

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 87- 23

APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN
FOR THE SOUTH LAHONTAN BASIN TO REVISE DISCHARGE THE
PROHIBITION FOR THE ALTA VISTA/MESA VISTA/MUSTANG MESA AREA
OF INYO COUNTY

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Lahontan Regional Board), adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the South Lahontan Basin (Basin Plan) on May 8, 1975.
2. Division 7 of the California Water Code specifies that basin plans be periodically reviewed and, if appropriate, revised.
3. The Lahontan Regional Board staff prepared documents and followed procedures satisfying environmental documentation requirements in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act.
4. On October 10, 1986, following a public hearing, the Lahontan Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 86-10 amending the Basin Plan by revising the discharge prohibition for the Alta Vista/Mesa Vista/Mustang Mesa area in Inyo County (Mesa area) to extend the deadline from January 1, 1985 to January 1, 1989, based on a potential public health problem associated with the use of individual disposal systems.
5. The record indicates that it was the intent of the Lahontan Regional Board that the legal description of the area to be encompassed by the prohibition be as follows:

The area east of Highway 395 and west of the Owens River included within the S/2, SE/4, Sec. 10; Sec. 14; E/2, Sec. 15; Sec. 22; Sec. 23; W/2, Sec. 24; Sec. 26; T6S, R31E, MDB & M.
6. The State Board finds, consistent with the California Water Code, Section 13280, that there is substantial evidence in the record that the continued discharge of waste from individual disposal systems utilizing subsurface disposal in the Mesa area will unreasonably degrade water quality.
7. In satisfaction of the requirements of Section 13283 of the California Water Code, the State Board finds that the record includes a review of possible alternatives to prohibiting discharges from individual on-site disposal systems.
8. Approval of this amendment does not ensure a priority designation for Clean Water Grants funding.

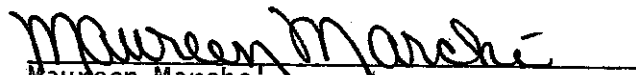
9. While there is substantial evidence in the record that continued use of individual disposal systems will unreasonably degrade water quality, conclusive evidence of existing contamination in water supply wells is not available.
10. Basin plan amendments do not become effective until approved by the State Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Basin Plan amendment as adopted on October 10, 1986 by Lahontan Regional Board Resolution No. 86-10 be approved except that the legal description of the prohibition area shall read as stated in Paragraph 5 above.
2. That if construction of a sewer system is not feasible, the Lahontan Regional Board should consider appropriate relief from the prohibition of discharges from existing individual disposal systems and take appropriate steps to assure that public health is protected. Such steps could include formal notice to the County Health Officer, comprehensive monitoring of drinking water wells for evidence of contamination, and use of alternative water supplies if necessary.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the 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 March 19, 1987.


Maureen Marche
Administrative Assistant to the Board