Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

2 September 2025

Ben Ochoa, Development Manager
Amazon.com Services, LLC
2321 Rosecrans Ave, Suite 2220
El Segundo, CA 90245

Certified Mail
7021 2720 0000 9985 3023

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; AMAZON.COM SERVICES, LLC; WESTSIDE INDUSTRIAL PROJECT; KERN COUNTY

On 15 May 2024, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) prepared by Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. (Kimley-Horn) for a new wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) to serve a proposed single-story warehouse and distribution facility (Facility) in unincorporated Kern County. The RWD was prepared pursuant to State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). The May 2024 RWD was stamped and signed by Davie Cowan (RCE 86803) and Sarp Sekeroglu (RCE 71474), and included a Form 200 signed by Ben Ochoa, Development Manager of Seefried Industrial Properties, Inc.

Kimley-Horn submitted updated RWDs on 14 March 2025 and 5 May 2025. The May 2025 RWD included an updated Form 200 with the signature of Mr. Ben Ochoa listing Amazon.com Services, LLC (Discharger) as the owner and operator of the Facility and WWTF. The May 2025 RWD was signed and stamped by Davie Cowan and Sarp Sekeroglu.

Based on the information provided, the WWTF treats and disposes of less than 100,000 gallons per day (gpd) of domestic wastewater and is therefore eligible for coverage under the general and specific conditions of the General Order. This letter serves as formal notice that the General Order is applicable to your system and the wastewater discharge described below. You are hereby assigned enrollee number **2014-0153-DWQ-R5429** for your system.

You should familiarize yourself with the General Order and its attachments enclosed with this letter, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment

systems sections of the General Order and the attached **Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429**. This MRP was developed after consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached memorandum.

DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

The Facility is located in Kern County, approximately one mile south of Bakersfield, CA, at the southeast corner of Houghton Road and Wible Road (Section 13, Township 31 South, Range 27 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian) as shown in Attachment A. The property consists of one parcel, Assessor Parcel Number 184-391-08-00-6, comprising a total of 93.66 acres, as shown in Attachment B.

The proposed single-story warehouse and distribution facility will generate wastewater from restrooms, sinks, and miscellaneous drains. The average number of employees at the warehouse will be approximately 732 employees, 24 hours per day with a peak of 915 employees per day during e-commerce season. The May 2025 RWD states that the Facility may employ a maximum of 1,830 employees on a given day with rotating shifts. Maximum expected flow to the WWTF is approximately 55,000 gallons per day (gpd). A sewer lift station will be constructed to convey influent from the warehouse to the WWTF, which will feature a MEMPAC-M50 Modified Ludzack-Ettinger system, a pre-packaged membrane bioreactor (MBR) system manufactured by Cloacina, LLC.

Wastewater from the warehouse (influent) will be routed to a 28,690 gallon equalization tank prior to flowing through the screw screen compactors for preliminary treatment (fine screening). Wastewater influent flows into the anoxic chamber and then the aeration chamber of the MBR system for biological treatment. Solids are either fed back to the anoxic chamber as return activated sludge (RAS) or removed from the treatment system as waste activated sludge (WAS). WAS flows into the sludge storage tank so it can be processed and hauled off for disposal. Wastewater from the MBR system is discharged to two onsite evaporation/percolation ponds for disposal. An emergency overflow storage basin will be constructed to bypass the MBR system in case of an emergency. The emergency storage basin will be lined with a chlorosulfonated polyethylene, or synthetic rubber, Hypalon Pond Liner Type M-284 with a thickness of 45 mil. A flow schematic for the WWTF is included as Attachment C to this NOA.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger shall maintain exclusive control over the discharge and shall comply with the terms and conditions of this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments and MRP No. 2014-0153-R5429.

In accordance with Section B.1.a of the General Order, influent flow shall not exceed a **monthly average daily discharge of 55,000 gpd**.

As discussed in the attached memorandum, the Discharger shall comply with effluent limitations specified in Table 1 below when discharging to the evaporation/percolation

ponds. Compliance with the effluent limitations specified in Table 1 shall be determined at a point after the MBR system prior to discharge to the evaporation/percolation ponds.

Table 1 - Effluent Limitations

Constituent	Unit	Monthly Average Limit	7-day Average Limit
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	mg/L	30	45
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	30	45

The General Order states in Section B.1.i that the Discharger shall comply with the setbacks as described in Table 3. This table summarizes different setback requirements for wastewater system equipment, activities, land application areas (spray field), and storage and/or treatment ponds from sensitive receptors and property lines where applicable. The Discharger shall comply with the applicable setback requirements, as summarized in the following table:

Table 2 – Setback Requirements

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Property Line
Treatment System	150 ft	5 ft
Impoundment (Undisinfected secondary wastewater) (see 1 below)	150 ft	50 ft

1. Undisinfected secondary recycled water is defined in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 60301.900.

2. Setback established by California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 60310(d).

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections of the General Order, including:

1. Section B.4 – Activated Sludge Systems
2. Section B.5 – Pond Systems
3. Section B.8 – Sludge/Solids/Biosolids Disposal
4. Section C – Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations

Provision E.1 of the General Order requires dischargers enrolled under the General Order to prepare and implement the following reports within **90 days** of the issuance of the NOA.

- Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (Provision E.1.a)
- Sampling Analysis Plan (Provision E.1.b)
- Sludge Management Plan (Provision E.1.c)

A copy of the Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan and the Sampling and Analysis Plan shall be maintained at the treatment facility and shall be presented to the Regional Water Board staff upon request. The Sludge Management Plan shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board **by 2 December 2025**.

As stated in Section E.2.w., in the event any change in control or ownership of the Facility or wastewater disposal areas, the Discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this General Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer.

Failure to comply with the requirements in this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429 could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, you must submit a new Report of Waste Discharge describing the new operation.

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by the General Order ceases, so that we may terminate coverage and avoid unnecessary billing.

On 31 May 2018, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new strategies for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley as part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative. Further details of these strategies are discussed in the enclosed memorandum. As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met.

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically via the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker database. GeoTracker is an Internet-accessible database system used by the State Water Board, regional boards, and local agencies to track and archive compliance data from authorized or unauthorized discharges of waste to land, or unauthorized releases of hazardous substances from underground storage tanks. This system consists of a relational database, online compliance reporting features, a geographical information system (GIS) interface, and other features that are utilized by regulatory agencies, regulated industries, and the public to input, manage, or access compliance and

regulatory tracking data. Guidance for creating an account and submitting reports to the GeoTracker database is provided in the attached MRP.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the internet at Copies of the laws and regulations applicable to filing petitions (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

In order to conserve paper and reduce mailing costs, a paper copy of General Order WQO 2014-0153-DWQ has been sent only to the Discharger. Others are advised that the General Order is available on the State Water Board's website (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf).

Original signed by Scott Hatton
For Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

(see next page for Attachments, Enclosures, and cc's)

Attachments:

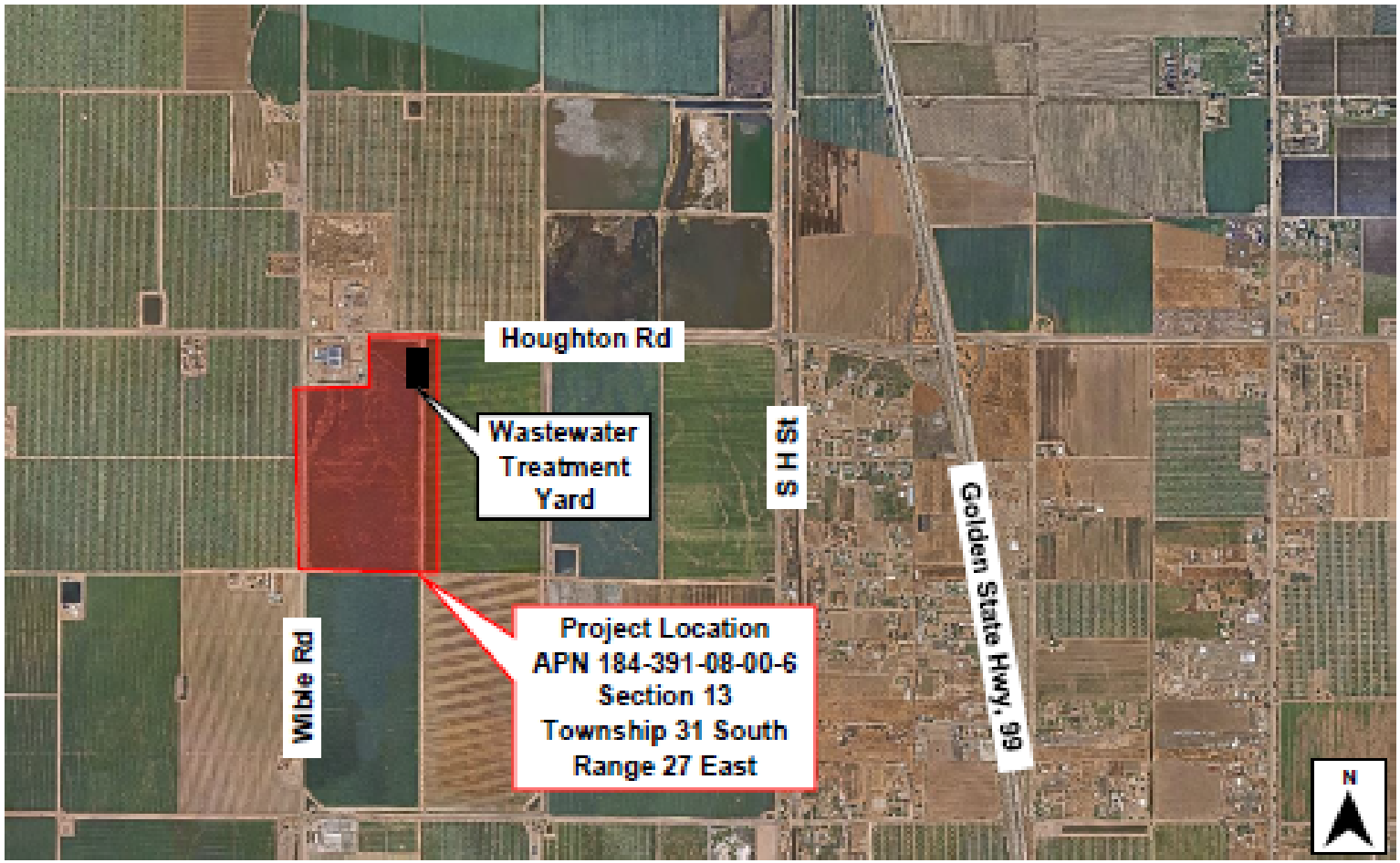
- Attachment A – Vicinity Map
- Attachment B – Site Map
- Attachment C – Process Flow Diagram

