

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 81-95

APPROVAL OF EXCEPTION TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR OCEAN WATERS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT SANTA CRUZ, LONG MARINE LABORATORY, NPDES NO. CA0048496

WHEREAS:

1. On January 19, 1978, the State Board adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan).
2. The University of California at Santa Cruz is proposing to discharge up to 1.442 million gallons per day (5.460 M³/day) of seawater and stormwater to the Pacific Ocean. Seawater is drawn through an intake structure, filtered, partially chlorinated (if required), distributed to various holding tanks and aquaria throughout the facility, dechlorinated (if required), and discharged (Discharge Serial No. 001) with storm runoff (from the facility) to the Pacific Ocean from Long Marine Laboratory near Younger Lagoon, 4.15 miles south of the University of California at Santa Cruz campus.
3. On June 12, 1981, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (Regional Board) adopted Order No. 81-38 which, in part, limits the allowable suspended solids concentration in the effluent to an average of 75 mg/l during any 30-day period and a maximum 125 mg/l. These limitations are in place of the requirement from the Ocean Plan's Table A that 75 percent of suspended solids in the effluent be removed before discharge.
4. By memorandum dated June 26, 1981, the Regional Board requested that the discharger be granted an exception based on the following points:
 - "1. At the time of adoption of the Ocean Plan, no consideration was given to simple, flow-through seawater systems which do not significantly alter the suspended solid concentrations of the intake water; 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 the discharger to remove 75 percent of the suspended solids contained in natural seawater."

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, 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."

Based on evidence received during a public hearing held September 17, 1981, The State Board concurs with the Regional Board's points quoted previously.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the State Water Resources Control Board:

1. Approves the exception to the 75 percent suspended solids removal limitations in Table A of the Ocean Plan requested by the Regional Board and contained within Order No. 81-38; and
2. Declares that the exception will become effective upon receipt of written concurrence from the Environmental Protection Agency; and
3. Requests, by this resolution, the the Environmental Protection Agency 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 September 17, 1981.



Clint Whitney
Executive Director