with Item B. 7 of Monitoring and Reporting Program R7-2009-0010-01, and must include the calibration information in the monitoring reports. [*Wendy Wyles, San Bernardino County*]
- On April 17, 2024 an extension request was granted to Mission Springs Water District (MSWD), Nancy Wright Regional Water Reclamation Facility to allow adequate time to complete the construction of Monitoring Well 2 and close out the project. The deadline for the project was moved from May 23, 2024, to August 23, 2024. [*Adriana Godinez, Riverside County*]

- On April 17, 2024, an extension request was granted to Mission Springs Water District (MSWD), Nancy Wright Regional Water Reclamation Facility to submit a technical report. The Discharger requested a 2-month extension to obtain the final access agreement and finalize the Total Dissolved Solids Impact Evaluation Report and Workplan. [*Adriana Godinez, Riverside County*]
- On April 18, 2024, a Satisfaction of Order letter was issued to Mission Springs Water District, Alan L. Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant for completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) for Administrative Civil Liability Order R7-2022-0045. The Regional Water Board imposed an administrative civil liability against Mission Springs Water District in the amount of \$175,000 on December 5, 2022. The penalty was suspended pending completion of a SEP which funded construction of private sanitary sewer laterals from the Discharger's sanitary sewers located in public rights-of-way, to the on-site sewer plumbing and to abandon the septic systems located on private property. The Regional Water Board received the SEP Final Completion Report on March 22, 2024. [*Adriana Godinez, Riverside County*]
- On April 18, 2024, an extension request was granted to Mission Springs Water District, Alan L. Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant. On April 14, 2024, the Discharger requested a 2-month extension to allow adequate time to complete the Total Dissolved Solids Impact Evaluation Report and Work Plan. Of the nine proposed monitoring wells identified in the Report, three monitoring wells require an access agreement. With the two-month extension, the Final Report is due by June 26, 2024. The Regional Water Board requested monthly updates on the progress of obtaining the access agreements. [*Adriana Godinez, Riverside County*]
- On April 22, 2024, a Notice of Applicability was issued to United States Gypsum Company, US Gypsum Inert Waste Management Facility for enrollment in General Order R7-2022-0033 for Closed Landfill Facilities (General Order). United States Gypsum Company owns and operates the US Gypsum Inert Waste Management Facility in Imperial County. Prior to enrollment under the General Order, the Facility was regulated under Order 96-001, which was adopted on January 24, 1996. The intent of the General Order is for the Facility Specific Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) to replace and supersede the prior MRP established under Order 96-001. On February 15, 2023; the Discharger submitted their comments on the draft Facility Specific MRP. These comments have been considered in preparing the final version accompanying this Notice of Applicability. [*Zakary Owens, Imperial County*]
- On April 23, 2024, a Notice of Applicability was issued to San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division, Lucerne Valley Waste Management Facility, Class III Sanitary Landfill for enrollment in General Order R7-2022-0033 For Closed Landfill Facilities (General Order). Prior to enrollment under the General Order, the Facility was regulated under Order R7-2015-0036, which was adopted on June 11, 2015. The intent of the

General Order is for the Facility Specific Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) to replace and supersede the prior MRPs established under the prior Order. On November 14, 2023; the Discharger submitted their comments on the draft Facility Specific MRP. These comments have been considered in preparing the final version accompanying the Notice of Applicability. [*Zakary Owens, San Bernardino County*]

- On April 23, 2024, a Notice of Applicability was issued to San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division, Needles Waste Management Facility for enrollment in General Order R7-2022-0033 For Closed Landfill Facilities (General Order). On November 7, 2023, the Discharger received a draft of Facility-Specific Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) R7-2022-0033-0009, which was developed based on Attachment B to the General Order. The intent of the General Order is for the Facility Specific MRP to replace and supersede the MRPs established under the prior Order. The Regional Water Board did not receive comments from the Discharger. [*Zakary Owens, San Bernardino County*]

## 2. WATER QUALITY/NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAMS

### Salton Sea Water Quality Sampling

On April 23-24, 2024, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff, in partnership with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and California Department of Water Resources, sampled the Salton Sea for water and sediment. Staff visited 3 sites at the southern end of the Sea, collected water grab samples from all three sites, and sediment from one site. This project goal is to fill the data gap of ambient monitoring at the Salton Sea and to collect data for future use in Basin Planning projects. [*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 April 2024.

Date	Subject	Site	Staff
April 3, 2024	Approval of Response to Comments: Site Assessment Work Plan Addendum	Former Unocal Station #3201 (Chevron Station 306573), 324 Imperial Ave., Calexico, Imperial County, GeoTracker File T0602520155	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Staff</b>
April 10, 2024	Approval of Revised Work Plan Addendum for Additional Site Assessment	USA Supersave/Salvador Huerta, 2115 Winterhaven Drive, Winterhaven, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No.T0602500185, Orphan Site Clean Up Fund, Project Number B272	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
April 10, 2024	Review of Vapor Intrusion Risk Re-Assessment and Vapor Intrusion Mitigation System Verification of Functional Report and Request for Closure	RD Brown, 307 and 321 North Imperial Avenue, Imperial, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000005261	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 10, 2024	Approval of Site Assessment Work Plan	Above Ground Storage Tank (ASTs), Former El Centro SoCo Bulk Plant (SC Fuels), 350 East Main Street, El Centro, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000012311	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 12, 2024	Approval of Revised Work Plan for Additional Groundwater Monitoring Well Installations and Soil Gas Investigation	Above Ground Storage Tank (ASTs), Former Westmorland SoCo Windsor Fueling Facility (SC Fuels), 502 Boarts Road, Westmorland, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000012310	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 12, 2024	Approval of the Response to Comments: Soil Vapor Extraction/Auto Sparge Pilot Test Work Plan	Former Chevron Station 92693, 400 Imperial Ave., Calexico, Imperial County, GeoTracker File T0602500034	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 16, 2024	Approval of Revised Work Plan for Bulk Liquid Phase Hydrocarbon (LPH) Removal, High-Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC), Conceptual Site Model Update and Art Pilot Testing	7-Eleven Store No 23409, 904 Imperial Ave., Calexico, GeoTracker Global I.D. T0602560028	Thomas Browne, Water Resources Control Engineer

