

## LOS ANGELES REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

### EX PARTE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR PENDING GENERAL PERMITS

The prohibition against ex parte communications no longer applies to general waste discharge requirements (including NPDES permits), general waivers and general Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certifications. A “general order” does not name specific dischargers, but instead allows eligible dischargers to enroll. The following information will help the public comply with statutory disclosure requirements. For more information, see Water Code section 13287 and [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws\\_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf).

#### ***Must I disclose ex parte communications with board members regarding pending general orders?***

You must provide written disclosure if you are in one of these categories:

- Potential enrollees (including their representatives or employees)
- Persons with a financial interest (including their representatives or employees). For a definition of “financial interest,” consult the Political Reform Act (Gov. Code, § 87100 et seq.) and implementing regulations (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 2, § 18700 et seq.), or the Fair Political Practices Commission website (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=51>).
- Representatives acting on behalf of any formally organized civic, environmental, neighborhood, business, labor, trade, or similar association

#### ***What must I disclose?***

The attached form lists the information that must be disclosed to document a meeting, telephone call or other conversation. For written communications, a complete copy of the letter or email with all attachments is adequate.

#### ***When is the disclosure due?***

Water Board staff must receive the disclosure within 7 working days after the board member receives the communication (generally, the date of a phone call or meeting with a board member).

#### ***Who must receive my disclosure documents?***

Unless the board member(s) provided you with a different contact person, please send your materials to:

Hugh Marley, Assistant Executive Officer  
hugh.marley@waterboards.ca.gov  
(213) 576-6607

or

Jenny Newman, Assistant Executive Officer  
jenny.newman@waterboards.ca.gov  
(213) 576-6791

#### ***What will the Water Board do with my disclosure?***

The Water Board is required to post the disclosure on its website and to distribute it via any electronic distribution list for the proposed order. There is no requirement to distribute the disclosure to board members or to prepare responses. If you want to submit written comments or evidence on a proposed general order, you must provide the comments or evidence following the procedure and timelines provided in the notice for the board’s proceeding.

#### ***May other interested persons respond to a disclosure notice?***

The Water Code does not require that interested persons be allowed to respond to disclosure notices. Any such responses should be included in formal comments submitted during the order's written comment period, included in oral comments at the hearing, or both.

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**

**DISCLOSURE FORM  
EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING PENDING GENERAL ORDERS**

*Note: This form is intended to assist the public in providing the disclosure required by law. It is designed to document meetings and phone calls. Written communications may be disclosed by providing a complete copy of the written document, with attachments. Unless the board member(s) provided you with a different contact person, please send your materials to: [hugh.marley@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:hugh.marley@waterboards.ca.gov) or [jenny.newman@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jenny.newman@waterboards.ca.gov)*

***Use of this form is not mandatory.***

1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:
2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:  
*Note: Contact information is not mandatory, but will allow the Water Board to assist you if additional information is required. If your contact information includes your personal residence address, personal telephone number or personal email address, please use a separate sheet of paper if you do not want that information posted on our website. However, this information may be provided to members of the public under the Public Records Act.*
3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication:  
  
Time:  
  
Location:
4. Type of communication (written, oral or both):
5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:
6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:
7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication. *Include a brief list or summary of topics discussed at the meeting, any legal or policy positions advocated at the meeting, any factual matters discussed, and any other disclosure you believe relevant. The Office of Chief Counsel recommends that any persons requesting an ex parte meeting prepare an agenda to make it easier to document the discussion properly. Attach additional pages, if necessary.*
8. **Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.**

**1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:**

Pending Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Agricultural Lands within the Los Angeles Region

**2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:**

*Note: Contact information is not mandatory, but will allow the Water Board to assist you if additional information is required. If your contact information includes your personal residence address, personal telephone number or personal email address, please use a separate sheet of paper if you do not want that information posted on our website. However, this information may be provided to members of the public under the Public Records Act.*

Jodi Switzer, Farm Bureau of Ventura County, Water Program Director

Jodi@farmbureauvc.com

**3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication:** June 23, 2022

**Time:** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Location:** Citrus and avocado orchard on Darling Road in Ventura, CA  
Rodale Institute California Organic Center in Camarillo, CA  
Strawberry field on Rice Road in Oxnard, CA

**4. Type of communication (written, oral or both):**

Oral

**5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:**

Board Member Mendez

Jodi Switzer (Farm Bureau of Ventura County)

Maureen McGuire (Farm Bureau of Ventura County)

Jenny Newman (Regional Board staff)

LB Nye (Regional Board staff)

Anna Bellini (Regional Board staff)

Susana Arredondo (Regional Board EO)

Chris Sayer (grower)

Phil McGrath (grower)

Raul Coronado (Lead Irrigator)

**6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:**

Maureen McGuire

**7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication.**

*Include a brief list or summary of topics discussed at the meeting, any legal or policy positions advocated at the meeting, any factual matters discussed, and any other disclosure you believe relevant. The Office of Chief Counsel recommends that any persons requesting an ex parte meeting prepare an agenda to make it easier to document the discussion properly. Attach additional pages, if necessary.*

A Ventura County Irrigated Lands Snapshot Tour was conducted to provide an in-the-field introduction to Ventura County agriculture. Three tour stops were visited to tour an avocado and lemon orchard, regenerative research farm, and a strawberry field raspberry field. The grower of each of the operations were present to talk about their operation and answer questions.

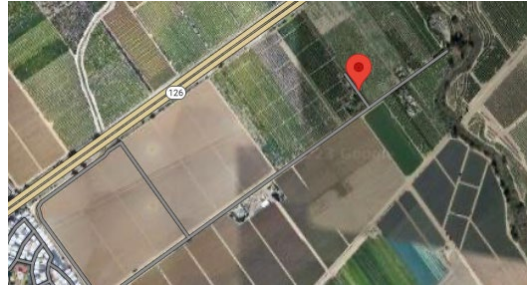
- 8. Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.**

An itinerary of the farm tour is attached.

# Ventura County Irrigated Lands Tour 5/15/23

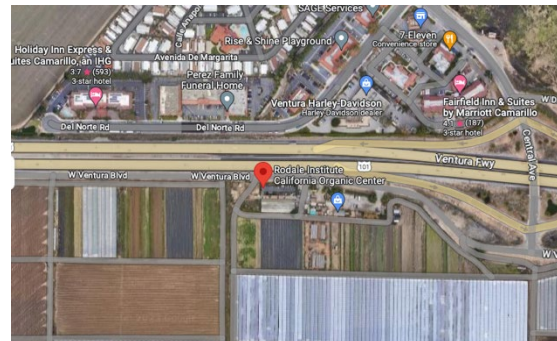
## Agenda

9:00 am Petty Ranch  
11971 Darling Road  
Ventura, CA 93004



Chris Sayer is a fifth-generation farmer based in Ventura County, California where he farms citrus and avocados. He's just as passionate about educating his neighbors on agriculture as he is about soil health! Sayer is also a host farmer for Ventura County Farm Day Hub, an annual event that encourages folks to get out and visit the farms and learn about agriculture up close up. Petty Ranch is also home to the Students for Eco-Education & Agriculture Farm Lab which provides students with a hands-on learning experience by immersing them in a working farm.

10:00 am Rodale Institute California Organic Center  
1014 W. Ventura Blvd.  
Camarillo, CA



The California Organic Center is located on the McGrath Family Farm in Camarillo, owned by fifth-generation farmer Phil McGrath whose family has been farming fruits and vegetables in the Oxnard Plain since 1871. The California Organic Center acts as resource for California farmers interested in rejecting the mono-cropped, low biodiversity model that currently prevails in the region. The Center aims to help regenerative organic methods be successful and profitable.

11:00 am GoodFarms  
1980 S. Rice Ave.  
Oxnard, CA 93003



GoodFarms is on a mission to improve lives from farm to table. Together we can:  
Reduce food waste  
Protect our environment  
Feed a hungry world  
Find alternatives for hazardous pesticides

Increase productivity and farm wages

End slavery and forced labor

Get children out of the fields and into schools

We also want to help you have fun and celebrate life with food that nourishes your body and delights your soul. Here's to good food, good health, good friends, good times, good farms.