

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

TENTATIVE ORDER R5-2026-XXXX

**AMENDING
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2026-0003
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
PERMIT CA0079111
FOR
CITY OF SACRAMENTO
COMBINED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT
SYSTEM
SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

Discharger and Tentative Amending Order Information

The City of Sacramento (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Combined Wastewater Collection and Treatment System (Facility). The Discharger owns and operates a combined sewer system (CSS) that conveys domestic and commercial wastewater and storm water runoff from approximately 7,500 acres (approximately 280 miles of sewer pipe) in downtown Sacramento, East Sacramento, and Land Park areas.

The Discharger also owns and operates a separate sanitary sewer system that conveys domestic and commercial wastewater. Approximately 3,800 acres (approximately 78 miles of sewer pipe) of the separated sanitary sewer system surrounding the CSS to the north, east, and south, contribute flows to the CSS. This portion of the separated system is regulated under separate State Water Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ, Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems.

Collection and transport of the combined sewage in the CSS is managed by four main facilities: Sumps 1/1A, Sumps 2/2A, the Pioneer Reservoir Treatment Plant, and the Combined Wastewater Treatment Plant (CWTP). The majority of flows from the CSS service area are routed to the Sacramento Area Sewer District's (SacSewer) EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility for treatment prior to discharge to the Sacramento River, except during large storm events. When rainfall causes flows at Sump 2A to exceed 60 million gallons per day (MGD), the excess flow is diverted to the CWTP and Pioneer Reservoir Treatment Plant first for storage, and then when storage capacities are depleted, for primary treatment including disinfection and discharge to the Sacramento River. Several remote storage facilities within the CSS are also used to minimize the potential for localized flooding. The population served is based on a total population of 535,000 estimated by the United States Census Bureau for the City of Sacramento. The combined sewer system provides sewer service to 20% of the

geographic area. It is estimated based on census tract level data that the CSS services approximately 140,000 people.

Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2026-0003, issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 27 February 2026. Effluent monitoring for electrical conductivity (EC) was inadvertently omitted in the recent permit renewal. Therefore, an Order is proposed to amend the NPDES permit to add effluent monitoring for EC so that compliance with the effluent limit for EC can be determined.

Public Hearing Date and Location

A public hearing concerning the tentative amending Order will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 22/23 October 2026
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Redding City Hall
777 Cypress Avenue
Redding, CA 96001

Physical Meeting Location w/ Remote Meeting
Option

The [final meeting agenda](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) will be available at least **10 days** before the meeting. The agenda will provide the anticipated date the hearing will be held for this item and anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the tentative amending Order.

Nature and Purpose of Hearing

At the hearing, the Central Valley Water Board will hear testimony and oral comments regarding the tentative amending Order. This proceeding will be a formal adjudicatory proceeding. The [procedures governing Central Valley Water Board adjudicatory hearings](#) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found at California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648 et seq. and are available upon request.

Prehearing Submission of Written Comments and Evidence

The **Discharger** is a party to this proceeding. As a party, the Discharger must submit written evidence or comments, if any, for the Board to consider no later than 5:00 p.m. on **21 September 2026** to the Central Valley Water Board email at RB5S-NPDES-Comments@waterboards.ca.gov.

Interested persons include any non-party that is interested in the outcome of the

hearing. Interested persons wishing to comment, in writing, on the tentative amending Order shall submit comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on **21 September 2026** to the Central Valley Water Board email at RB5S-NPDES-Comments@waterboards.ca.gov.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4, the Board Chair may refuse to admit written evidence or comments that are not submitted in accordance with this Notice and shall refuse to do so when there is a showing of prejudice to the Discharger or the Board. Excluded material will not be considered by the Board.

Visual Presentations

Hearing participants may use PowerPoint or other visual presentations at the hearing, but the presentation content shall not exceed the scope of previously submitted written material. Presentations, if any, must be provided to the below Central Valley Water Board Contact by 12:00 p.m. on **19 October 2026**.

Hearing Procedure and Time Limits

The hearing on the tentative amending Order will be conducted in the general order listed under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.5, except that the Board Chair may modify the order for good cause.

The **Discharger** and any other designated Party will be advised in advance of the hearing of the total amount of time allocated for its/their presentation and closing statement. The Discharger is/Parties are invited to contact staff in advance of the hearing to discuss how much time it believes/they believe is necessary.

Interested persons may speak at the hearing and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals, if any. Each interested person will have 3 minutes to present oral comments. Additional time may be provided, upon request, at the discretion of the Board Chair.

Hearing Accommodations

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an e-mail to agenda5@waterboards.ca.gov or call 916-464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Availability of Documents

The tentative amending Order and related documents may be found on the Central Valley Water Board's [Tentative Orders Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). Copies of these documents may also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova,

California, 95670-6114 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Scheduling an appointment to review the file by contacting the below Central Valley Water Board Contact in advance is not required but calling ahead will help ensure timely access to these documents.

Central Valley Water Board Contact

Anyone having questions regarding this hearing item should contact Matt Richter at (916) 464-4745 or matthew.richter@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer