



Enforcement News

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Turlock Dairy Fined \$73,710 for Failing to Provide Annual Reports to Assess the Impacts of Dairy Operations on Water Quality

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SACRAMENTO - The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has adopted an Administrative Civil Liability Order imposing a penalty of \$73,710 against the San Isidro Jersey Dairy in Turlock for failure to file annual reports.

The Administrative Civil Liability Order states that Carlos and Bernadette Estacio, owners of the San Isidro Jersey Dairy in Stanislaus County, failed to file 2012 and 2013 annual reports for the dairy. All dairies in the Central Valley are required to submit annual reports. These reports contain vital information the Central Valley Water Board needs to assess potential impacts on water quality from dairy operations.

The Dairy General Order, adopted by the regional board in 2007 and reissued in 2013, requires dairies to handle waste in ways that preserve water quality. The general order contains a number of requirements, including standards for manure and dairy wastewater storage, and criteria for the application of manure and dairy wastewater to cropland as fertilizer. The general order also contains reporting requirements for regulated dairies, including the submission of an annual report. Failure to submit the required reports is a violation of the Dairy General Order.

The annual reports submitted in 2012 and 2013 did not contain the information on nitrogen applied to cropland and removed by crops that is necessary to assess the potential impacts to water quality from the dairy operation. Additionally, the Estacios owe seven annual fees for the years 2008 through 2014, and are behind on payments for two other enforcement orders that resulted from failure to submit annual reports in 2008 and 2009.

“Annual reports are the cornerstone of our Dairy General Order. They are one of the primary tools we use to ensure that water quality is protected” said Andrew Altevogt, assistant executive officer for the Central Valley Water Board. “In assessing this penalty our Board

recognized that running a business comes with the responsibility of complying with the Dairy General Order, including submitting the required documents.”

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of water quality. For more information on the Central Valley Water Board, visit the homepage at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

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