

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
364 Knollcrest Drive, #205, Redding, California 96002

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

**TENTATIVE ORDER
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5 2026-XXXX
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
PERMIT CA0003981
FOR
SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES
BURNEY DIVISION SAWMILL
SHASTA COUNTY**

Discharger and Tentative Order Information

The Sierra Pacific Industries (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Burney Division Sawmill (Facility), located at 36336 Highway 299 East, Burney California. The Facility is comprised of sawmill/planing mill that can produce up to 260 million board feet of construction grade lumber annually and a biomass cogeneration plant (i.e., wood burning) that can produce 20 megawatts of electrical power. This tentative Order regulates the industrial storm water runoff from the approximate 25-acre log deck to an approximate 50-acre land application area that discharges to an unnamed tributary to Canyon Creek, a water of the United States and tributary to Burney Creek. Depending on wet weather conditions, the Facility receives an annual precipitation total between 17.5 inches and 49.2 inches and discharges industrial storm water an average of 145 days per year (1 October through 30 September). In addition, the Facility discharges wastewater from the cogeneration and sawmill operations to five (5) unlined storage, treatment, and disposal ponds. The Facility also has a Fire Pond that receives industrial storm water runoff from the sawmill and cogeneration building areas.

Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2020-0017, issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 16 April 2020. An Order is proposed to renew the NPDES permit. The tentative Order includes new or updated storm water action levels for aluminum, electrical conductivity, manganese, settleable solids, and zinc. In addition, the tentative Order includes land discharge specifications for the discharge of wastewater to land, as well as specifications for the discharge of industrial storm water to the land application area.

Public Hearing Date and Location

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

DATE: 26-27 February 2026
TIME: To Be Determined
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

(Physical Meeting Location with Remote Meeting Option)

The [final meeting agenda](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) (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 Order.

Nature and Purpose of Hearing

At the hearing, the Central Valley Water Board will hear testimony and oral comments regarding the tentative 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/) (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 **17 January 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 Order shall submit comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on **17 January 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 **24 February 2026**.

Hearing Procedure and Time Limits

The hearing on the tentative 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** will be advised in advance of the hearing of the total amount of time allocated for their presentation and closing statement. The Discharger is invited to contact staff in advance of the hearing to discuss how much time 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 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 364 Knollcrest Drive, #205, Redding, California 96002 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 Erin Jonasson at (530) 224-6128 or Erin.Jonasson@waterboards.ca.gov.

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

Stacy S. Gotham, P.E.
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer