



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

22 September 2025

Stan Gryczko
City of Davis
Public Works Department
1717 Fifth Street
Davis, CA 95616

John Alexander
City of Davis
Public Works Department
1717 Fifth Street
Davis, CA 95616

Sent Via Email:
sgryczko@cityofdavis.org

Sent Via Email:
jalexander@cityofdavis.org

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2016-0068-DDW WATER RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR RECYCLED WATER USE CITY OF DAVIS, RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM, YOLO COUNTY

The City of Davis (City) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) for regulatory coverage of its Recycled Water Program under State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW, *Water Reclamation Requirements for Recycled Water Use* (General Order). The NOI included the *City of Davis Recycled Water Program Technical Report* dated July 2022 and a Title 22 Engineering Report dated July 2022. The State Water Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) conditionally accepted the Title 22 Engineering Report in a 28 November 2022 letter. On 17 April 2023, the City submitted Recycled Water Program Hauling Provisions, which were conditionally accepted by DDW in an 18 May 2023 letter.

The General Order delegates the responsibility of administering water recycling programs to a designated Administrator. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the City's Recycled Water Program satisfies the general and specific conditions of the General Order. Therefore, this letter serves as formal notice that Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW is applicable to the City's Recycled Water Program discharge, as described below. The City will act as the Administrator of the Recycled Water Program and is assigned enrollee number **WQ 2016-0068-R5005**. Please include this number in all correspondence related to this discharge.

City representatives responsible for implementing the Recycled Water Program should familiarize themselves with the entire General Order and its attachments (enclosed with

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

this letter), which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to the City's Recycled Water Program must be completed in accordance with the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program Order (MRP) **WQ 2016-0068-DDW-R5005**. This MRP was developed after review of the City's NOI and approved Title 22 Engineering Report(s).

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

The City owns and operates the City of Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) located at 45400 County Road 28H in Yolo County. The Facility serves a population of approximately 68,000 and has a design average dry weather flow of 7.5 million gallons per day (mgd). The Facility is regulated under Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) Order R5-2025-0026/National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CA0079049, adopted on 20 June 2025. The NPDES permit prescribes requirements for the discharge of treated effluent to Willow Slough Bypass, the Conaway Ranch Toe Drain via the restoration wetlands, and the Main Conaway Canal, all of which are waters of the United States within the Lower Sacramento Watershed; and the discharge of treated effluent to the Davis Wetlands, which is considered a discharge to groundwater. The location of the Facility is shown in **Attachment A**.

The Facility produces disinfected tertiary recycled water. The treatment system includes mechanical bar screens, an aerated grit removal, primary sedimentation, aeration basins including nitrification and denitrification, secondary clarification, tertiary filtration, chlorine disinfection with sodium hypochlorite, dechlorination with sodium bisulfite, and reaeration. The tertiary filtration system, which uses the Kruger/Hydrotech Cloth Disk Filters, is a DDW approved alternative treatment technology. There are two dedicated unlined emergency storage ponds that can receive primary, secondary, and tertiary treated effluent. Three stormwater/auxiliary emergency storage ponds receive stormwater from the Facility and serve as back-up emergency storage ponds for wastewater. Two unlined recycled water storage ponds receive disinfected, tertiary treated effluent, each with a capacity of approximately 12 million gallons (mgal). Dechlorination is not used for recycled water production. Dechlorinated effluent is discharged to surface water. Disinfected, tertiary treated effluent is sent to the Recycled Water Pump Station for distribution as recycled water to users. A map of the Facility and pond facilities is shown in **Attachment B**.

RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM

The City will administer a Recycled Water Program for non-potable uses of disinfected, tertiary recycled water, as described in its Title 22 Engineering Report. The City is the designated recycled water "Producer" and "Distributor" and is responsible for compliance with all permit requirements related to the production and distribution of recycled water. Additionally, as the "Administrator," the City is responsible for the administration of the Davis Recycled Water Program authorized pursuant to this General Order, including the requirements of Title 22. As the Administrator, the City will issue permits and/or secure agreements with recycled water users; train users on

proper recycled water handling; maintain records; conduct periodic oversight and inspections; monitor recycled water quality; and submit reports to the Central Valley Water Board.

The City's Recycled Water Program will primarily service areas within the Davis city limits; the area approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the City of Davis in eastern Yolo County, which is north of I-80 and west of the Yolo bypass; the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant; the adjacent Overland Flow Area east of the Facility; the Davis Restoration Wetlands, and the Yolo County Central Landfill (YCCL). The service areas are as shown in **Attachment A**.

