

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

ORDER NO. 79-25

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
DOUTHITT OXYGEN
El Centro - Imperial County

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

1. W. H. Douthitt Steel & Supply, Inc. (hereinafter also referred to as the discharger), P. O. Box 220, El Centro, CA 92243, submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated December 1, 1978.
2. The discharger is discharging an average of 2,300 gallons-per-day of lime wastewater, which results from a process of generating acetylene at an oxygen and acetylene plant, into two earthen holding basins. The lime settles to the bottom and most of the water is hauled away for use in dust control. The lime sludge is removed from the basins once a year and delivered to Holly Sugar, south of Brawley. Lime is used in the process of making sugar.
3. The Water Quality Control Plan for the West Colorado River Basin was adopted on April 10, 1975. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives for Imperial Hydrologic Unit.
4. Beneficial uses of the Imperial Hydrologic Unit are municipal supply. However, shallow groundwaters at the discharge location are saline and are not beneficially used, and deep groundwaters are highly saline and are being investigated for geothermal development.
5. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge.
6. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.
7. This oxygen and acetylene plant constitutes an ongoing project in accordance with provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the State Guidelines because the governmental approvals on or after April 5, 1973, do not involve a greater degree of responsibility or control over such activity than the governmental approvals received prior to that date.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, the discharger shall comply with the following:

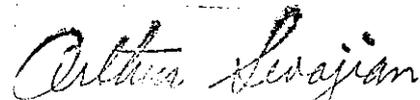
A. Discharge Specifications

1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of wastewater shall create a pollution or a nuisance as defined in Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. A minimum depth of freeboard of at least two feet shall be maintained in the holding basins.
3. Adequate protective works shall be provided to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the holding basins inoperable.

B. Provisions

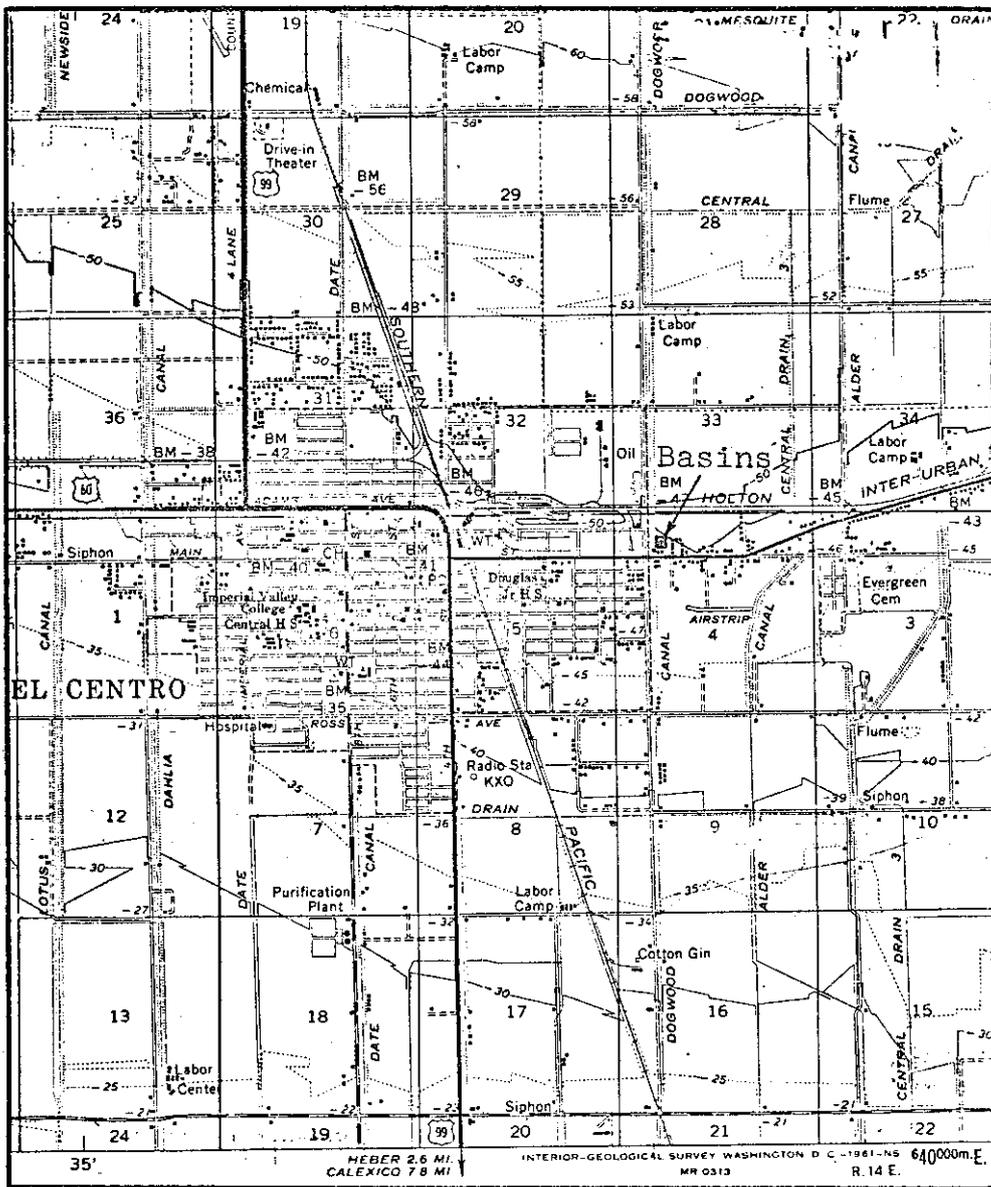
1. Upon request from this Board's Executive Officer, the discharger shall furnish technical and/or monitoring reports on the treatment and discharge of waste.
2. Prior to any modifications in this facility which would result in material change in the quality or quantity of wastewater discharged, or any material change in location of discharge, the discharger shall report in writing to the Regional Board.
3. Prior to any change of ownership of this plant, the discharger shall notify the succeeding owner, in writing, of the existence of this Order, and forward a copy of said correspondence to the Regional Board.

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 March 14, 1979.



Executive Officer

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SITE MAP

DOUTHITT OXYGEN
El Centro - Imperial County

E 1/2, NW 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 4, T16S, R14E, SBB&M
USGS Brawley 15 min. Topographic Map

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