

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
81 Higuera Street, Suite 200
San Luis Obispo, California 93401**

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R3-2002-0029

Waste Discharger Identification No. 3 2750200001

For

**CORONET FOODS, INC., WESTERN DIVISION,
MONTEREY COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Regional Board), finds that:

FACILITY OWNER AND LOCATION

1. Coronet Foods, Inc., Western Division (hereafter Discharger), owns and operates a Food Processing Facility (hereafter Facility), located at 20800 Spence Road, Salinas as shown in Attachment "A" of this Order.
2. Mary Gates-Cooper owns and leases 5-acres of adjacent land to Coronet Foods. The parcel, APN 137-021-034, is located immediately adjacent and northwest of the Facility, and is used for storage of equipment and wastewater disposal via spray irrigation.

PURPOSE OF ORDER

3. Mr. Emmitt Pfost, General Manager for Coronet Foods, Inc., Western Division submitted a Report of Waste Discharge on June 4, 2001, for authorization to continue disposing of food process wastewater within the Salinas Groundwater Sub-Basin.
4. Order No. R3-2002-0029 revises waste discharge requirements for the Facility that are intended to:
 - a) allow the discharge described in the Dischargers Report of Waste Discharge,
 - b) uphold State water quality standards and,
 - c) revise the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

SITE/FACILITY DESCRIPTION

5. The Facility processes and packs lettuce and other fresh vegetable products for nationwide distribution. Freshly cut lettuce, carrots, cabbage, and other vegetables are received in bulk, cooled, graded, washed, chopped, and bagged prior to boxing for shipment. The large bulk of product is shipped immediately with only small amounts held in refrigerated rooms pending sale or arrival of transportation. A facility map is included as Attachment "B" of this Order.
6. The overall Facility operation is seasonal from April to November. During full-scale operation, the Facility will have a staff of approximately 120 full time employees.

Discharge Type

7. The Facility has two separate wastewater streams, plant process wastewater and domestic wastewater generated from the employee restroom facilities. Plant process wastewater consists of wastewater generated during operations described in Finding 5, wastewater from the truck docking area which passes through a grease trap, and washdown wastewater from the food processing area.
8. The Facility produces from 5,000 to 40,000 gallons of process wastewater per day.

Design and Current Capacity

9. Improvements made to the treatment system at the close of the 1999-operating season are intended to maximize the life and the infiltration capacity of the existing leachfields by reducing effluent suspended solids and chemical oxygen demand. System design capacity is believed to be at least 43,000 gallons per day.
10. Plant process wastewater undergoes primary and secondary treatment prior to disposal. Primary treatment consists of two hydrosieve screens to remove coarse solids. Secondary treatment consists of two aeration basins, a clarifier, two holding tanks, and sand filters. A schematic of the Discharger's process wastewater treatment system is included as Attachment "C" of this Order.
11. During the 2000-operating season the process wastewater treatment system handled approximately 40,000 gallons per day. The 2001-operating season handled less than 20,000 gallons per day. The decrease in process wastewater requiring treatment is due to the removal of the leaf washing process line and increased water conservation.
12. Recent process wastewater influent monitoring submitted by the Discharger indicates the following:

Constituents	5/9/2000	6/7/2000
Total Dissolved Solids	1400 mg/l	1400 mg/L
Sodium	110	190 mg/l
Chloride	120	230 mg/l
Nitrate (as N)	7.4 mg/l	6.1 mg/l
Suspended Solids	80	310 mg/l
COD	1,900 mg/l	1,700 mg/l
BOD	720 mg/l	530 mg/l
pH	7.5	7.3

Wastewater Disposal

13. Treated wastewater is discharged primarily through subsurface disposal with leachfields. The leachfields periodically require resting or

maintenance. At such times, and during increased flows, the Discharger disposes of treated wastewater by spray irrigation on a 5-acre parcel immediately adjacent to the Facility (see Finding 2.).

14. Recent process wastewater effluent monitoring submitted by the Discharger indicates the following:

Constituents	4/25/2001	7/18/2001
Total Dissolved Solids	880 mg/l	880 mg/L
Sodium	150	150 mg/l
Chloride	220	200 mg/l
Nitrate (as N)	< 0.1 mg/l	< 0.1 mg/l
Suspended Solids	150	170 mg/l
COD	320	340 mg/l
pH	7.2	7.0

Solid Waste Disposal

15. Solid wastes generated from the treatment system consist of coarse solids screened in the hydrosieves, and sludge accumulating in the holding tanks. The coarse solids are organic in nature and are disposed of in a variety of ways including as soil amendment, composting, or landfilled. Sludge is removed from all tanks by a licensed septic tank pumper and hauled off site to an appropriate disposal site.

Domestic Water Supply and Wastewater

16. The water supply is provided by an onsite private well. Recent water supply monitoring submitted by the Discharger yielded the following water quality information:

Constituent	3/28/01	4/26/01	7/18/01
Total Dissolved Solids	810	670	470
Sodium	95	86	68
Chloride	120	80	46
Nitrate (as N)	20	14	5.3
pH	7.1	6.9	7.1

* Samples taken on 7/18/01 are most consistent with historical values.

17. Domestic wastewater flow is estimated at 1,800 gallons per day. It is treated on site via two separate septic tank and leach field systems as shown in Attachment "B" of this Order.

Geology

18. The Facility is located on relatively level topography. Area soils consist of medium to fine sandy clays sands near the surface grading to coarser sands with increasing depth to approximately 50 feet. A clay layer exists between 50-55 feet and coarser sands are found from 55-70 feet the limit of prior borings.

Hydrogeology

19. Monitoring reports submitted by the Discharger during 2001, indicate a depth to groundwater of 35-40 feet with a northwest groundwater gradient.

Surface Water

20. The Salinas River is located approximately five miles southwest of the Facility, flows in a northerly direction, and drains into Monterey Bay.

Land Uses

21. Land uses near the Facility include agriculture and some limited commercial and residential uses.

Regional Basin Plan

22. The Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Basin (Basin Plan) was adopted by the Regional Board on November 19, 1989 and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) on August 16, 1990. The Regional Board approved amendments to the Basin Plan on February 11, 1994 and September 8, 1994. The Basin Plan incorporates statewide plans and policies by reference and contains a strategy for protecting beneficial uses of State Waters. This Order implements the Basin Plan.

23. Historical beneficial uses of groundwater near the discharge include:

- a. Municipal and Domestic Water

- b. Agricultural Water Supply
 - c. Industrial Water Supply
24. Present and anticipated beneficial uses of the Salinas River downstream of Chualar include:
- a. Municipal and Domestic Supply
 - b. Agricultural Supply
 - c. Industrial Process Supply
 - d. Industrial Service Supply
 - e. Groundwater Recharge
 - f. Water Contact Recreation
 - g. Non-Contact Water Recreation
 - h. Wildlife Habitat
 - i. Cold Freshwater Habitat
 - j. Warm Freshwater Habitat
 - k. Migration of Aquatic Organisms
 - l. Freshwater Replenishment
 - m. Commercial and Sport Fishing

MONITORING PROGRAM

25. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2002-0029 is a part of the proposed Order. The Monitoring Program requires routine facility, effluent, and groundwater monitoring to verify compliance and protection of groundwater quality.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

26. These waste discharge requirements are for an existing facility and are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et. seq.) in accordance with Section 15321, Article 19, Chapter 3, Division 6, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Total Maximum Daily Load

27. Total maximum daily load (TMDL) allocations will be developed for impaired surface waters in the Salinas River Basin. TMDL documents will allocate responsibility for constituent loading throughout the watershed. Draft TMDL documents are anticipated by June 2002 for siltation and by June 2003 for nutrients, pesticides and salinity. During development of the TMDL source assessment and implementation plan, if Regional Board staff find constituent contributions from waste discharged may

adversely impact beneficial uses or exceed water quality objectives, TMDL documents may require changes in Waste Discharge Requirements. Waste Discharge Requirements may be modified to implement applicable TMDL provisions and recommendations.

EXISTING ORDERS/GENERAL FINDINGS

28. The discharge was previously regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 91-15, adopted by the Regional Board on June 14, 1991. The Regional Board has regulated this discharge since 1991.
29. On April 2, 1991, the Executive Officer issued Cleanup or Abatement Order No. 91-16, ordering abatement of illegal discharge of wastewater to seepage pits within 100 feet of domestic supply wells and food processing wastewater discharged to seepage pits drilled to a depth greater than 30 feet. A violation of Basin Plan criteria was suspected for separation between pit bottom and groundwater.
30. In a letter dated March 25, 1991, the Discharger submitted information verifying that all seepage pits were greater than 100 feet from the water supply well and that groundwater was at sufficient depth to continue using the seepage pits.
31. In a letter dated April 24, 1997, the Discharger notified the Regional Board that seepage pits within ten feet of existing groundwater were no longer in use and piping discharging to these seepage pits were capped with a non-removable barrier.
32. Discharge of Waste is a privilege, not a right, and authorization to discharge is conditional upon the discharge complying with provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, to protect beneficial uses, and to prevent nuisance.
33. On December 24, 2001, the Regional Board notified the Discharger and interested parties of

its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with a copy of the proposed Order and an opportunity to submit written views and comments.

34. After considering all comments pertaining to this discharge during a public hearing on March 22, 2002, this Order was found consistent with the above findings.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to authority in Sections 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, that Coronet Foods, Inc. their agents, successors, and assigns, may discharge waste at the above-described Facility providing compliance is maintained with the following:

All technical and monitoring reports submitted pursuant to this Order are required pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code. Failure to submit reports in accordance with schedules established by this Order, attachments to this Order, or failure to submit a report of sufficient technical quality to be acceptable to the Executive Officer, may subject the discharger to enforcement action pursuant to Section 13268 of the California Water Code.

Note:

Other prohibitions and conditions, definitions, and the method of determining compliance are contained in the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements" dated January 1984. Superscripted terms are defined in Section, D. Definitions.

A. PROHIBITIONS

1. Discharge of treated wastewater to areas other than disposal areas shown in Attachment "B", is prohibited.
2. Discharge of any wastes including overflow, bypass, seepage, and overspray; from transport, treatment, storage, or disposal systems to adjacent drainageways or adjacent properties not listed in this Order is prohibited.

3. Discharge of domestic wastewater to the process wastewater treatment system is prohibited.
4. Discharge of process wastewater to the domestic wastewater treatment system is prohibited.
5. Discharge of salt brines to the domestic or process wastewater treatment systems is prohibited.
6. Discharge of any wastewater within 100 feet of any domestic, agricultural or industrial/commercial water supply well is prohibited.
7. Discharge of wastewater to seepage pits or leachfield trenches that do not allow for at least a ten-foot separation to groundwater is prohibited.
8. Discharge containing cleaning agents, solvents, or other constituents in concentrations detrimental to waters, soils, plants, or animals is prohibited.
9. Bypass of the treatment facility and discharge of untreated or partially treated wastes directly to the designated disposal area is prohibited.

B. SPECIFICATIONS

Waste Generation

1. Daily wastewater flow averaged over each month shall not exceed 43,000 GPD.

Wastewater Treatment

2. Extraneous surface drainage shall be excluded from the wastewater treatment facilities.
3. Sludge collected in the process wastewater treatment holding tanks shall be removed at least annually.
4. Septic tanks shall be inspected at least every five years to determine the need for pumping.

