

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 77- 11

RESPONDING TO REQUESTED CHANGE IN THE BOUNDARY OF
THE SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND AREA OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL
SIGNIFICANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
TO REQUEST MODIFICATION OF NPDES PERMIT CA 0110175

WHEREAS:

1. The waters surrounding San Clemente Island to a distance of one nautical mile offshore or to the 300-foot isobath, whichever is the greater distance, were designated by the Board as an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) on March 21, 1974.
2. The designation would require phasing out the existing discharge of waste to the ASBS by the Naval Undersea Center.
3. Representatives of the U. S. Navy have requested exclusion of certain zones within the ASBS on the basis that such zones do not meet the criteria established by the Board for selection of ASBS.
4. The Navy has further requested that, in the event the Board does not comply with the above request, the Board take some action to allow the discharge of secondary-treated waste from the Naval Undersea Center at San Clemente Island on the basis that there are no reasonable alternatives to ocean discharge in terms of capital and operating costs and environmental impact.
5. A public hearing was held in El Segundo, California, on November 1, 1976, to receive evidence concerning the request of the Navy.
6. Evidence submitted at the hearing did not support exclusion from the ASBS of the zones identified by the Navy, but it did support an action by the Board to allow waste disposal at the existing location under very limited conditions.
7. Waste disposal from the Naval Undersea Center is regulated by the conditions of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CA 0110175 issued by the Environmental Protection Agency on December 31, 1973.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The request by the U. S. Navy to exclude Zones A, B and G, as identified by the Navy, from the San Clemente Island ASBS is denied.

2. The Executive Officer is authorized to request the Environmental Protection Agency to modify NPDES Permit CA 0110175 to permit discharge with the following conditions:
 - a. Secondary treatment of the waste.
 - b. Compliance with the water quality objectives and the Quality Requirements for Waste Discharges contained in the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California.
 - c. Specific effluent limits which are based upon existing average daily flow, rather than upon treatment plant design capacity, including a daily maximum for five-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand not to exceed 19 lbs/day.
 - d. Demonstration by the monitoring program that (1) the waste does not alter natural water quality (that is, it is undetectable) beyond a radius of 1,000 feet from the end of the outfall, and (2) there is compliance with the Ocean Plan.
3. In the event the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency concurs with the request and the permit is changed, the Executive Officer is authorized to amend the designated San Clemente Island ASBS to exclude the area within a radius of 1,000 feet from the end of the outfall.
4. In the event NPDES Permit CA 0110175 is not modified by the Environmental Protection Agency substantially as requested above, the Executive Officer is authorized to request that the NPDES Permit be modified to prohibit the discharge to the ASBS in accordance with terms of the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters in California adopted by the State Board on July 6, 1972, and approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency on August 18, 1972.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Officer of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on February 17, 1977.

Bill B. Dendy

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Executive Officer