Enclosures:

- Monitoring and Reporting Program 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429
- Staff Review Memorandum for Westside Industrial Project
- State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (Discharger only)

cc:

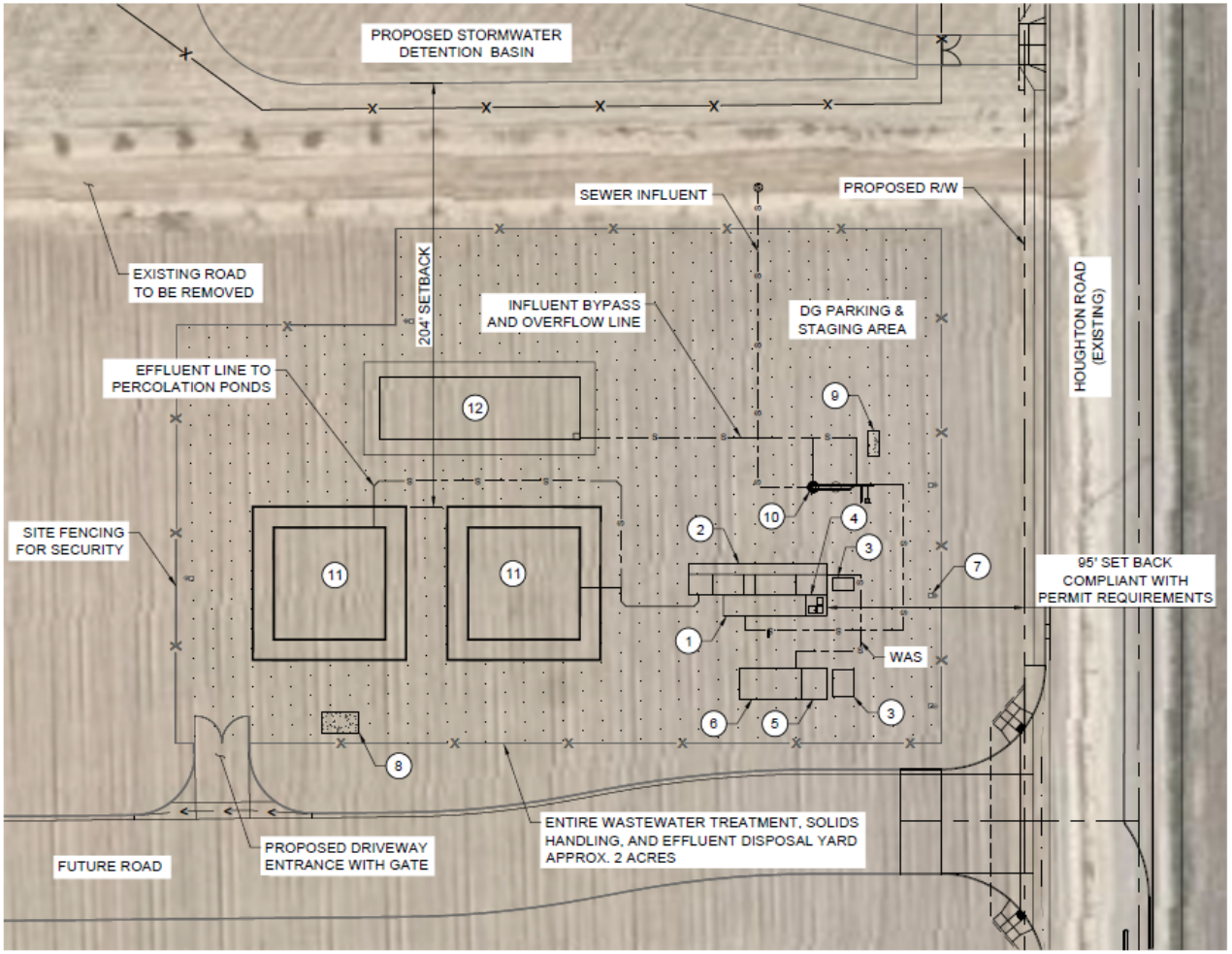
- Christopher Moskal, State Water Resources Control Board, OCC, Sacramento (via email)
- Stephanie Torres, State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ (via email)
- Adam Forbes, State Water Resources Control Board, DDW (via email)
- RB5S-cvsalts@waterboards.ca.gov
- Omar Mostafa, Central Valley Water Board, Fresno (via email)
- Ben Ochoa, Amazon.com Services, LLC, El Segundo (via email)
- Davie Cowan, Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., San Diego (via email)
- Sarp Sekeroglu, Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., San Diego (via email)



ATTACHMENT A – VICINITY MAP

Notice of Applicability 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429

Source: May 2025 RWD



CONSTRUCTION NOTES

1. PROPOSED FLOW EQUALIZATION TANK (10'W X 40'L X 10'H)
2. PROPOSED MBR PACKAGE SYSTEM (10'W X 67'L X 10'H)
3. PROPOSED ROLL-OFF BIN FOR WASTE COLLECTION
4. PROPOSED FLOW EQUALIZATION TANK BLOWER AND TWO (2) TRANSFER PUMPS
5. PROPOSED SOLIDS DEWATERING PRESS
6. PROPOSED WAS HOLDING TANK (10'W X 30'L X 10'H)
7. PROPOSED SITE LIGHT
8. PROPOSED GENERATOR PAD
9. PROPOSED ELECTRICAL PAD
10. PROPOSED 5' DIAMETER LIFT STATION WET WELL WITH TWO SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS
11. PROPOSED PERCOLATION POND (0.13 ACRES AND 5' DEPTH)
12. PROPOSED EMERGENCY STORAGE BASIN WITH LINER (0.13 ACRES AND 5' DEPTH)

LEGEND

PROPOSED SEWER

PROPOSED FENCE

PROPOSED DG

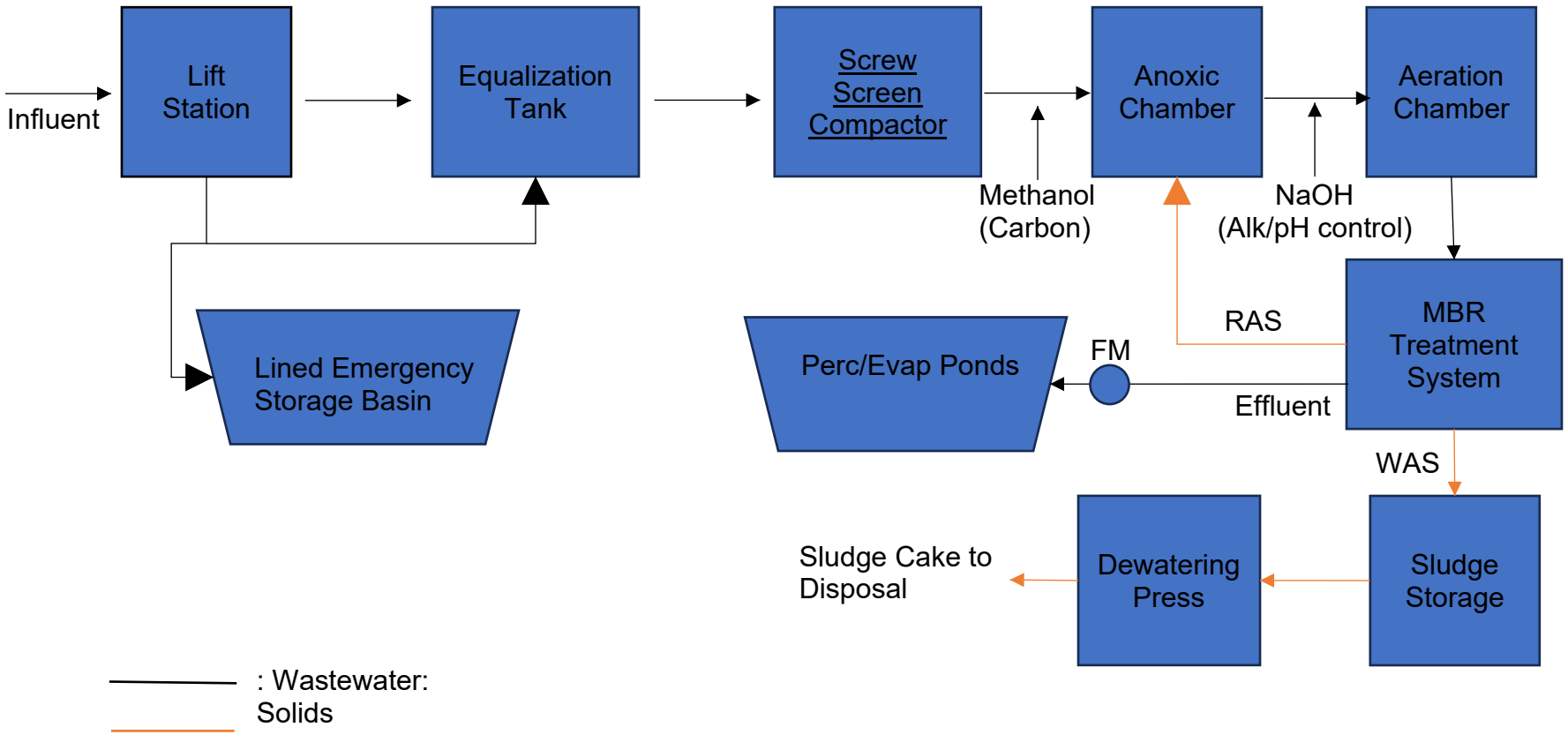
GENERAL NOTES

1. SEE ATTACHMENT 3 FOR CLOACINA TREATMENT EQUIPMENT DRAWINGS AND DATA SHEETS.
2. SETBACK REQUIREMENTS ARE PROVIDED IN TABLE 3 OF ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ.

ATTACHMENT B – SITE MAP

Notice of Applicability 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429

Source: May 2025 RWD



ATTACHMENT C – PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM

Notice of Applicability 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429 FOR AMAZON.COM SERVICES, LLC WESTSIDE INDUSTRIAL PROJECT KERN COUNTY

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a wastewater treatment system. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267 to Amazon.com Services, LLC (Discharger). The Discharger shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) or Executive Officer.