Wastewater Disposal

5. Discharge to subsurface disposal areas shall remain underground at all times.
6. Wastewater shall be disposed to spray irrigation areas only when subsurface disposal areas are at capacity or require maintenance or resting.
7. Wastewater application to spray irrigation areas shall be managed to prevent ponding.
8. Wastewater application to spray irrigation areas shall not take place during rains.
9. Wastewater application to spray irrigation areas shall not result in runoff beyond the property boundary, to surface waters or to drainage courses that are tributary to surface waters.
10. Spray irrigation areas shall be operated using a regular rotation. Rotation from one irrigation area to another shall occur at least weekly. Between applications, irrigated areas shall be allowed to dry to approximately the field moisture condition of non-irrigated areas.

Groundwater Protection

11. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to exceed the following limitations:

Constituents	Units*
pH	Between 6.5 - 8.4
TDS	1,500 mg/l
Sodium	250 mg/l
Chloride	250 mg/l
Sulfate	600 mg/l
Boron	0.5 mg/l

* as measured in groundwater downgradient of the disposal area

12. The discharge shall not cause nitrate concentrations in groundwater downgradient of the disposal area to exceed 6 mg/l (as N).
13. The discharge shall not cause a significant increase of mineral constituent concentrations in underlying groundwater, as determined by comparison of samples collected from wells

located upgradient and downgradient of disposal areas.

14. The discharge shall not cause concentrations of chemicals and radionuclides in groundwater to exceed limits set forth in Title 22, Chapter 15, Articles 4 and 5 of the California Administrative Code.

C. PROVISIONS

1. Order No. 91-15, "Waste Discharge Requirements for Coronet Foods, Inc., Western Division, Monterey County," adopted by the Regional Board on June 14, 1991, is hereby rescinded.
2. The Discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2002-0029, as specified by the Executive Officer.
3. The Discharger shall comply with all applicable items of the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements," dated January 1984.
4. All discharges from the Facility shall comply with lawful requirements of the municipalities, counties, irrigation districts, drainage districts, and other local agencies regarding discharges of water to other watercourses under their jurisdiction.
5. By September 22, 2002, the Discharger shall submit a Groundwater Evaluation Report to the Executive Officer evaluating the potential impact of seepage pits on groundwater due to their proximity to active leachfields onsite. Specifically the report should inventory all seepage pits onsite (depth, size, and location), assess impact, and propose corrective action or mitigation to ensure groundwater quality is protected.
6. The Discharger shall submit an engineering report, proposing additional groundwater monitoring wells, prior to operating the spray irrigation areas on a more consistent basis due to subsurface disposal capacity issues.
7. The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Regional Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or waste management activities that may result in noncompliance with this Order.
8. This Order may be reopened to address any changes in State or Federal plans, policies, or regulations that would affect the quality requirements for the discharges.
9. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or facilities presently owned or utilized by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner(s) or operator(s) of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Regional Board.
10. Pursuant to Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 9, of the California Administrative Code, the Discharger must submit a written report to the Executive Officer not later than September 22, 2011, addressing:
 - a. Whether there will be changes in the continuity, character, location, or volume of the discharge; Whether, in their opinion, there is any portion of the Order that is incorrect, obsolete, or otherwise in need of revision; and
 - b. A summary of all violations of Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. R3-2002-0029, which occurred since adoption of the order along with a description of the cause(s) and corrective action taken.

I, **Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer**, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on March 22, 2002.



Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer

3-26-02

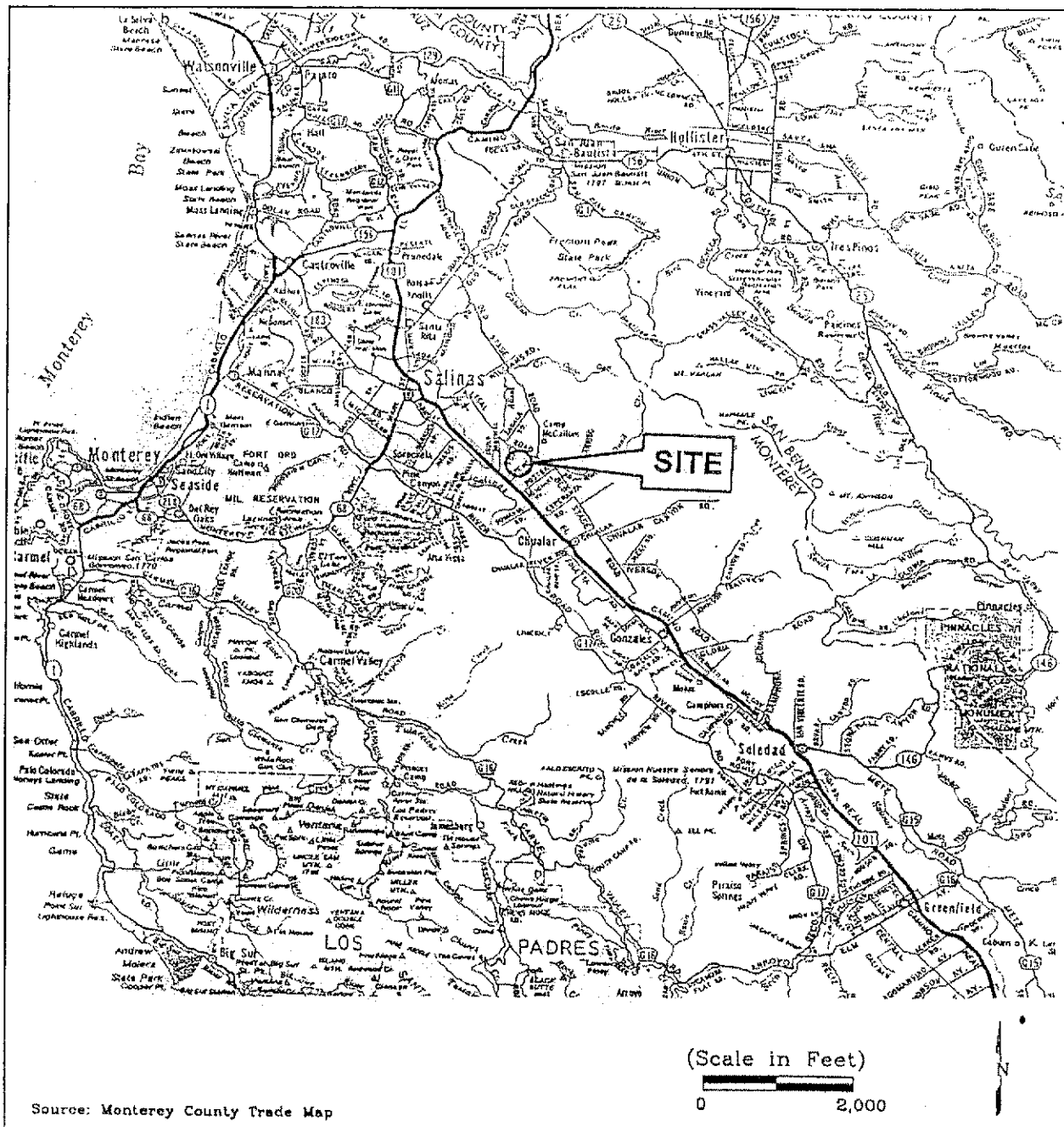
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Coronet Foods, Inc.

