

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2004-0075

AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
ORDER NO. R5-2002-0090  
NPDES NO. CA0083569

SACRAMENTO COGENERATION AUTHORITY  
SACRAMENTO COGENERATION AUTHORITY PROJECT  
SACRAMENTO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Regional Board) finds:

1. On 6 June 2002, the Regional Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2002-0090, NPDES No. CA0083569, prescribing waste discharge requirements for the Sacramento Cogeneration Authority (hereafter Discharger) in Sacramento County.
2. The Discharger discharges heat recovery steam generator blowdown, cooling tower blowdown, neutralization facility effluent, and plant equipment drains into Morrison Creek, a water of the United States, at latitude 38° 31' 49" N and longitude 121° 24' 27" W. Domestic wastewater generated on site is discharged to the sanitary sewer.
3. Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 94-289, the previous permit for this facility, contained a receiving water mixing zone for total dissolved solids (TDS) and temperature that extended over the cross-sectional area of the water body for several miles downstream of the facilities discharge point into Morrison Creek. However, in drafting Order No. R5-2002-0090, the Regional Board determined that, based on water quality evidence and the applicable procedures guidelines currently available, provisions for a mixing zone by allowing compliance with water quality objectives to be determined several miles downstream of the facilities discharge point into Morrison Creek (at the Mack Road over-crossing) should not be continued.
4. Removal of the mixing zone was considered a new interpretation of the Basin Plan. Therefore, compliance time schedules were placed in the waste discharge requirements to bring the discharge into compliance with the TDS and temperature limitations.
5. Since adoption of Order No. R5-2002-0090, the Discharger has re-directed neutralization facility effluent and discharges from plant equipment drains, the main sources of TDS in the waste stream, to the sanitary sewer. As a result of these modifications, the Discharger is able to comply with the final effluent limitations for TDS.
6. Receiving Water Limitation E.8 in Order No. R5-2002-0090 requires that the discharge not cause the ambient temperature in Morrison Creek to increase by more than 5 °F, effective two years from adoption of the permit, in accordance with Provision F.7. Provision F.7 contains a

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time schedule with specific tasks to bring the discharge into full compliance with Receiving Water Limitation E.8 by 1 June 2004. The Discharger is unable to comply with the time schedule for receiving water temperature.

7. The Discharger has secured a Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) permit (Permit No. 423001) to divert the facility's entire discharge to the regional sanitary sewer system. However, this cannot occur until after SRCSD's completion of a pump station improvement project, which is anticipated to occur by the end of 2005. As an interim mitigation measure, the Discharger will make facility modifications to use existing mechanical chillers to cool the discharge. This modification will be completed and operational by 1 June 2004. This amendment extends the final compliance date an additional two years to allow SRCSD adequate time to complete its pump station improvement project and begin accepting the Discharger's entire facility effluent.
8. The action to adopt or amend an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.), requiring preparation of an environmental impact report or negative declaration in accordance with Section 13389 of the California Water Code.
9. The Regional Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to amend waste discharge requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
10. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.
11. This Order shall amend Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2002-0090, NPDES No. CA0083569, pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA, and amendments thereto, and shall take effect upon the date of hearing, provided EPA has no objections.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Order No. R5-2002-0090 is amended solely to change the final compliance date in Provision F.7. Sacramento Cogeneration Authority, its agents, successors and assigns, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the Clean Water Act and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, shall comply with Amended Order No. R5-2002-0090:

1. Receiving Water Limitation E.8 in Order No. R5-2002-0090 shall be amended to read as follows:

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**E. Receiving Water Limitations:**

8. The ambient temperature to increase more than 5 °F. This limitation shall become effective on **1 June 2006**, in accordance with Provision F.7.

2. Provision F.7 in Order No. R5-2002-0090 shall be amended to read as follows:

**F. Provisions:**

7. Receiving Water Limitation E.8 requires that the discharge not cause the receiving water temperature to increase more than 5 °F. It is unknown if the Discharger can comply with this limitation. The Discharger shall comply with the following time schedule in order to study, design, and implement measures ensuring compliance with the receiving water temperature limitation:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Compliance Date</u>
Submit Engineering Study	<b>2 December 2002</b>
Report Proposed Solution	<b>1 April 2003</b>
Operate Interim Mitigation Measure	<b>1 June 2004</b>
Update Report	<b>1 June 2005</b>
Achieve Full Compliance	<b>1 June 2006</b>

The Discharger shall submit to the Regional Board on or before each compliance report due date, the specified document or, if appropriate, a written report detailing compliance or noncompliance with the specific schedule date and task. If noncompliance is being reported, the reasons for such noncompliance shall be stated, plus an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Regional Board by letter when it returns to compliance with the time schedule.

I, THOMAS R. PINKOS, 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 Valley Region, on 4 June 2004.

Original signature on file

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THOMAS R. PINKOS, Executive Officer