Section 13267 of the California Water Code states, in part:

> *"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."*

Section 13268 of the California Water Code states, in part:

> *"(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13399.2, or falsifying and information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).*
>
> *(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs."*

The Discharger owns and operates the WWTF that is subject to Notice of Applicability (NOA) 2014-0153-DWQ-R5429, which enrolls the WWTF under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for*

Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (General Order). The reports required in this MRP are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order. Pursuant to Water Code section 13267, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to whom samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by a State Water Resources Control Board, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) certified laboratory, or:

1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
3. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.

TREATMENT SYSTEM MONITORING

A. Effluent Monitoring

Effluent samples shall be collected from a location that is representative of the treated effluent quality after the MBR system but prior to discharge into the evaporation/percolation ponds. At a minimum, effluent monitoring shall include the monitoring specified in Table 1.

Table 1 - Effluent Monitoring Requirements

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow (see 1 below)	gpd	Meter	Continuous (see 2 and 3 below)	Quarterly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Electrical Conductivity (EC)	µmhos/cm	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly

1. Flow shall be measured at a location that is representative of influent flow rates.
2. For continuous analyzers, the Discharger shall document routine meter maintenance activities including date, time of day, and duration, in which the analyzer(s) is not in operation.
3. At a minimum, the total flow shall be measured weekly to calculate the average daily flow.

B. Wastewater Pond Monitoring

All wastewater storage ponds shall be monitored as specified in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Wastewater Pond Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Dissolved Oxygen (DO) (see 1 below)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Freeboard	0.1 feet	Measurement	Monthly	Quarterly
Odors	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly
Berm condition	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly

1. DO shall be measured between 8:00 am and 10:00 am and shall be taken opposite the pond inlet at a depth of approximately one foot, when there is sufficient water in the pond(s). If there is insufficient water in the pond(s) no sample shall be collected and the reason provided in the quarterly monitoring report. Should the DO be below 1.0 mg/L during a monthly sampling event, the Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to correct the problem and commence daily DO monitoring in the affected ponds until the problem has been resolved.

SLUDGE/BIOSOLIDS MONITORING

The Discharger shall report the handling and disposal of all solids (e.g., screenings, grit, sludge, biosolids, etc.) generated at the wastewater system. Records shall include the name/contact information for the hauling company, the type and amount of waste transported, the date removed from the wastewater system, the disposal facility name and address, and copies of analytical data required by the entity accepting the waste. These records shall be submitted as part of the annual monitoring report.

REPORTING

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, solids, etc.), and reported analytical or visual

inspection results are readily discernable. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate compliance with the General Order and NOA as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the MRP shall be reported in the next regularly scheduled monitoring report and shall be included in calculations as appropriate.

GeoTracker Electronic Reporting Requirements: All monitoring reports and monitoring results shall be submitted to GeoTracker in accordance with the timeframes specified below and in searchable Portable Document Format (PDF). The Discharger shall follow the applicable Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) requirements under the Facility-specific **Global Identification Number WDR100056475** at the GeoTracker database (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/login.asp)

In order to submit reports electronically, the Discharger shall create a secure GeoTracker Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) account and log in credentials, claim their facility by requesting access in GeoTracker, and finally uploading PDF copies of the required reports via the ESI portal as outlined in the GeoTracker ESI Beginner's Guide for Responsible Parties (Beginner's Guide) linked below.
The Discharger may complete the above tasks by accessing the 'Getting Started' section on the GeoTracker ESI webpage (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/index.html).

Additional GeoTracker support information can be found at the following:

a. 'Guides/Resources' document link in the "Tools" on the Discharger's GeoTracker ESI account.

b. Resources on the GeoTracker ESI website, such as the Beginner's Guide (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/docs/geotracker_esi_rp_beginners_guide_revisedoct2019.pdf)

c. General GeoTracker Help Desk contact information:

   Phone: 1-866-480-1028, Email: geotracker@waterboards.ca.gov

A transmittal letter shall accompany each monitoring report. The letter shall include a discussion of all violations of this MRP during the reporting period and actions taken or planned for correcting each violation. If the Discharger has previously submitted a report describing corrective actions taken and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. The transmittal letter shall contain a statement by the Discharger or the Discharger's authorized agent certifying under penalty of perjury that the report is true, accurate and complete to the best of the signer's knowledge.

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, groundwater, etc.), and reported analytical

result for each sample are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to clearly illustrate compliance with waste discharge requirements and spatial or temporal trends, as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be reported in the next scheduled monitoring report.

Laboratory analysis reports shall be included in the monitoring reports. All laboratory reports must also be retained for a minimum of three years. For a discharger conducting any of its own analyses, reports must also be signed and certified by the chief of the laboratory.

Monitoring information shall include the method detection limit (MDL) and the Reporting limit (RL) or practical quantitation limit (PQL). If the regulatory limit for a given constituent is less than the RL (or PQL), then any analytical results for that constituent that are below the RL (or PQL) but above the MDL shall be reported and flagged as estimated.

All monitoring reports that involve planning, investigation, evaluation or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1.

A. Quarterly Monitoring Reports

Quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board on the **first day of the second month after the quarter ends** (e.g., the January-March Quarterly Report is due by May 1st). The reports shall bear the certification and signature of the Discharger's authorized representative. At the minimum, the quarterly reports shall include:

1. Results of all required monitoring.
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the requirements (including the flow limitation), disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements. Data shall be presented in tabular format.
3. Copies of laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).

B. Annual Report

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board by **March 1st following the monitoring year**. The Annual Report shall include the following:

1. Tabular and graphical summaries of all monitoring data collected during the year.

2. An evaluation of the performance of the wastewater treatment system, including discussion of the capacity issues, nuisance conditions, system problems and a forecast of the flows anticipated in the next year. A flow rate evaluation, as described in the General Order (Provision E.2.c), shall also be submitted.
3. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into compliance with the NOA and/or General Order.
4. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
5. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring.

C. State Water Board Volumetric Annual Reporting

Per State Water Resources Control Board's Water Quality Control Policy (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_recycling_policy/), amended in December 2018, dischargers of treated wastewater and recycled water are required to report annually monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. The Discharger shall submit an annual report to the State Water Board by **April 30 of each calendar year** furnished with the information detailed below. The Discharger must submit this annual report containing monthly data in electronic format via the State Water Board's Internet GeoTracker system (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/). Required data shall be submitted to the GeoTracker database under a site-specific global identification number. Any data will be made publicly accessible as machine readable datasets. The Discharger must report all applicable items listed below:

1. **Influent.** Monthly volume of wastewater collected and treated by the wastewater treatment plant.
2. **Production.** Monthly volume of wastewater treated, specifying level of treatment.
3. **Discharge.** Monthly volume of treated wastewater discharged to land, where beneficial use is not taking place, including evaporation or percolation ponds, overland flow, or spray irrigation disposal, excluding pasture of fields with harvested grounds.
4. **Reuse.** Monthly volume of recycled water distributed.
5. **Reuse Categories.** Annual volume of treated wastewater distributed for beneficial use in compliance with California Code of Regulations, title 22 in each of the use categories listed below:

a. Agricultural irrigation: pasture or crop irrigation.

b. Landscape irrigation: irrigation of parks, greenbelts, and playgrounds; school yards; athletic fields; cemeteries; residential landscaping, common areas; commercial landscaping; industrial landscaping; and freeway, highway, and street landscaping.

c. Golf course irrigation: irrigation of golf courses, including water used to maintain aesthetic impoundments within golf courses.

d. Commercial application: commercial facilities, business use (such as laundries and office buildings), car washes, retail nurseries, and appurtenant landscaping that is not separately metered.

e. Industrial application: manufacturing facilities, cooling towers, process water, and appurtenant landscaping that is not separately metered.

f. Geothermal energy production: augmentation of geothermal fields.

g. Other non-potable uses: including but not limited to dust control, flushing sewers, fire protection, fill stations, snow making, and recreational impoundments.

h. Groundwater recharge: the planned use of recycled water for replenishment of a groundwater basin or an aquifer that has been designated as a source of water supply for a public water system. Includes surface or subsurface application, except for seawater intrusion barrier use.

i. Reservoir water augmentation: the planned placement of recycled water into a raw surface water reservoir used as a source of domestic drinking water supply for a public water system, as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, or into a constructed system conveying water to such a reservoir (Water Code § 13561).

j. Raw water augmentation: the planned placement of recycled water into a system of pipelines or aqueducts that deliver raw water to a drinking water treatment plant that provides water to a public water system as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code (Water Code § 13561).

k. Other potable uses: both indirect and direct potable reuse other than for groundwater recharge, seawater intrusion barrier, reservoir water augmentation, or raw water augmentation.

A letter transmitting the monitoring reports shall accompany each report. The letter shall report violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned to correct the violations and prevent future violations. The transmittal letter shall contain the following penalty of perjury statement and shall be signed by the Discharger or the Discharger's authorized agent:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring program on 2 September 2025.

Ordered by:

Original signed by Scott Hatton

For PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer

2 September, 2025

(Date)

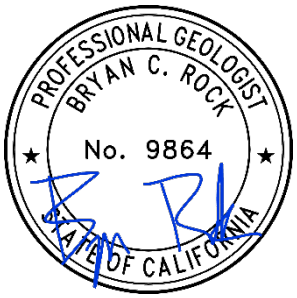
GLOSSARY

BOD_5	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand
DO	Dissolved oxygen
Continuous	The specified parameter shall be measured by a meter continuously.
24-hr Composite	Samples shall be a flow-proportioned composite consisting of at least eight aliquots over a 24-hour period.
Daily	Every day except weekends or holidays.
Twice Weekly	Twice per week on non-consecutive days.
Weekly	Once per week.
Twice Monthly	Twice per month during non-consecutive weeks.
Monthly	Once per calendar month.
Quarterly	Once per calendar quarter.
Semiannually	Once every six calendar months (i.e., two times per year) during non-consecutive quarters.
Annually	Once per year.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
mg/kg	Milligrams per kilogram
µmhos/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
gpd	Gallons per day
mgd	Million gallons per day
NA	Denotes not applicable
SU	Standard pH units

TO: Bryan C. Rock
Senior Engineering Geologist
PG 9864

FROM: Cruz Romero
Water Resource Control Engineer

DATE: 2 September 2025



APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; AMAZON.COM SERVICES, LLC; WESTSIDE INDUSTRIAL PROJECT; KERN COUNTY

On 15 May 2024, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) prepared by Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. for a proposed wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) in unincorporated Kern County near the City of Bakersfield. The WWTF is proposed to serve the domestic wastewater treatment and disposal needs for a proposed warehouse and distribution facility (Facility). The RWD was submitted to request regulatory coverage under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order) for the WWTF.

The May 2024 RWD was stamped and signed by Davie Cowan (RCE 86803) and Sarp Sekeroglu (RCE 71474). Central Valley Water Board staff found the May 2024 RWD to be incomplete, and Kimley-Horn & Associates Inc. submitted updated RWDs on 14 March 2025 and 5 May 2025 to complete the application. The May 2025 RWD included another completed Form 200 with the signature of Mr. Ben Ochoa, listing Amazon.com Services, LLC (Discharger) as the owner and operator of the Facility. The May 2025 RWD was signed and stamped by Davie Cowan and Sarp Sekeroglu.

The WWTF is designed to have domestic wastewater flows less than 100,000 gallons per day (gpd). Therefore, this memorandum provides a summary of the applicability of the WWTF to be covered under the General Order.

DISTRIBUTION FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The WWTF will be located in Kern County (35.234272°, -119.034688°) approximately one mile south of Bakersfield (as shown in Attachment A of the Notice of Applicability [NOA]) and will treat domestic wastewater from the proposed single-story warehouse and distribution facility. The Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) for the Proposed Project site is 184-391-08-00-6, which has a total acreage of 94 acres. The RWD states that the Facility will be roughly 650,000 square feet and will operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. With rotating shifts, approximately 1,800 employees per day will be employed at the Facility during the peak season (June – August and November – January) and approximately 1,400 employees per day during the non-peak season (February – May and September – October).

DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

The MEMPAC-M50™ Modified Ludzack-Ettinger (MLE) Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) system, a pre-packaged domestic wastewater treatment unit manufactured by Cloacina, LLC (Cloacina), will be installed for the project. This MBR system includes a flow equalization tank, screw screen compactors, anoxic and aeration chambers, membrane units for permeation, and all necessary components such as pumps, valves, blowers, diffusers, and related appurtenances. The RWD estimates the proposed warehouse will generate a monthly average flow of 55,000 gallons per day (gpd). Cloacina will also supply an aerated sludge storage tank and a dewatering press for solids handling. Dewatered sludge (sludge cake) will be collected in a roll-off bin onsite and hauled off for disposal in accordance with applicable solid waste regulations. Upstream of the treatment system, a sewer lift station will be built to convey raw wastewater from the project site to the MBR system. Treated effluent will be directed to onsite percolation ponds for disposal. A lined emergency storage basin will also be constructed and will provide a volume of approximately 100,000 gallons. The emergency storage basin will be lined using a chlorosulfonated polyethylene Hypalon Pond Liner with a thickness of 45-mil.

The WWTF will be fenced and gated, allowing access only to trained personnel and certified operators responsible for the WWTF's operation and maintenance. The treatment process begins with wastewater being pumped into an aerated equalization tank via the sewer lift station. This lift station includes a wet well equipped with submersible pumps, which is fed by an 8-inch PVC gravity sewer pipe that collects domestic wastewater from the Facility. The pumps are housed in a minimum 48-inch diameter wet well and convey the wastewater to the equalization tank via a 4-inch ductile iron force main. The 28,700-gallon equalization tank is designed to buffer diurnal fluctuations in flow rate and is equipped with a single blower and 1.25-inch diameter diffusers for aeration. The tank will be covered, and odorous air will be routed to an odor scrubber. If treated effluent fails to meet discharge standards, it can be temporarily

diverted back to the equalization tank. Two pumps will transfer the equalized flow from this tank through screw screen compactors and into an anoxic chamber.

Preliminary treatment is provided by two stainless steel screw screen compactors capable of handling peak flows up to 277 gallons per minute. These units utilize two-millimeter perforated screens to capture suspended solids. The compactors collect and transport solids up the screw mechanism for discharge into a roll-off bin, which will be routinely emptied by a private hauler in compliance with solid waste disposal requirements. Both the anoxic chamber and screening units will be enclosed, and air from the units will be scrubbed for odor control. Following screening, wastewater flows into the anoxic chamber then to the aeration chamber for biological treatment.

Forward activated sludge pumps transfer mixed liquor from the aeration chamber to the membrane chambers for filtration. In the membrane units, fine particles are removed as permeate pumps draw treated water through the membranes into a clear well. Solids remaining in the mixed liquor are returned to the pre-anoxic chamber. Solids are either recirculated to the anoxic chamber as return activated sludge (RAS) or removed from the system as waste activated sludge (WAS). WAS is directed to the sludge storage tank for processing and offsite disposal.

Treated water collected in the clear well will gravity-flow to the percolation ponds for final disposal. No disinfection system is proposed for the project. Each percolation pond has a total area of 0.13-acres, a storage depth of three feet, excluding two feet of freeboard, for a total depth of five feet. Each percolation pond has a total volume of 100,000 gallons for a total storage capacity of 200,000 gallons. A process flow diagram that depicts the flow of wastewater through the WWTF is provided as Attachment C in the NOA.

The RWD states that domestic wastewater influent quality was estimated using *Metcalf & Eddy, Wastewater Engineering: Treatment and Resource Recovery, 5th Edition* and that the values used were within the same range or more conservative than the values listed in the General Order. The estimated influent wastewater quality is presented in **Table 1** below.

