

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 76-32

IMPERIAL THERMAL PRODUCTS, INC.
Imperial County

The Executive Officer of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds:

- (1) Imperial Thermal Products, Inc., 110 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60606, owns and operates geothermal brine holding basins which are located near the southeast corner of Salton Sea in the proximate location of Section Nos. 13, 14, and 23 of T11S, R13E, SBB&M. The total area of said basins is approximately 344 acres.
- (2) On March 9, 1967, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 67-1 prescribing waste discharge requirements covering the discharge of geothermal brines by Imperial Thermal Products, Inc. into the above-mentioned holding basins.
- (3) The discharge requirements provide, in part, as follows:
 - A. General
 1. All waste disposals shall be confined to the property of the discharger.
 - B. Basins
 1. Adequate protective measures shall be taken to assure that the berms of the constructed basins are not eroded and that they will not be threatened by wave action and surface rise of Salton Sea, or any other conditions which may cause over-topping of the berms.
 3. Brines and industrial materials shall not enter Salton Sea, canals, drains (including subsurface strata) which could provide flow or seepage to Salton Sea.
- (4) On April 8, 1976, Regional Board staff observed that berms along two of the brine holding basins were being eroded by wave action from Salton Sea, thus causing Imperial Thermal Products to be in violation of the above-mentioned requirement B.1.

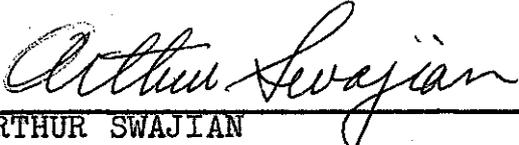
*Cancelled by
6/15/77 letter*

- (5) On April 16, 1976, Regional Board staff observed water from Salton Sea entering one of the brine holding basins, making contact with geothermal brines contained therein, thus placing Imperial Thermal Products, Inc. in violation of the above-mentioned requirements A.1 and B.3.
- (6) If concentrated geothermal brines from Imperial Thermal Products, Inc. basins enter Salton Sea it could cause adverse affects upon water quality and toxicity to fish and other aquatic life in the immediate area.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that pursuant to Section 13304 of Division 7 of the California Water Code, Imperial Thermal Products, Inc. shall:

- (1) Take immediate corrective action to abate, by May 7, 1976, and thereafter, the immediate threatened discharge of geothermal brines to Salton Sea from its holding basins;
- (2) Provide to the Regional Board, by June 1, 1976, a detailed time schedule of specific actions whereby Imperial Thermal Products, Inc. shall conduct either of the following additional measures to assure that brines in the holding basins will not enter Salton Sea:
 - a. Construct, by October 1, 1976, facilities necessary to assure that geothermal salt brines shall be permanently protected against discharge to Salton Sea, to the extent that is required to meet all of the criteria of a Class I disposal site as defined in Section 2510 of Chapter 3 of Title 23 of the California Administrative Code, or
 - b. Remove all geothermal brines and other residues from all holding basins by October 1, 1976, and relocate such waste materials at an approved Class I solid waste disposal site, or other approvable location, in a manner acceptable to the Regional Board and in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws and regulations;
- (3) Provide the Regional Board, upon request from its Executive Officer, periodic written reports, under penalty of perjury, regarding the Company's progress towards compliance with the provisions of this Order.

Dated: *April 29, 1976*



ARTHUR SWAJIAN
Executive Officer