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Staff</b>
April 17, 2024	Comments on the Site Assessment Report Former Underground Storage Tanks	Imperial Irrigation District Headquarters 333 E Barioni Boulevard, Imperial, CA, Imperial County; Global ID No. SL0602597886	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
April 17, 2024	Approval of Soil Gas Intrusion Investigation Report	Amigo Mini Mart, 85509 Highway 111, Coachella, Riverside County, Global ID No. T0606500931 (APN 778-041-001)	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
April 18, 2024	Review of Fourth Quarter 2023 and Beginning of First Quarter 2024 Groundwater Monitoring Well Sampling and Corrective Action Site Status Update and Denial of Request for No Further Action	Antunez Autobody, 238 E. Main St., El Centro, Imperial County, GeoTracker ID T1000007153	Thomas Browne, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 19, 2024	Comments on the Work Plan for Conceptual Site Model Update	SFPP Imperial Terminal, 345 West Aten Road, Imperial, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL0602547192.	Theresa Illare, Environmental Scientist
April 22, 2024	Approval of Final Additional Site Assessment Work Plan Addendum for Monitoring Well Installation Activities and Response to Comments	KC-130 Fuel Release Site – Agricultural Field, 5900 Polk Street, Thermal, Riverside County, California 92274 GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000018709	Monica Aragon Guzman, Engineering Geologist
April 22, 2024	Approval of Time Extension Request for Submittal of Work Plan	Sidewinder Chevron, 611 Sidewinder Road, Winterhaven, CA 92283, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID No. T10000014255	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 23, 2024	Review of Response to Comments Table on the Draft Spring 2023 Long-Term Monitoring, Landfill Inspection, and Maintenance Report,	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, California, GeoTracker ID NOs: DOD100312800 and DOD100317400	Jessie Del Mastro, Engineering Geologist



<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Staff</b>
	Installation Restoration Sites 1 and 2		
April 23, 2024	Review of Well Installation Report – Passive Bioventing Wells BV-1 Through BV-4, BNSF Right of Way and Former Griggs Lease Facility	BNSF Railway Company, Former C.S. Griggs, and Sons Site, 1705 Eagle Pass Road, Needles, San Bernardino County, GeoTracker Global ID No. SL060713745	Monica Aragon Guzman, Engineering Geologist
April 24, 2024	Rescission of Water Code Section 13267 Order, Investigative Order No. R7-2023-0029-1	Former Escher Oil Company (Current Beck Oil, Inc.) 85-119 Avenue 50, Coachella, Riverside County, GeoTracker ID No. SL0606529297 [APNs: 778-010-002, 778-010-003, 778-010-004]	Phan Le, Water Resource Control Engineer
April 24, 2024	Review of Annual Progress Report on Implementation of the Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan Groundwater Monitoring Workplan Calendar Year 2023	Coachella Valley Water District P.O. Box 1058 Coachella, California	Jeff Fitzsimmons, Engineering Geologist
April 24, 2024	Final Record of Decision, Munitions Response Program Site UXO 01	Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Twentynine Palms California, GeoTracker ID No. T10000004231	Jeff Fitzsimmons, Engineering Geologist
April 24, 2024	Approval of Final Technical Memorandum Task 1- Characterize TDS/N Mass Loading to the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin	Coachella Valley – Salt Nutrient Management Agencies	Jeff Fitzsimmons, Engineering Geologist
April 29, 2024	Review of Draft Work Plan for Verification Sampling and Monitoring, Installation Restoration Site 18	Naval Air Facility El Centro, El Centro, California, GeoTracker ID No: T10000002075	Jessie Del Mastro, Engineering Geologist

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Staff</b>
April 30, 2024	Approval of Addendum to Workplan for Soil Vapor Extraction and Air Sparging	Former USA Service Station No. 295, 1036 Imperial Ave., Calexico, Imperial County, GeoTracker File T0602558699	Thomas Browne, Water Resources Control Engineer
April 30, 2024	Approval of Revised Workplan for Additional Site Assessment	Former USA Service Station No. 295, 1036 Imperial Ave., Calexico, Imperial County, GeoTracker File T0602558699	Thomas Browne, Water Resources Control Engineer
April 30, 2024	Approval of Groundwater Well Installation Workplan	Former SoCo #60, 1690 South 4 <sup>th</sup> St., El Centro, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID T10000006437	Thomas Browne, Water Resources Control Engineer
April 30, 2024	Approval of Site Assessment Work Plan Amendment to December 4, 2023, Groundwater Well Installation Work Plan	Former SoCo #60, 1690 South 4 <sup>th</sup> St., El Centro, Imperial County, GeoTracker Global ID T10000006437	Thomas Browne, Water Resources Control Engineer

#### 4. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM

**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	3/21/2024		*Discharger agreed to settlement discussion		26
4	IID Hatchery	Total Suspended Solids	\$24,000	2/21/2024	3/18/2024	03/27/2024	-	05/09/2024	8
5	Brawley WWTP	Bacteria indicator, Total Copper, Total Ammonia	\$12,000	3/26/2024	4/10/2024	4/16/2024			4
	<b>TOTAL:</b>		\$309,000						103

#### Unaddressed Violations Subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties (April 2024)

No. of Facilities	No. of Violations
3	17

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