

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 87 - 167

ORDER REQUIRING THE VALLEJO SANITATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM DISCHARGING WASTES CONTRARY TO REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN ORDER NO. 87-100 AND AMENDING CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. 85-42

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter Board) finds that:

1. The Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District, hereinafter discharger, owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant located in Vallejo, Solano County, California. The plant was designed to treat up to 12.5 mgd of municipal and industrial wastewater from the Vallejo area using physical-chemical processes.
2. The treatment plant began operation in December 1977 but was shown to be incapable of meeting discharge requirements. Inadequately treated wastewater will continue to be discharged to Carquinez Straits, a water of the United States, until new secondary treatment facilities are constructed.
3. The Board on July 20, 1983 adopted Order No. 83-24 (NPDES Permit No. CA0037099) reissuing waste discharge requirements for the discharger with effluent limitations for full secondary treated wastewater. The Board also adopted Cease and Desist Order No. 83-25 which revised the time schedules for constructing secondary treatment facilities and required compliance with the requirements of Order No. 83-24.
4. The Board on April 30, 1985 adopted Cease and Desist Order No. 85-42 establishing a revised time schedule for constructing biological secondary treatment facilities and achieving full compliance for dry weather flows by July 1, 1988, and establishing interim effluent limitations.
5. The discharger has secured funding, completed design and is in the process of constructing the needed secondary treatment facilities in accord with the time schedule of Cease and Desist Order No. 85-42. Construction of the secondary treatment facilities is currently on schedule and will be completed by April 1988.

6. Review of self-monitoring data shows that the discharger has violated and threatens to further violate the following specifications of Order No. 85-42:

"C. With respect to Effluent Limitations ...B.1.d (Oil & Grease),...the following interim effluent limitations shall apply prior to April 1, 1988 or the completion of plant start-up, whichever is sooner:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>	<u>7-Day Average</u>	<u>Max. Daily</u>	<u>6-Month Average</u>
3. Oil & Grease	mg/l	20	-	30	- "

7. The Interim Effluent Limitations established in Cease and Desist Order No. 85-42 were values that it was expected the discharger could meet with proper operation and maintenance of its chemically assisted primary treatment plant.
8. Since the adoption of the Interim Effluent Limitations, the Oil and Grease influent loading to the treatment plant has increased, from 1689 kg/day in 1984 to 2340 kg/day in 1987, an increase of 39%. However, the influent concentration is still within the limits expected for Oil and Grease in domestic sewage. With this increase in loading, the percent removal of Oil and Grease has decreased from 65 % in 1984 to 57% in 1987, and the concentration in the effluent exceeds the interim limits.

Given its condition as a failed physical-chemical treatment plant, the treatment plant operation appears to be satisfactory. The discharger's pretreatment program requires commercial and industrial users to monitor and control oil and grease loadings and appropriate enforcement action is being taken against users that have been identified as having oil and grease loadings in excess of the discharger's pretreatment ordinance limits. When the secondary treatment facilities are completed the effluent will meet the more restrictive Oil and Grease limitations in the NPDES Permit (30-day Average = 10 mg/l; Max. Daily = 20 mg/l).

9. There is no cost effective method for the discharger to provide additional improvements and achieve compliance with the interim Oil and Grease limitations for the period between now and the time when the secondary treatment facilities are completed. Therefore, the interim Oil and Grease limits will be increased in this Order.

10. The Board on August 19, 1987 adopted Order No. 87-100 amending NPDES Permits for 29 major dischargers, requiring compliance with effluent toxicity requirements using flow-through effluent bioassays and establishing compliance time schedules for their implementation, in accordance with the Implementation Plan included in the revised Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) adopted by the Board on December 17, 1986.

11. Order No. 87-100 states, in part, with reference to the discharger:

"B. ...

4. Compliance with any effluent toxicity requirement shall be determined using flow-through effluent bioassays according to the following time schedule:

	<u>Implementation</u>	<u>Demonstrate Compliance</u>	
...	
...	January 1, 1988	April 1, 1988	"

12. The discharger threatens to violate Provision B.4. of Order No. 87-100 as listed in Finding 11 and has requested that the compliance date for implementation of flow-through effluent bioassays be delayed until at least August 30, 1988 in order to allow completion of construction and start-up of new laboratory facilities.

13. With reference to the implementation of flow-through effluent bioassays, Effluent Limitation 3.b. of the Implementation Plan of the revised Basin Plan states, in part:

" The Board will consider extending these compliance dates for dischargers who can demonstrate that they are making satisfactory progress in constructing appropriate facilities to perform flow-through bioassays."

14. The discharger is currently in the process of completing additional facilities to provide full biological secondary treatment, and expanded laboratory facilities to accommodate flow-through bioassays. Cease and Desist Order No. 85-42 requires completion and start-up of secondary treatment facilities by April 1, 1988 and full compliance with requirements for dry weather flows by July 1, 1988. The expanded laboratory facilities are expected to be completed by June 30, 1988. Thus, the laboratory facilities for flow-through effluent bioassays will not be completed and fully operational until after the compliance dates established in Order No. 87-100 and listed in Finding 11 of this Order.

15. Based on Findings 13 and 14 the Board finds the discharger is making satisfactory progress in constructing appropriate facilities to perform flow-through effluent bioassays and qualifies for an extension of the compliance dates.
16. The Board finds that this is an order to enforce waste discharge requirements previously adopted by the Board. This action is therefore categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15121 of Title 14 of the California Administrative Code.
17. On December 16, 1987, at a meeting starting at 9:30 am in the Assembly Room, State Building, 1111 Jackson Street, Oakland, California, 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.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the discharger shall cease and desist violation of Order No. 87-100 and Cease and Desist Order No. 85-42. Compliance with the requirements of Order No. 87-100 and Cease and Desist Order No 85-42 shall be achieved according to the following specifications:

- A. The discharger shall comply with effluent toxicity requirements using flow-through effluent bioassays and Provision B.4. of Order No. 87-100 in accord with the following time schedule:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Implementation:	September 1, 1988
Demonstrate Compliance:	December 1, 1988

The discharger shall submit to the Board, on or before the completion date, a report detailing its 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 Board by letter when it has returned to compliance with the time schedule.

B. Specification C. of Cease and Desist Order No. 85-42 is revised to read, in part, as follows:

"C. With respect to Effluent Limitations ...B.l.d (Oil & Grease),...the following interim effluent limitations shall apply prior to April 1, 1988 or the completion of plant start-up, whichever is sooner:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>	<u>7-Day Average</u>	<u>Max. Daily</u>	<u>6-Month Average</u>
3. Oil & Grease	mg/l	35	-	45	-
... "					

I, Roger B. James, 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, San Francisco Bay Region, on December 16, 1987.


Roger B. James
Executive Officer