

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 79-56

APPROVAL OF EXCEPTIONS TO THE OCEAN PLAN
FOR WESTERN LNG TERMINAL ASSOCIATES,
POINT CONCEPTION FACILITY,
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
NPDES NO. CA 0048721

WHEREAS:

1. On January 19, 1979, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a revised "Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California", herein called the Ocean Plan; and
2. Western LNG Terminal Associates (WLNG) proposes to discharge wastes from its Point Conception liquified natural gas (LNG) facility into the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States, at a point 35 miles east of Point Conception (latitude N 34° 26'27", longitude W 120° 24'43").
3. On January 12, 1979, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Regional Board) adopted Order No. 79-09 containing waste discharge requirements for six discharges from the proposed LNG facility to the Pacific Ocean, two of which require approval of exceptions to the 75% suspended solids removal requirement contained in Table A of the Ocean Plan because no suspended solids concentration limitation was specified; and
4. By memorandum dated January 18, 1979, the Regional Board requested that WLNG be granted the exceptions based on the points quoted below:
 - "1. At the time of adoption of the Ocean Plan no consideration was given to simple flow-through heat exchange seawater systems which do not add suspended solids to the discharge; and
 - "2 These exceptions will not compromise protection of ocean waters for recognized beneficial uses; and
 - "3 The public interest will be served by not requiring dischargers to remove 75% of the suspended solids contained in natural seawater;" and
5. The requested exceptions apply only to the following described discharges:

a. "Discharge 001

Seawater, screened and taken from the ocean about 3,200 feet (970 meters) from shore, will be used to provide the heat necessary to vaporize the liquid natural gas. It will be discharged about 5,240 feet (1609 meters) from shore at a depth of 38 feet (11.5 meters) below MLLW. Design flow is 230 MGD (871,000 M³/day)."

b. "Discharge 004 - LNG Storage Tank Hydrotest Discharge

Approximately 14 MG of seawater will be used to pressure test each of the two LNG storage tanks after construction. It will be discharged through the seawater outfall line at a rate of 4,900 GPM (18.5 M³/min.)."

6. As set forth in Chapter VI, Section G of the Ocean Plan, the State Board may, with the concurrence of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), grant exceptions to any provision of the Ocean Plan provided it determines:

- "1) The existence of unusual circumstances not anticipated at the time of the Plan's adoption,
- "2) The exception will not compromise protection of ocean waters for beneficial uses, and
- "3) The public interest will be served;" and

7. Based on testimony received during the public hearing held June 21, 1979, the State Board concurs with the Regional Board's points quoted previously.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The State Water Resources Control Board:

1. Approves the exception to the 75% suspended solids removal limitations in Table A of the Ocean Plan requested by the Regional Board and contained within Order No. 79-09; and
2. Declares that the exception will become effective upon receipt of written concurrence from the EPA; and

3. Requests, by this resolution, that the EPA provide its concurrence as soon as possible.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director 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 June 21, 1979.



for Larry F. Walker
Executive Director
(Clint Whitney)