The City's Recycled Water Program requires that potential recycled water users, including individuals or entities that transport and utilize recycled water, be required to obtain a Recycled Water Use Agreement (permit) with the City and attend training sessions to ensure recycled water is handled in a safe and legal manner. Upon entry into a Recycled Water Use Agreement, users agreed to comply with City requirements for the use, handling, and distribution of recycled water. As part of the terms and conditions of the Recycled Water Use Agreement, users are required to perform observations of site conditions and verify proper operation of the recycled water facilities/equipment. Delivery of recycled water will be terminated if users do not comply with the terms of the agreement. Additionally, these Agreements require that users designate a Recycled Water Site Supervisor to serve as a liaison with the City and manage compliance with Recycled Water Program requirements. Recycled Water Site Supervisors will receive training on recycled water regulations, operational requirements, and the monitoring/reporting required by the City.

Recycled Water Uses:

1. City Uses:

- Onsite uses at the City of Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility);
- Irrigation of the former Overland Flow Area (approximately 160 acres) east of the City of Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant;
- Tree watering on city owned property and city easements; and
- Irrigation of City-owned Howatt Ranch and Clayton Ranch sites (total of approximately 710 acres) located north of County Road 32A, between County Road 105 and Levee Road.

2. Contracted Uses:

- Yolo County Central Landfill (YCCL) for activities including dust control, soil compaction, phytoremediation, agricultural irrigation, truck washout, and in-vessel waste digestion; and

- Compost Facility located at YCCL for fire protection, irrigation of compost piles, and site dust control.

Recycled water will be stored in Recycled Water Storage Ponds 1 and 2 for distribution to users. Designated trucks will be used to haul recycled water to use areas.

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

The City's July 2022 Title 22 Engineering Report was reviewed and conditionally approved by DDW in a 28 November 2022 letter. Future plans for recycled water, as listed below, were not detailed in the City's Title 22 Engineering Report. In accordance with the 28 November 2022 letter, the City is required to submit a new Title 22 Engineering Report to DDW for review and approval prior to implementing the following:

1. Recycled Water Fill Station for use by self-haulers, commercial haulers, and City-owned trucks for uses such as agricultural irrigation, construction use, and street sweeping.
2. Recycled water distribution system and use of recycled water at additional agricultural and landscape irrigation sites.

On 17 April 2023, the City submitted Recycled Water Hauling Provisions which were conditionally approved by DDW in an 18 May 2023 letter.

In its letters dated 28 November 2022 and 18 May 2023, DDW recommended that the Central Valley Water Board include the following requirements in this NOA. The Central Valley Water Board concurs with the recommendations and, therefore, in addition to complying with the requirements of the General Order, the City shall ensure that its recycled water uses and practices adhere to the following requirements as recommended in DDW's November 2022 and May 2023 conditional approval letters.

Use Area Prohibitions and Requirements

1. Prior to any future use of recycled water or expansion of existing irrigation areas beyond those described in the approved Title 22 Engineering Report(s):
 - a. The City shall submit its proposed plans to DDW and the County Department of Environmental Health for review and approval; and
 - b. The City shall submit an engineering report to DDW for review and approval.
2. The installation of recycled water pipelines at use site areas shall be in accordance with the separation criteria established in the California Waterworks Standards (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 64572).

3. Pipelines, control valves, and other appurtenances located at the use areas must have identification marking and color coding. Purple color coding must be used, such as purple identification tape, or a purple polyethylene vinyl wrap color Pantone 522C to tag the RW pipelines and appurtenances.

Operations, Maintenance and Reporting

1. Maintain a current Operations Plan for the Facility. The Operations Plan shall be submitted to DDW and the Central Valley Water Board prior to start-up for recycled water use and subsequently upon any changes or modification to treatment facilities and/or operations.

Transmission and Distribution System

1. The City must provide pipeline alignments for all future recycled water conveyances, including to the Howatt Ranch and Clayton Ranch sites, and for the open space irrigation next to the Facility, and provide documentation of such alignments to the DDW and Central Valley Water Board when available.

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your Recycled Water Program must be completed in accordance with the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program Order (MRP) **WQ 2016-0068-DDW-R5005**. When monitoring requirements listed in the MRP duplicate existing requirements under other WDRs or Waiver of WDRs, duplication of sampling and monitoring is not required if the activity satisfies the requirements of the General Order. The results of such monitoring shall also be included as part of the MRP. The MRP Annual Report is due by **1 April following the monitoring year**.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The City, as the Recycled Water Program Administrator, shall comply with the General Order. Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the proposed Recycled Water Program. Failure to comply with the applicable requirements of the General Order, the MRP, or this NOA may subject the City to enforcement action, including but not limited to imposition of administrative civil liability (i.e., monetary penalties) up to \$5,000 per violation per day. (See Wat. Code, §§ 13261, 13265, 13268, 13350)

The required annual fees specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. The Administrator must submit, in writing, a Notice of Termination once the recycled water program has ended.

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

As part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments

incorporating the Salt Control Program and Nitrate Control Program at its 31 May 2018 (Resolution R5-2018-0034). The Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020. On 10 December 2020, the Central Valley Water Board adopted revisions to the Basin Plan amendments with [Resolution R5-2020-0057](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/r5-2020-0057_res.pdf). (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/r5-2020-0057_res.pdf). Those revisions became effective on 10 November 2021.

For the Salt Control Program, the City plans to participate in a basin-wide planning effort (Priority & Optimization Study or P&O Study) to develop a long-term salinity strategy for the Central Valley. The City was issued **CV-SALTS ID 3685**.

For the Nitrate Control Program, the recycled water use areas defined in this NOA fall within the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin, Subbasin 5-21-67 (Yolo), a Priority 2 basin. The City has elected Pathway B and is a participating member of the Yolo Basin Management Zone (MZ).

DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS

The Discharger must submit all monitoring reports and analytical monitoring results to the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) GeoTracker database. GeoTracker is an Internet-accessible database system used by the State Water Board, regional boards, and local agencies to track and archive compliance data from authorized or unauthorized discharges of waste to land, or unauthorized releases of hazardous substances from underground storage tanks. This system consists of a relational database, online compliance reporting features, a geographical information system (GIS) interface, and other features that are utilized by regulatory agencies, regulated industries, and the public to input, manage, or access compliance and regulatory tracking data.

GeoTracker Electronic Reporting Requirements. All monitoring reports and monitoring results shall be submitted to GeoTracker in accordance with the timeframes specified in this MRP and in searchable Portable Document Format (PDF). The Discharger shall follow the applicable Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) requirements under the Facility-specific **Global Identification Number NPD100051486** at the [GeoTracker](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/login.asp) database. (<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/login.asp>)

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available to the public on the internet at the [Water Boards Water Quality Petitions webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Brendan Kenny is your new point of contact for any questions regarding compliance with the General Order. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Brendan will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Brendan at (916) 464-4635 or at Brendan.Kenny@waterboards.ca.gov.

for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments:

Attachment A – Location Map: Recycle Water Use Areas
Attachment B – City of Davis WWTP and Pond Facilities Map

