



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

27 June 2024

Justin Vinson, Public Works Superintendent
City of Atwater
750 Bellevue Road
Atwater, CA 95301

VIA EMAIL
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CERTIFIED MAIL
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NOTICE

**TENTATIVE NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY
FOR COVERAGE UNDER
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS/NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
(ORDER R5-2023-0025; NPDES CAG585001)
FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER DISCHARGERS THAT MEET
OBJECTIVES/CRITERIA AT
THE POINT OF DISCHARGE TO SURFACE WATER
FOR
CITY OF ATWATER
ATWATER REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MERCED COUNTY**

TO ALL CONCERNED PERSONS AND AGENCIES:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has determined that the Atwater Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility) is eligible for coverage under General Order R5-2023-0025 for *Municipal Wastewater Dischargers That Meet Objectives/Criteria at the Point of Discharge to Surface Water* (Municipal General Order). Enclosed is a tentative Notice of Applicability (NOA) for public review and comment.

The City of Atwater is the owner of the Facility but currently contracts Veolia Water West Operating Services Inc. to operate and maintain the Facility. The Facility provides sewerage service for the community of Atwater (population of 31,970 based on 2020 census), the unincorporated community of Winton (population of 11,709 based on 2020 census), and both the Federal Bureau of Prisons – Atwater and the Castle Airport Aviation and Development Center (combined population of approximately 1,500). The design average dry weather flow capacity of the Facility is 6.0 MGD.

The Facility is currently authorized to discharge under previous Municipal General Order R5-2017-0085-02 through NOA R5-2017-0085-001 to discharge disinfected tertiary-

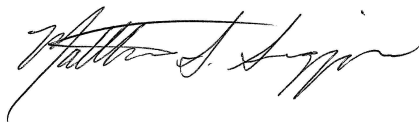
treated municipal wastewater to Peck/Atwater Drain, which is hydraulically connected to the San Joaquin River, a water of the United States, between Sack Dam and the mouth of the Merced River. The tentative NOA, once final and effective, would provide coverage for the Facility's discharge under the Municipal General Order, at which time the terms and conditions in NOA R5-2017-0085-001 will cease to be effective except for enforcement purposes.

Any comments or recommendations you may have concerning the tentative NOA should be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on **12 July 2024** in order for the Central Valley Water Board's Executive Officer to give them full consideration prior to the finalization and issuance of the NOA. Please submit comments or recommendations to this office via email to CentralValleyFresno@waterboards.ca.gov and copy Lovdeep.Singh@waterboards.ca.gov.

After the close of the public comment period Central Valley Water Board staff will review comments, respond as necessary, and the tentative NOA may be revised if appropriate. If substantial written comments are not received by the due date, the Executive Officer will issue the final NOA in accordance with the Municipal General Order. If substantial comments are received by the due date any member of the public may request an oral hearing before the Central Valley Water Board. If deemed appropriate by the Executive Officer, a subsequent notice of public hearing will be issued so the matter can be considered at a future Central Valley Water Board meeting.

The tentative NOA is available on the Central Valley Water Board [website](#) at: (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). An electronic copy of the [Municipal General Order](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2023-0025.pdf) is available on the Central Valley Water Board's website.

If you have any questions regarding the tentative NOA, please contact Lovdeep Singh at 559-445-5130 or by email at Lovdeep.Singh@waterboards.ca.gov.



Matthew S. Scroggins
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

Enclosure: Tentative Notice of Applicability (Discharger Only)

cc:

Prasad Gullapalli, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
Peter Kozelka, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
Justin Sloan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento (email only)
Merced National Wildlife Refuge (email only)
Afrooz Farsimadan, California State Water Resources Control Board (email only)

cc: continued

Renan Jauregui, California State Water Resources Control Board (email only)
Jarma Bennett, California State Water Resources Control Board, (email only)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 4, Fresno (email only)
Merced Irrigation District, Merced
Debbie Mackey, Central Valley Clean Water Association, Sacramento (email only)
Michelle Chester, Central Valley Clean Water Association, Sacramento (email only)
Steve Pound, Veolia Water, Atwater (email only)
Kathryn Gies, West Yost Associates, Walnut Creek (email only)
Michael D. Gallo, Joseph Gallo Farms, P.O. Box 775, Atwater, CA 95301-0775
Richard McHenry, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Stockton (and via email)
Jo Anne Kippes, Fresno (email only)
Michael Garabedian, Placer Group Sierra Club & Friends of the North Fork (email only)
Ed Ketchum, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band (email only)
Lloyd Mathiesen, Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians (email only)
Robert Ledger, Dumna Wo-Wah Tribal Government (email only)
Monica Arellano, Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area (email only)
Cosme Valdez, Nashville Enterprise Miwok-Maidu-Nishinam Tribe (email only)
Mary Stalter, North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians (email only)
Timothy Perez, Northern Valley Yokut / Ohlone Tribe (email only)
Heather Airey, Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians (email only)
Shana Powers, Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe (email only)
Tara Fouch-Moore, Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation (email only)
Bob Pennell, Table Mountain Rancheria (email only)
Kerri Vera, Tule River Indian Tribe (email only)
Stanley Cox, Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians (email only)
Kenneth Woodrow, Wuksachi Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band (email only)
Linda Xiong, Community Initiatives for Collective Impact (email only)
Olivia Faz, Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability (email only)