

**State of California
CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD,
LOS ANGELES REGION**

ORDER R4-2024-0372

**TERMINATING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND A
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
FOR DISCHARGES FROM URCHINOMICS USA INC. – CHANNEL ISLANDS
URCHIN CO. LLC**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board), finds:

1. On April 14, 2022, the Los Angeles Water Board adopted Order No. R4-2022-0162, which serves as WDRs and an NPDES permit (NPDES Permit Number CA0064696) for Urchinomics USA Inc. (Discharger), for the discharge of aquaculture wastewater from the Channel Islands Urchin Co. LLC (Facility), located at 452 Lighthouse Circle Drive, Port Hueneme, California, to Port Hueneme Harbor, a water of the United States.
2. Order Number R4-2022-0162 authorized the Discharger to discharge a maximum of 1.44 million gallons per day (MGD) of aquaculture wastewater to Port Hueneme Harbor for full scale production. However, the Facility never expanded to full scale operations and discharged a maximum of 0.00429 MGD under Order Number R4-2022-0162. The Discharger determined that production expansion was unfeasible for the Facility. Therefore, the remaining sea urchins were sold, production was stopped, and the Facility has been dismantled. The Facility has not discharged since December 2023.
3. On June 6, 2024, the Discharger notified the Los Angeles Water Board that the Facility had shut down production, industrial operations had ceased, and that dismantling of the aquaculture system had begun. Since there will be no industrial activities at the Facility, the Discharger requested the termination of Order Number R4-2022-0162.
4. On July 16, 2024, Los Angeles Water Board staff conducted an inspection of the Facility and verified that the Facility is no longer discharging to Port Hueneme Harbor. The flowthrough aquaculture system has been dismantled and is being removed from the site.
5. Since the Discharger has eliminated all of the industrial wastewater discharges associated with the industrial activity at the Facility, and there is no potential for discharges of aquaculture wastewater, the Los Angeles Water Board finds that Order Number R4-2022-0162 is no longer necessary and may be terminated, except for purposes of enforcement.
6. Termination of the WDRs and NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act in accordance with Water Code Section 13389 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061, subdivision (b)(3)

Order R4-2024-0372

Terminating Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit

because there is no possibility that termination of these waste discharge requirements may have a significant impact on the environment.

7. The Los Angeles Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to terminate Order Number R4-2022-0162 and has provided them with an opportunity to comment.
8. The Los Angeles Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the tentative termination of Order Number R4-2022-0162.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the following WDRs/NPDES permit be terminated:

DISCHARGER NAME (NPDES NO.)	ORDER NO. (ADOPTION DATE)	REASON FOR TERMINATION
Urchinomics USA Inc., Channel Islands Urchin Co. LLC (CA0064696)	Order R4-2022-0162 (April 14, 2022)	The Discharger has ceased operations and eliminated the discharge of aquaculture wastewater to surface water from the Channel Islands Urchin Co. LLC located at 452 Lighthouse Circle Drive, Port Hueneme, California

The Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board is authorized and directed to certify and submit copies of this Order to the Discharger, and to such individuals and governmental agencies as may have need therefore or may request the same.

I, Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer, do certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region on October 24, 2024.

for Susana Arredondo
Executive Officer