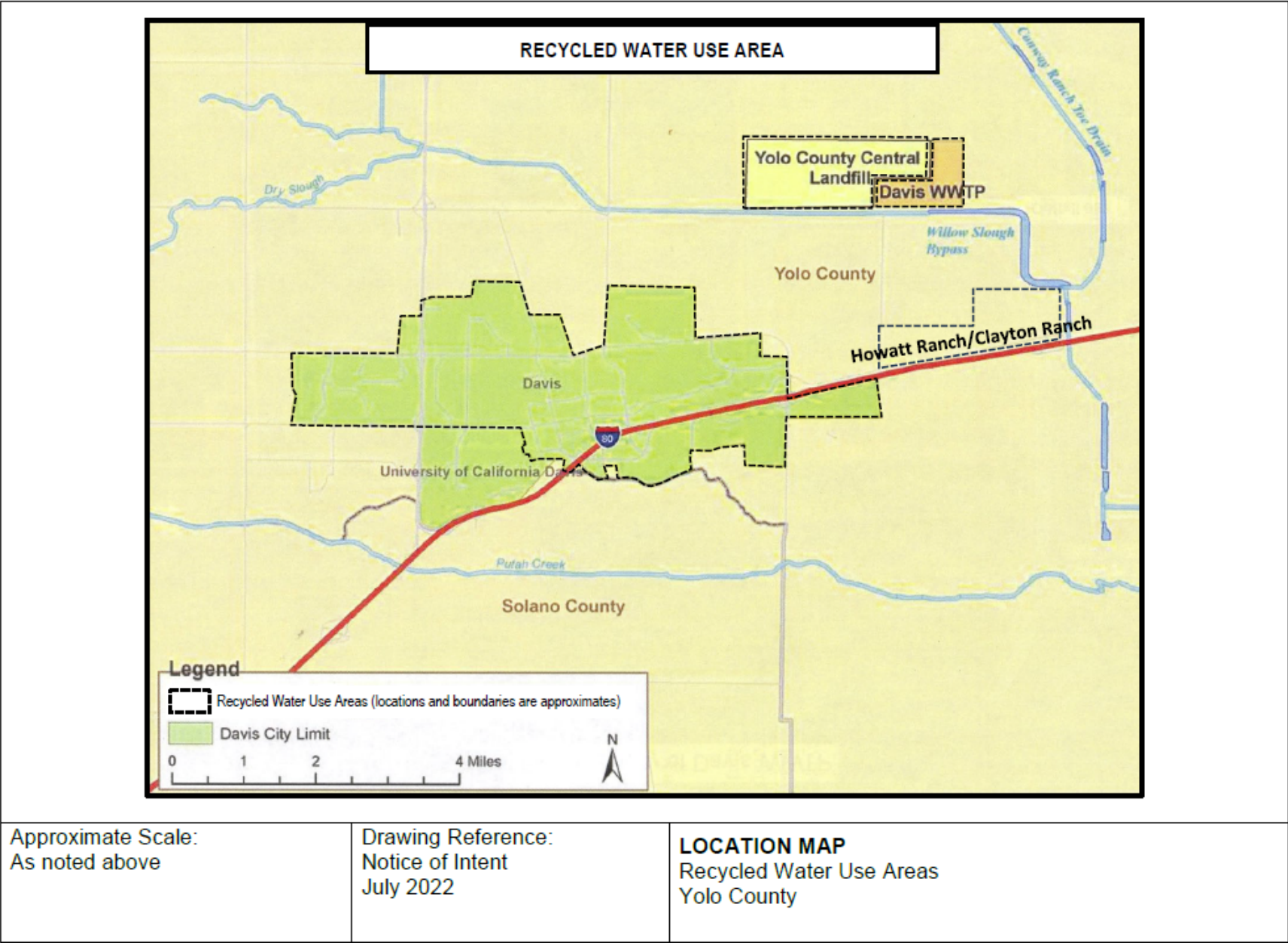
Enclosures:

Staff Memorandum
Monitoring and Reporting Program WQ 2016-0068-R5005

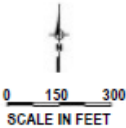
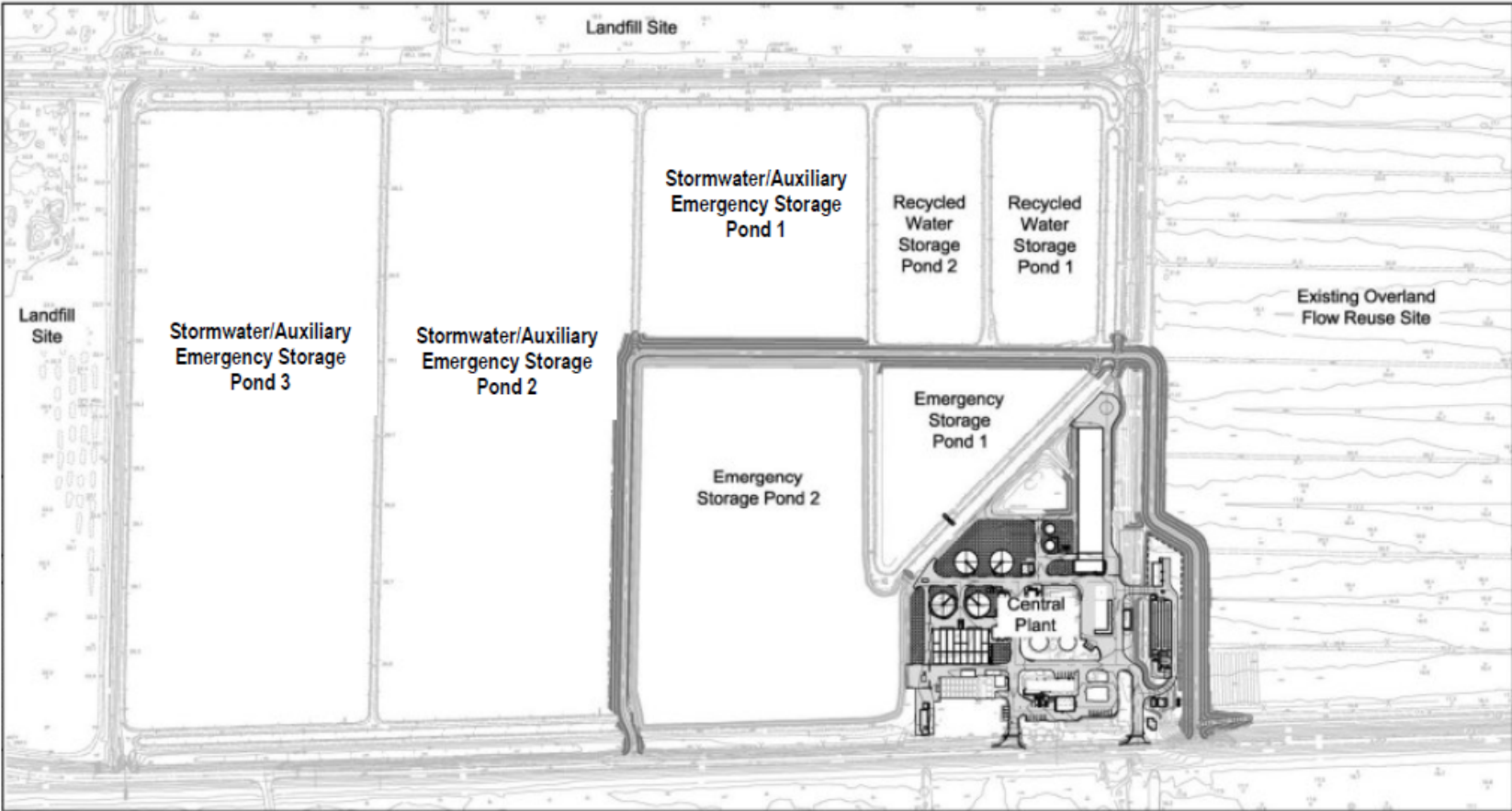
Cc via email:

