

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING PENDING GENERAL ORDERS
DISCLOSURE FORM**

Note: This form is intended to assist the public in providing the disclosure required by law. It is designed to document meetings and phone calls. Written communications may be disclosed by providing a complete copy of the written document, with attachments. Unless the board member(s) provided you with a different contact person, please send your materials to: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. Use of this form is not mandatory.

1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:

Draft Order WQ 2024-00xx

2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:

Note: Contact information is not mandatory, but will allow the Water Board to assist you if additional information is required. If your contact information includes your personal residence address, personal telephone number or personal email address, please use a separate sheet of paper if you do not want that information posted on our website. However, this information may be provided to members of the public under the Public Records Act.

Seth Alston, salston@leadershipcounsel.org

3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication: 8/12/25

Time: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Location: via Zoom

4. Type of communication (written, oral or both): Both written and oral

5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:

Nichole Morgan; Jennifer Clary; Kija Rivers; Maricela Mares-Alatorre; Edie Sanchez; Maria Luisa Muñoz; Nathaniel Kane; Michael Claiborne; Seth Alston

6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:

Kija Rivers

7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication. Include a brief list or summary of topics discussed at the meeting, any legal or policy positions advocated at the meeting, any factual matters discussed, and any other disclosure you believe relevant. The Office of Chief Counsel recommends that any persons requesting an ex parte meeting prepare an agenda to make it easier to document the discussion properly. Attach additional pages, if necessary.

Participants discussed the draft order, community priorities for regulation of discharges of nitrate from dairies, specific recommendations for revisions to the draft order, and the process and timeline for revising and finalizing the draft order.

8. Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.





Revised Dairy Order

August 12, 2025

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Community Priorities
3. EJ Supported Elements
4. Elements Needing Further Revision
5. Discussion

Introductions



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FOUNDATION

Community Priorities



Supported Elements

- 1. Waste Disposal Characterization of Manure Land Application**
- 2. Development of Enforceable Final Land Application Rate**
- 3. Alternative Water Supplies for communities located outside the Central Valley and CV-SALTS**
- 4. Whole-farm balance within 8 year makes sense, and we strongly support the State Board establishing it as a mandatory deadline.**

Elements Needing Further Revision

- 1. Prevent further delay and ensure Dairy order implementation conforms to CV-Salts timeline.**
- 2. Strengthen the regulation of crop application**
- 3. Consider authorizing State Board staff to address actions that could delay implementation**
- 4. Require lining of all wastewater retention ponds**
- 5. Expand the CVDRMP representative well monitoring program**

Prevent further delay to finalize and implement the Dairy Order

- The State Board should oversee development of elements that would pose capacity challenges for the Regional Board
 - Alternative water supply
 - Whole farm balance
- Interim milestones should front load progress



West Goshen

Strengthen the regulation of crop application

- We support land application rates that correspond with discharge limits, and the inclusion of a margin of safety.
- But,
 - Accelerate compliance and interim milestones.
 - Clarify that the CV SALTS timeline started at approval of the program.
 - Annual review of time schedules and milestones to ensure as short as practicable.



Strengthen the regulation of wastewater retention ponds

- The mean subsurface nitrogen loading rate for monitored dairies is 1,045 lbs/ac/year for ponds
 - All ponds, regardless of intersection with groundwater, must be lined according to a time schedule that is as short as practicable.
- Clarify definition of new and reconstructed ponds



Expand the CVDRMP well monitoring plan

- Dairy Order needs sufficient feedback mechanisms to determine whether dairy operations are complying with the conditions of their permit or not.
- Require individual dairies to monitor their operations
- Coordinate with other programs' monitoring networks
- Require vadose zone monitoring



**Thank you for
supporting access to
safe and affordable
drinking water.**

