



Media Release

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>

EQUILON ENTERPRISES ORDERED TO PAY \$500,000 FOR WATER CODE VIOLATIONS IN KERN COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 5, 2013

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FRESNO – The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has ordered Equilon Enterprises LLC (Equilon) to pay an Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) penalty of \$500,000 for water quality violations at the Bakersfield Refinery in Kern County.

The ACL was issued by the Water Board's executive officer because Equilon failed to follow the conditions in a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) involving submittal of reports and assessment/evaluation of site conditions for the refinery. Equilon formerly owned the refinery and is a responsible party for legacy degradation at the site.

The maximum potential liability for these violations is \$4.9 million. However, the final liability amount in the settlement order is consistent with adopted guidelines in the statewide Water Boards' Enforcement Policy, and was reached during settlement negotiations with Equilon.

Equilon will pay half of the final liability amount (\$250,000) to the State Water Resources Control Board's CAO account. In addition, Equilon will pay \$250,000 to Supplementary Environmental Projects; \$150,000 to the West Goshen project to partially fund an emergency hookup to an adjacent water supply company, and \$100,000 to the Kern River Corridor Endowment for re-establishment of native vegetation along the Kern River.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency tasked with preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. For more information, visit: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>.

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