Table 1 - Influent Wastewater Quality

Constituent	Average Result
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	360
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	350
Ammonia (mg/L)	37
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L)	60
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	10
Carbonate Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$ (mg/L)	300

The RWD also provided predicted effluent wastewater quality for the MBR treatment process. Estimates are based on process modeling conducted by Cloacina that consider the assumed influent domestic wastewater characteristics at the maximum month design flow of 83,000 gpd. Predicted effluent wastewater quality and process modelling effluent results are summarized in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 - Effluent Wastewater Quality

Constituent	Process Modelling Effluent Results
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	2.4
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	1.1
Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	7.4
Ammonia (mg/L)	0.3

POTENTIAL THREAT TO WATER QUALITY

The RWD does not discuss underlying groundwater; however, based on the California Department of Water Resources Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Data Viewer (https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#currentconditions) groundwater depth in the area recorded during Fall 2023 was around 160 to 180 feet deep. Additionally, the groundwater gradient direction appears to be towards the northwest, and the closest domestic well appears to less than one mile east of the Facility.

The RWD did not provide a summary/review of the source water quality. However, a review of State Water Resources Control Board's Groundwater Ambient Monitoring Assessment Program (GAMA) showed a domestic supply well less than one mile east of the proposed warehouse. According to GAMA, the well has a depth of 301 feet, with a screen interval of 258 to 300 feet. One sample was collected for the well on 17 March 2022, and the results are summarized in **Table 3** below.

Table 3 - Groundwater Quality

Constituent	Units	Sample Result
Alkalinity, total	mg/L	135
Calcium	mg/L	62.8
Chloride	mg/L	38.7
Sodium	mg/L	31.4
Nitrate as N	mg/L	3.7
pH	Std Units	7.4
Specific Conductivity	µmhos/cm	530
Sulfate	mg/L	54.3
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	315

NITROGEN EFFLUENT LIMIT EVALUATION

The Discharger submitted a nitrogen limit evaluation since the flow limit is greater than 20,000 gpd. Attachment 1 of the General Order includes five site-specific considerations (Step A) that shall be considered when evaluating a discharge and the need for nitrogen effluent limits. These five site-specific considerations include: flow, groundwater depth, percolation rate, wastewater strength, and determination of the need for nitrogen removal.

The RWD included an October 2023 geotechnical report describing soil boring and percolation test results conducted at the Facility site during 2023. According to the geotechnical report, shallow groundwater was not encountered in any of the six borings, the deepest of which was advanced to about 51 feet below ground surface. The design percolation rate per the geotechnical report is approximately 21 minutes per inch. According to Table 5 in Attachment 1 of the General Order, the minimum depth to groundwater below the dispersal system (i.e., the percolation ponds) for the observed percolation rate is 8 feet.

Also, the project will generate typical domestic strength wastewater which will be treated to have an effluent quality of less than 10 mg/L for BOD, TSS, and total nitrogen. In addition, and as discussed further below, the Discharger submitted a 6 March 2025 Notice of Intent (NOI) for the Nitrate Control Program and intends to participate in the appropriate management zone once a management zone is formed.

Based on the proposed flow of 55,000 gpd, depth to groundwater, observed percolation rates, the observed typical domestic wastewater strength, and compliance with the Nitrate Control Program, the Discharger contends that the discharge is not expected to significantly impact underlying groundwater with regards to nitrate.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The County of Kern serves as the Lead Agency for the environmental evaluation of the Westside Industrial Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Environmental Impact Report (EIR), State Clearinghouse No. 2023100467, was duly prepared, publicly circulated in accordance with CEQA requirements, and subsequently certified by both the Kern County Planning Commission and the Kern County Board of Supervisors on June 26, 2024.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring requirements included in the following sections from Attachment C of the General Order are appropriate for this discharge:

- Activated Sludge Effluent Monitoring
- Pond System Monitoring
- Solids Disposal

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting (Resolution R5-2018-0034). The Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020 and were revised by the Central Valley Water Board in 2020 with Resolution R5-2020-0057 (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/r5-2020-0057_res.pdf).

For the Salt Control Program, the Discharger has not yet received a Notice to Comply since the WWTF is new and not previously regulated by the Central Valley Water Board. However, on 6 March 2025 the Discharger submitted a Notice of Intent for the Salt Control Program and is participating in the Prioritization and Optimization Study (P&O Study). The Discharger was issued **CV-SALTS ID: 3672**.

For the Nitrate Control Program, the Facility and disposal area are within Groundwater Basin 5-22.14 (San Joaquin Valley – [Southeastern] Kern County), a non-prioritized basin/sub-basin. On 6 March 2025, the Discharger submitted a NOI for the Nitrate Control Program and selected Pathway B (Management Zone Permitting Approach) and intends to join a local management zone once one is formed. As discussed above and based on the information provided, the discharge is expected to cause de minimis impact, if at all, with regard to nitrate. As such, deference of Nitrate Control Program requirements until a management zone is formed in the sub-basin is appropriate. However, should information become available that the discharge is impacting groundwater quality with respect to nitrogen species, the Central Valley Water Board will require compliance with Nitrate Control Program requirements at that time.

More information on the Salt and Nitrate Control Program may be found on the internet (https:///cvsalinity.or/public-info).