



Enforcement News

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Central Valley Water Board Issues \$440,440 Penalty to Recology at Yuba Sutter Landfill

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SACRAMENTO – The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued a \$440,440 civil liability against Recology Inc. for water quality violations at its Yuba Sutter Landfill near Marysville.

Recology operates a transfer station and green waste composting facility on top of the Yuba Sutter Landfill, a closed landfill located next to the Yuba River. The site is regulated by the Central Valley Water Board through Waste Discharge Requirements and a Cleanup and Abatement Order.

The Cleanup and Abatement Order requires Recology to enhance its operations at the compost area to collect leachate generated from compost piles during rainstorms. Compost leachate contains high levels of salt, nitrogen, metals, pathogens and oxygen-demanding substances, and can adversely affect groundwater and surface waters.

The Administrative Civil Liability Order finds that Recology violated the Cleanup and Abatement Order by failing to install an appropriately sized leachate collection system by the mandated due date of Oct. 1, 2014. As a result, Recology failed to collect all the leachate from the compost area during the December 2014 storms. The Order also finds that Recology did not install a proper leachate collection system until late January 2015.

“Recology’s failure to design and install an appropriate leachate management system resulted in spills during two moderate and predicted rain events” said Andrew Altevogt, assistant executive officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. “Recology failed to live up to the requirements of the Cleanup and Abatement Order that they negotiated with Board staff.”



Media Release

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