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Characteristics of effluents from power generating stations in the Southern California Bight in 2000

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ABSTRACT

There are 13 power generating stations (PGSs) in southern California, and their effluent constitutes a source of contaminants to the Southern California Bight (SCB). To determine the relative contribution of PGS effluent to total mass emissions to the SCB, this study evaluated PGS discharges to the SCB in 2000 and compared them to emissions from large municipal wastewater treatment facilities (POTWs). Data regarding PGS discharges were obtained from compliance monitoring reports, and were used to quantify discharges to the SCB in terms of overall annual volumes, constituent mass emissions, and average concentrations. The PGSs discharged 20 billion liters of wastes in 2000, which contained relatively high quantities of oil and grease, suspended solids, and ammonia-N. However, compared to large POTWs, PGSs were a minor source of contaminants to the SCB.

Full Text

ftp://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/AnnualReports/2003_04AnnualReport/ar03-stein_pg31-40.pdf