Josie Tellers, City of Davis
Denise Connors, Larry Walker Associates
Suzie Dawley, Yolo County Environmental Health Department
Ginachi Amah, Recycled Water Unit, State Water Board
Howard Hold, Compliance/Enforcement, Central Valley Water Board
Johnnie Tucker, Compliance/Enforcement, Central Valley Water Board

ATTACHMENT A



ATTACHMENT B



Approximate Scale:
As noted above

Drawing Reference:
Notice of Intent
July 2022

WWTP AND POND FACILITIES MAP
City of Davis WWTP
Yolo County

TO: John Murphy
Supervising Geologist

FROM: Scott Armstrong
Senior Engineering Geologist
P.G. #6787, C.H.G. #620

Lani Andam
Water Resource Control Engineer

DATE: 2 September 2025

APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2016-0068-DDW, WQ 2016-0068-DDW; CITY OF DAVIS, RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM; YOLO COUNTY

Central Valley Water Board staff reviewed the Notice of Intent (NOI), which comprised of the *City of Davis Recycled Water Program Technical Report* (July 2022) and Title 22 Engineering Report (July 2022), for regulatory coverage under Water Quality Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW, Water Reclamation Requirements for Recycled Water Use (General Order). The Title 22 Engineering Report was prepared by Larry Walker Associates and signed by Brian Laurenson, a California registered professional engineer (No. 57401). This memorandum provides a summary of Central Valley Water Board staff's review of the NOI and the applicability that the proposed recycled water program is eligible for enrollment under the General Order.

The City previously submitted an NOI, which included an application fee (check no. 428237) and Engineering Report in September 2017. Comments were received from State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and Central Valley Water Board staff as documented in a letter dated 28 December 2017 and 26 January 2018, respectively. The City needed to reprioritize capital projects and its recycled water program was placed on hold. An NOI and Title 22 Report dated July 2021 was submitted to address DDW and Central Valley Water Board comment letters and updates to the recycled water program. The final versions of the NOI and Title 22 Report were dated July 2022.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City of Davis (Discharger) owns and operates the City of Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility), which is regulated under Order No. R5-2025-0026/National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CA0079049 adopted on 20 June 2025. The Discharger provides sewage service for the community of Davis and a population of approximately 68,000. The Facility produces disinfected, tertiary treated water. The permitted discharged flow is 7.5 million gallons per day (mgd) as an average dry weather flow. Treated effluent is discharged to Willow Slough Bypass (NPDES, Discharge Point 001), Conaway Ranch Toe Drain (NPDES, Discharge Point 002), and Main Conaway Canal (NPDES, Discharge Point 003) which are waters of the United States and to the Davis Wetlands, which is considered a discharge to groundwater.

On 16 December 2022, the Discharger filed a wastewater change petition (Wastewater Petition WW0111) to reduce the discharge of treated wastewater from the Facility into Willow Slough Bypass and Conaway Ranch Toe Drain and direct that water for the City's Recycled Water Program. Wastewater Petition WW0111 was approved by the State Board on 31 October 2023.

Secondary and tertiary plant upgrades as required by Time Schedule Order R5-2014-0159 were completed on 9 June 2017. Tertiary treatment consists of Hydroteck polyester media filters approved as an alternative treatment technology by DDW.

RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Discharger will assume the role and responsibility of the "Administrator" under the General Order and will issue permits or secure agreements with recycled water users; train users on proper recycled water handling; maintain records; conduct periodic oversight and inspections; monitor recycled water quality; and submit reports to the Central Valley Water Board. The Discharger is also the Producer and Distributer of recycled water under the General Order.

The NOI provided a description of the City's Recycled Water (RW) Program, including:

- Cross-Connection Control Program,
- Monitoring and Reporting Program,
- Inspection Program,
- Operations and Maintenance Program,
- Compliance Program,
- Employee and User Training, and
- Emergency Procedures and Notification

A separate submittal was provided to address RW Hauling Provisions (April 2023).

The monitoring requirements from Attachment B of the General Order that are appropriate for this discharge include the following:

- Recycled Water Monitoring,
- Disinfection System Monitoring,
- Pond System Monitoring, and
- Use Area Monitoring

Disinfected, tertiary treated water is stored in the Recycled Water Storage Ponds located at the Facility. Regional Water Boards have discretion regarding permitting storage of recycled water in ponds. Any ponds used for storage of recycled water shall be monitored in accordance with the General Order. Ponds used for storage of recycled

water and are covered by an existing order shall continue to be monitored in accordance with that Order.

- The Recycled Water Storage Ponds are regulated under the City's NPDES permit CA0079049/Order R5-2025-0026, which was adopted on 20 June 2025. These ponds shall continue to be monitored in accordance with NPDES permit CA0079049/Order R5-2025-0026 or any subsequently revised Order.
- Yolo County Central Landfill (YCCL) is currently regulated under WDRs Order R5-2025-0036, which was adopted on 20 June 2025. YCCL plans to use Stormwater Pond 2 and Groundwater Storage Reservoir for recycled water storage. When water is present, Stormwater Pond 2 and the Groundwater Storage Reservoir shall be sampled and analyzed in accordance with Monitoring and Reporting Program Order R5-2025-0036 issued to YCCL or any subsequently revised Order, and shall be monitored for freeboard, odors and berm condition in accordance with the General Order.

Recycled water use at YCCL will be at the discretion of YCCL, as needed and within allowances of any WDRs issued to YCCL. As of the date when this NOA was issued, Order R5-2025-0036 issued to YCCL, regulates the Class III municipal solid waste disposal facility, composting operation, and groundwater extraction and treatment system.

CEQA

The City of Davis as the Lead Agency prepared a Final Initial Study/Negative Declaration (SCH # 2023060670) for the City's Recycled Water Program dated 28 July 2023. A Notice of Completion was issued on 30 August 2023.

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER CONSIDERATIONS

State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) conditionally accepted the City of Davis Title 22 Engineering Report dated July 2022, as documented in DDW's letter dated 28 November 2022. In accordance with that letter, the City is required to submit a new Engineering Report to DDW for review and approval prior to implementing the following:

1. Recycled Water Fill Station for use by self-haulers, commercial haulers, and City-owned trucks for uses such as agricultural irrigation, construction use, and street sweeping.
2. Recycled water distribution system and use of recycled water at additional agricultural and landscape irrigation sites.

On 17 April 2023, the City submitted a plan for the recycled water hauling program that included hauling provisions, an example of the hauling permit application, and documentation of the training program to be used for customers and city employees. DDW found the documents to be acceptable as documented in the DDW conditional acceptance letter dated 18 May 2023 with the following comment:

1. Hauling Provisions and associated documents should be updated to reference California Code of Regulations: Title 17 once the Cross Connection Control Policy Handbook has been adopted.

APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE

Based on the information provided in the NOI, Title 22 Engineering Report(s), Recycled Water Hauling Provisions, and the 28 November 2023 and 18 May 2023 DDW conditional approval letters, the application for the City of Davis Recycled Water Program for tertiary disinfected recycled water use is consistent with the requirements of the General Order. Therefore, it may be enrolled under the General Order.