



Enforcement News

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
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Turlock Dairy Faces Proposed Fine of \$73,710 for Failing to Provide Annual Reports

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The assistant executive officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has proposed a \$73,710 penalty against a Stanislaus County dairy for failure to file annual reports.

The Administrative Civil Liability Complaint alleges that Carlos and Bernadette Estacio, owners of the San Isidro Jersey Dairy in Turlock, failed to file 2012 and 2013 annual reports, and submitted other documents that lacked important information necessary for the Central Valley Water Board to assess potential impacts on water quality from dairy operations.

Additionally, the Estacios owe six annual fees for the years 2008 through 2013, and have not paid the fees for 2014.

“The dischargers’ (Carlos and Bernadette Estacio) actions demonstrate a continued failure and complete disregard for the regional board’s dairy program,” said Central Valley Water Board Assistant Executive Officer Andrew Altevogt. “The vast majority of dairy operators in the Central Valley submit complete annual reports on time. Submitting late reports that lack essential information hampers the regional board’s ability to determine if application of dairy waste to cropland is being done in a way that is protective of water quality.”

The Dairy General Order, adopted by the regional board in 2007 and reissued in 2013, requires dairies to handle waste in ways that preserve water quality. The 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 as fertilizer. The general order also contains reporting requirements for regulated dairies, including the submission of an annual report.

The Estacios can either pay the penalty, enter into settlement discussions, or ask for the matter to be heard before the Central Valley Water Board at its April 16-17 meeting. If the



Estacios enter into settlement agreement talks but cannot reach a resolution, the complaint will be heard at the April 16-17 meeting.

For more information, see the Administrative Civil Liability Complaint against Carlos and Bernadette Estacio [here](#) under the Stanislaus County section.

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 the homepage at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

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