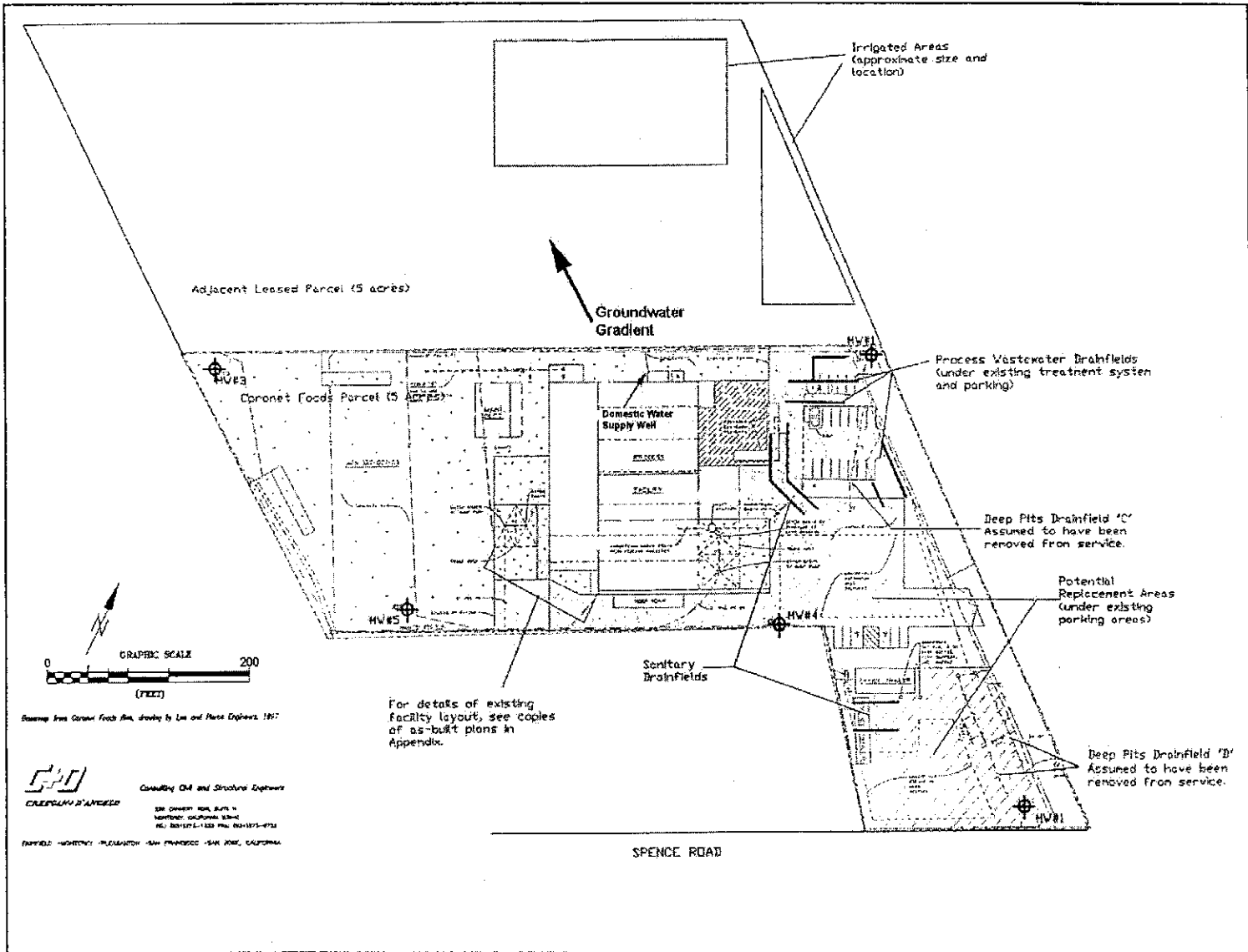
Order No. R3-2002-0029

Vicinity Map





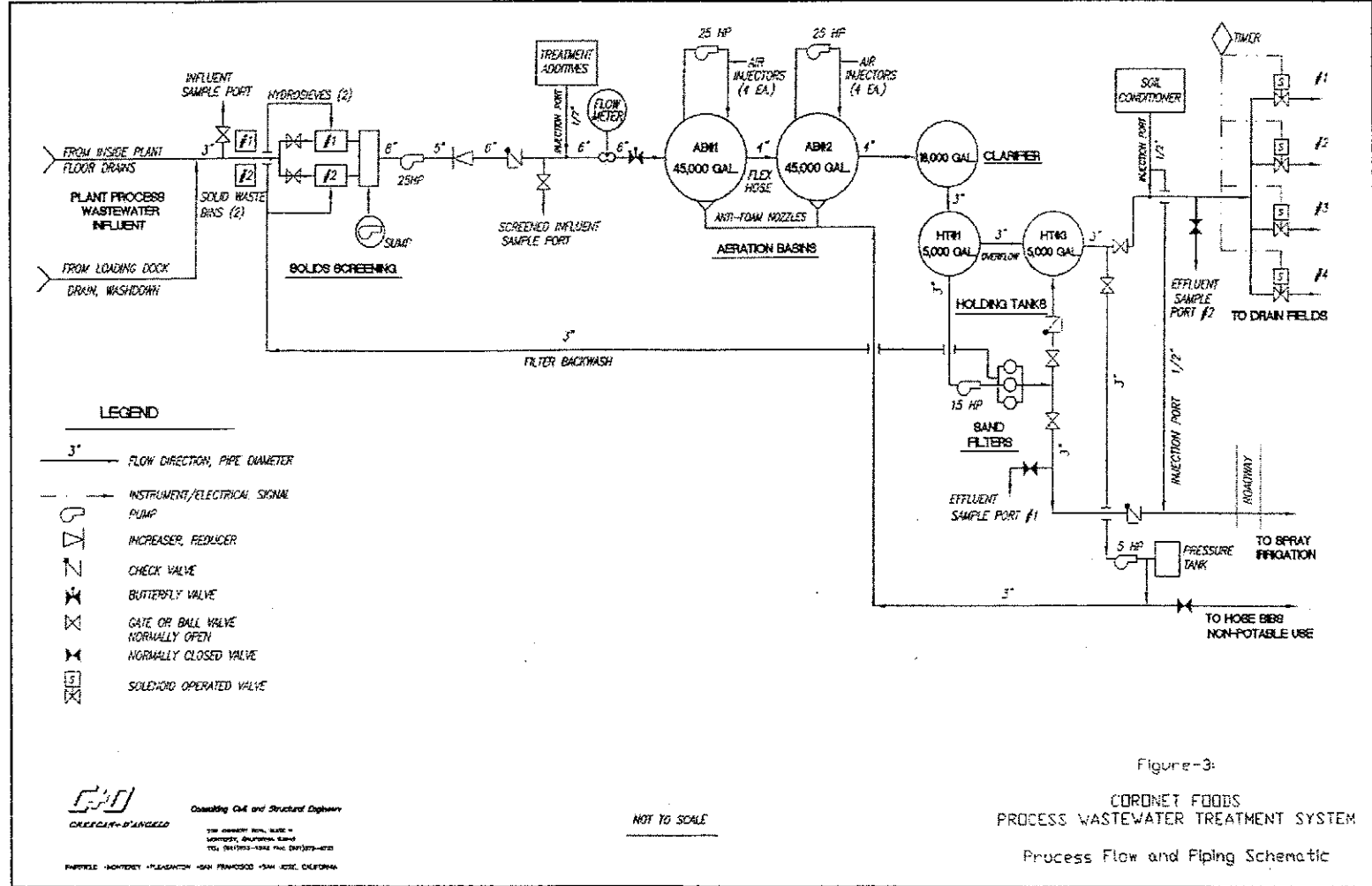
Coronet Foods, Inc.
Order No. R3-2002-0029
Facility Map



Attachment "B"



Coronet Foods, Inc.
Order No. R3-2002-0029
Flow Diagram



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Attachment "C"

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
81 Higuera Street, Suite 200
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-5411**

