



Enforcement News

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
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Visalia Dairy to Pay \$59,850 for Failing to Report the Impacts of Dairy Operations on Water Quality

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Contact: Doug Patteson
Phone: (559) 445-5116

SACRAMENTO -- The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a penalty of \$59,850 against the Sweeney Dairy of Visalia for failing to file an annual report on the impacts of its dairy operations on water quality.

James and Amelia Sweeney, owners of the dairy, failed to file a 2014 annual report required by dairies regulated under the Dairy General Order. The annual reports contain information the Central Valley Water Board needs to evaluate potential impacts on water quality from dairy operations.

The Dairy General Order, first adopted by the Central Valley Water Board in 2007, requires dairies to handle waste in ways that preserve water quality. The Dairy General Order contains a number of requirements, including standards for manure and dairy wastewater storage, and criteria for the application of manure and dairy wastewater to cropland. The Dairy General Order also contains reporting requirements for regulated dairies, including the submission of an annual report. Failure to submit the required report is a violation of the Dairy General Order.

“Annual reports contain vital information regarding manure handling at dairies, and about nutrient management planning on dairy cropland,” said Clay Rodgers, assistant executive officer for the Central Valley Water Board. “It is critical that dairies submit these annual reports to show they are taking the steps necessary to protect water quality. In assessing this penalty our Board recognized that running a dairy comes with the responsibility of complying with waste discharge requirements, including submitting the required documents.”

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of water quality. For more information on the Central Valley Water Board, visit its [website](#).

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