## CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LAHONTAN REGION

## BOARD ORDER NO. R6V-2019-0253 WDID NO. 6B360101001

## RESCISSION OF CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R6V-2004-0029 FOR

## CITY OF BARSTOW BARSTOW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

San Bernardino County\_\_\_

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) finds:

1. Discharger

The City of Barstow (hereinafter "Discharger") owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facility within the City of Barstow. The Discharger's wastewater treatment facility is currently permitted to discharge up to 4.5 million gallons per day of treated wastewater.

2. <u>Facility</u>

The Barstow Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereinafter "Facility") currently discharges undisinfected secondary treated, denitrified, domestic sewage and industrial wastewater from the City of Barstow to onsite percolation ponds and recycled water applied to irrigated crop land adjacent to the south side of the Mojave River.

Historically, the Facility discharged undisinfected secondary treated, nitrified, domestic sewage to onsite percolation ponds, and recycled water and sewage sludge biosolids to irrigated crop land adjacent to the north side and south side of the Mojave River.

3. Order History

Board Order No. 6-94-26, revised waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for the Facility, was adopted on February 10, 1994.

Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R6V-2004-0029 was adopted on July 27, 2004, requiring the Discharger to cease and desist from discharging waste in violation of Board Order No. 6-94-26. The Facility discharged effluent containing total nitrogen at concentrations of more than 30 milligrams per liter

(mg/L) as nitrogen. The CDO required the Discharger to improve effluent quality immediately through interim actions and to submit a Long-Term Action Plan and Final Compliance Plan to achieve compliance with WDRs.

- 4. Basis for Rescission
  - a. The Discharger has complied with all conditions prescribed in CDO No. R6V-2004-0029.
  - b. The Discharger operates the upgraded Facility and discharges improved effluent quality, averaging approximately 7 mg/L of total nitrogen.
  - c. The Discharger immediately ceased sludge biosolids disposal to the irrigation fields.
  - d. The Discharger submitted a Facility Improvement Report and constructed the necessary treatment process improvements to discharge improved effluent quality in compliance with WDRs.
  - e. The Discharger submitted a Farm Management Plan to provide a required nitrogen uptake by alfalfa crops.
  - f. The Discharger presented a Final Compliance Plan according to the Discharger's Long-Term Action Plan.
  - g. The Discharger submitted Quarterly Status Reports by the due dates starting October 15, 2004.
  - h. The Discharger submitted a revised Report of Waste Discharge on November 29, 2018, for an upgraded facility that adequately treats and disposes all wastewater. Water Board staff prepared revised WDRs, which was adopted by the Water Board on July 10, 2019.
  - i. CDO No. R6V-2004-0029 is no longer necessary.
- 5. <u>Conclusion</u>

The Discharger has complied with CDO No. R6V-2004-0029 to cease discharges of effluent and biosolids with elevated total nitrogen concentrations and to take actions to achieve compliance with WDRs, Board Order No. 6-94-26.

6. <u>California Environmental Quality Act</u>

Issuance of this Order is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). There is no possibility that the activity in question may have

a significant effect on the environment. (California Code of Regulations, title 14 sections 15378 and 15061, subdivision (b)(3).)

7. Notification of Interested Parties

The Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested persons of its intent to rescind CDO No. R6V-2004-0029.

8. <u>Public Meeting</u>

The Water Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this Rescission Order.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Cease and Desist Order No. R6V-2004-0029 is hereby rescinded, except for enforcement purposes.

I, Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on July 10, 2019.

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PATTVZ. KOUYOUMDJAN EXECUTIVE OFFICER