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. R3-2002-0029
Waste Discharge Identification No. 3 275020001**

**For
CORONET FOODS, INC., WESTERN DIVISION
MONTEREY COUNTY**

WATER SUPPLY MONITORING

Representative samples of the water supply shall be collected and analyzed as follows:

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Sodium	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Chloride	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Sulfate	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Boron	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
pH	-	Grab	Annually (April)

PROCESS WASTEWATER INFLUENT MONITORING

Representative samples of process wastewater influent discharged to the treatment facilities shall be obtained as indicated below. Samples and measurements are to be taken as follows:

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Frequency*
Wastewater Flow	gpd	Metered	Daily
Mean Wastewater Flow	gpd	Calculated	Monthly
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan, April, July, Oct.)
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan, April, July, Oct.)
Settleable Solids	ml/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan, April, July, Oct.)
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan, April, July, Oct.)
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan, April, July, Oct.)

* Sampling is required at the frequency listed during Facility operation.

PROCESS WASTEWATER EFFLUENT MONITORING

Representative samples of process wastewater effluent discharged to disposal areas shall be obtained as indicated below. Samples and measurements are to be taken as follows:

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Frequency*
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	--	Monthly
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Settleable Solids	ml/l	Grab	Monthly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Sodium	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Chloride	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Sulfate	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Boron	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Monthly
pH	-	Grab	Monthly

* Sampling is required at the frequency listed during Facility operation.

RECEIVING WATER MONITORING

Representative samples of groundwater shall be collected from shallow wells upgradient and downgradient of the disposal area. To ascertain compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements in establishing new, or verifying existing upgradient and downgradient monitoring wells, the monitoring network shall be supported by sufficient, as determined by the Executive Officer, geologic and hydrogeologic documentation. Samples of groundwater shall be collected and analyzed for the constituents and at the frequencies specified below:

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Frequency
Depth to Groundwater	mg/l	Measured	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
Sodium	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
Chloride	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
Sulfate	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
Boron	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)
pH	-	Grab	Quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)

SEPTIC TANK EFFLUENT MONITORING

Representative samples of septic tank effluent shall be collected from the second compartment of each septic tank. Samples and measurements shall include:

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Frequency
Flow	gpd	Metered	Monthly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Sodium	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Chloride	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Sulfate	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Boron	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Annually (April)
pH	-	Grab	Annually (April)

SEPTIC TANK MONITORING

Each septic tank (both compartments) shall be measured as follows:

Parameter	Units	Type of Measurement	Frequency
Sludge depth and scum thickness in each compartment of each tank	Feet	Staff Gauge	Annually (April)
Distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually (April)
Distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually (April)

* If septic tank solids were pumped within the preceding year, then sludge and scum measurements are not necessary.

DISPOSAL AREA MONITORING

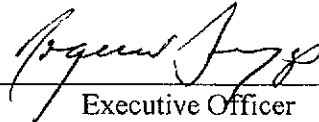
The Discharger shall make at least weekly inspections of the treatment and disposal systems. In making the inspection the Discharger shall note compliance status with this Order. A log of these inspections shall be maintained. A summary of observations made during the inspections shall be submitted with each quarterly monitoring report.

REPORTING

Monitoring reports are required quarterly, by the 20th of February, May, August, and November and shall contain all data collected or calculated over the previous three months. In reporting monitoring data, the discharger shall submit all data in the form prescribed or approved by the Regional Board. If no discharge occurs during a reporting period, the Discharger shall submit all relevant monitoring data unaffected by the discharge, make a statement of "no discharge" for all monitoring data affected by the discharge, and include the reason for no discharge.

Reports	Frequency	Due Dates
Monitoring Reports	Quarterly	Feb., May, Aug., Nov.
Groundwater Evaluation Report	Once	September 22, 2002
Report of Waste Discharge	Once	September 22, 2011

ORDERED BY


Executive Officer

3-26-02

Date