

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 88-35

APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL
PLAN FOR THE SAN DIEGO BASIN ADDING A REGIONAL DAIRY
WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY TO CHAPTER 5, IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Regional Board), adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) on March 17, 1975.
2. Division 7 of the California Water Code specifies that basin plans be periodically reviewed and, if appropriate, revised.
3. The San Diego Regional Board staff prepared documents and followed procedures satisfying environmental documentation requirements in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act.
4. Following a public hearing held on August 24, 1987, the San Diego Regional Board adopted, on November 16, 1987, Resolution No. 87-71 (attached) amending the Basin Plan by adding a regional dairy waste management policy to Chapter 5, Implementation Plan.
5. The State Board, after review of the proposed Basin Plan amendment, finds that there is sufficient evidence to support approval of most of the policy.
6. The State Board finds that portions of the policy, while approvable, require additional review.
7. The State Board further finds that certain statements are inappropriate because they:
 - a. imply that the San Diego Regional Board would allow the violation of Basin Plan objectives if the expenditure for waste management control measures is not justified and
 - b. allow for disposal of dairy wastes which could exceed Basin Plan objectives.
8. Basin plan amendments do not become effective until approved by the State Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:


1. That the amendment to the Basin Plan as described in San Diego Regional Board Resolution No. 87-71, adopted on November 16, 1987, be approved with the exception of the following:
 - a. Principle No. 2, in its entirety, and
 - b. the last sentence of Implementation Measure No. 4.
2. That the San Diego Regional Board be directed to do the following within existing resources:
 - a. Implement the loading provisions contained in Implementation Measure No. 4 for all existing dairies which overlie ground water basins having beneficial use designations and objectives for nitrates and salts.
 - b. Develop a list, by July 1, 1988, of dairies in priority order starting with those which pose an imminent threat to existing beneficial uses or overlie basins with objectives near or better than existing water quality and where the dairy contributes a large percentage of the salts and nitrates.
 - c. Collect and list, by July 1, 1988, available information on ground water basins identified in Item No. 2(b) above including completed studies or other documents which include present water quality, well locations, sources of pollution, basin size, inflow, outflow, pumpage, precipitation, irrigation, etc. Available information, in this instance, means existing data which has been published in reports prepared for the San Diego Regional Board [e.g., 208 and 205(j) reports] or prepared by the Department of Water Resources, USGS, or any other state, federal or local agency. This list is then to be transmitted to the Division of Water Quality. At this time, the San Diego Regional Board should also identify any important ground water basins which are lacking data and, therefore, require further effort to obtain adequate information.
 - d. Use the procedure developed by the State Board staff (described in Item No. 3 below) or more complex methods where warranted to determine appropriate loading limits for existing or proposed dairies in order to meet Basin Plan objectives or to amend the Basin Plan as appropriate. The procedures, when available, are to be used for all proposed dairies prior to issuing waste

discharge requirements whenever the proposed dairy has been determined to pose a risk to beneficial uses or may not meet Basin Plan objectives. For any dairy proposed prior to the availability of the procedures, the San Diego Regional Board staff with the assistance of the State Board staff is to use their best professional judgement in determining appropriate loading limits based on ten-year projections. The procedures shall be implemented on all existing dairies based upon the priority list when those procedures are available.

- e. Require ground water monitoring for all dairies which overlie ground water basins having existing or designated beneficial uses or objectives for nitrates or salts which could be exceeded. Such a monitoring program will provide for a timely indication of any potential occurrences of exceeding water quality objectives in the aquifer underlying the discharge and downgradient of the discharge, not to exceed 0.5 miles from the discharge area.
3. That the State Board staff be directed to provide to the San Diego Regional Board, by October 1, 1988, a simple salt balance procedure (usable for nitrates also) which utilizes existing information to predict concentrations based upon ten-year projections for use in setting Basin Plan objectives and in establishing discharge requirements.

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 on March 17, 1988.


for: Maureen Marche'
Administrative Assistant to the Board