

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. 77-78

ORDER REQUIRING UNIVERSAL PROCESSORS, INCORPORATED, DBA,  
CARRAMIN, INCORPORATED, TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM DISCHARGING  
WASTES CONTRARY TO REQUIREMENTS  
PRESCRIBED BY THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL  
BOARD, COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado  
River Basin Region, finds:

1. Universal Processors, Inc. (dba Carramin, Inc., hereinafter also referred to as the discharger) 56-030 Highway 111, P.O. Box 292, Thermal, California 92274, submitted a Report of Waste Discharge dated September 13, 1976
2. The discharger proposed to discharge a maximum of 100,000 gallons-per-operating-day of carrot processing wastewater by means of land disposal in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 26, T6S, R8E, SBB&M. The proposed wastewater treatment/disposal process was to consist of the following:
  - a. Micro-screening to remove carrot solids;
  - b. BOD reduction in a mechanically aerated basin (if necessary to meet Regional Board requirements);
  - c. Storage of the wastewater in four (4) 2,500 gallon storage tanks;
  - d. Transport of the wastewater by tank-truck to a 200,000 gallon capacity earthen basin located at the land disposal site; and
  - e. Final disposal by spreading the wastewater on a 30-acre field.
3. The Regional Board adopted Order No. 76-65 on November 18, 1976, prescribing waste discharge requirements for the proposed discharge of wastewater by Universal Processors, Inc. The waste discharge requirements provide, in part, as follows:
  - A. Discharge Specifications and Prohibitions
    1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of wastewater shall cause a pollution or a nuisance.

*Cancelled  
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2. Wastewater discharged to land shall be confined to the designated land disposal area.
  3. Wastewater discharged from the storage basin to land shall not be allowed to pond, unless such ponding is operated in a technical manner in order to prevent a nuisance condition.
  4. Wastewater contained in the storage basin shall not have a 20°C BOD<sub>5</sub> exceeding 40 milligrams per liter.
  7. A minimum freeboard depth of one foot shall be maintained at all times in the basin.
4. On March 25, 1977, April 22, 1977, and May 5, 1977, the Board staff observed numerous, continuing violations of Discharge Specifications and Prohibitions A.1., A.2., A.3., and A.7. of said Order No. 76-65, and further observed that the discharger had not constructed the wastewater treatment/disposal facilities described in Findings No. 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d. (above).
  5. On June 22, 1977, the Executive Officer issued Order No. 77-57 requiring that the discharger cleanup and abate the discharge of wastes in violation of waste discharge requirements contained in Board Order No. 76-65. Order No. 77-57 required, in part, that the discharger shall:
    - a. Take all necessary actions to abate by July 1, 1977, the discharge of wastewater in violation of Order No. 76-65.
    - b. Cleanup by July 1, 1977, all wastewater and residues discharged in violation of Order No. 76-65.
  6. Universal Processors, Inc., reportedly ceased discharging process wastes for the season on July 1, 1977. However, plant operations including wastewater discharge have been observed since that date.
  7. Staff inspection on July 5, 1977 revealed that the discharger had not constructed the proposed facilities described in Findings No. 2.b. and 2.d. (above), and that no substantive changes in the wastewater treatment/disposal facilities had been made since the date of issuance of Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 77-57.

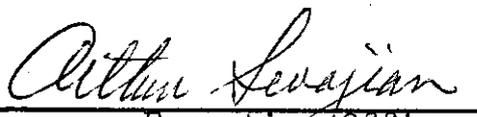
8. By letter dated August 15, 1977, Carramin, Inc., reported that wastewater storage capacity had been increased and that modifications had been made in the wastewater and plant-process water systems.
9. On August 25, 1977, the staff inspected the discharger's plant and land disposal area, and by certified letter to the discharger dated August 30, 1977, explained its findings, including:
  - a. the actions taken by the discharger had reduced the possibility of accidental discharges of wastes
  - b. several additional actions are necessary to upgrade the system, as discussed with Carramin's Acting General Manager, including installation of additional wastewater storage capacity, additional paving in areas subject to spillage of water, and extension of the solid waste handling system
  - c. the wastewater systems will require attentive operation and maintenance to prevent violations of Board requirements. The discharger has a very poor record of attentive operation and maintenance of wastewater facilities
  - d. the wastewater being discharged to the disposal field had a BOD substantially higher than the 40 mg/l concentration agreed to by the discharger, and included as a discharge specification in said Board Order No. 76-65. The staff is concerned that nuisance conditions could develop from the discharge of wastewater having a high organic content.
10. Unless additional changes in the wastewater treatment/disposal facilities and plant process water-control facilities are made, the discharger will remain in threatened violation of Discharge Specifications A.1., A.2., A.3., A.4., and A.7. of Order No. 76-65.
11. On September 21, 1977, in the City of El Centro, after due notice to the discharger and all other interested persons, the Regional Board conducted a public hearing at which the discharger appeared and evidence was received concerning the discharge.
12. Upon the basis of the evidence received, the Regional Board determined that the discharger is violating and is threatening further violations of the waste discharge specification and provisions listed in Findings No. 3 (above).

13. Issuance of this Order is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21000) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code in accordance with Section 21080(b)(4), Public Resources Code.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The discharger cease and desist from discharging and/or threatening to discharge wastes contrary to requirements listed in Finding No. 3 above.
2. The discharger shall take appropriate remedial action forthwith to prevent the discharge of wastes contrary to requirements prescribed in said Order No. 76-65.
3. The discharge of wastewater is prohibited after December 31, 1977, unless waste discharge facilities and plant process water-control facilities are provided which in the opinion of this Board's Executive Officer are adequate to provide for compliance with Order No. 76-65.
4. The discharger shall submit to the Executive Officer for his review a technical report detailing actions to be taken by the discharger to assure full compliance with Order No. 76-65, said report to be submitted by October 15, 1977.
5. If, in the opinion of the Executive Officer, the discharger fails to comply with the provisions of this Order, the Executive Officer is directed to request the Attorney General to take appropriate action against the discharger, including injunction and civil monetary remedies, if appropriate.

I, Arthur Swajian, 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, Colorado River Basin Region, on September 21, 1977.

  
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Executive Officer