

Item Number 3

Supporting Document 1

Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0150

September 8, 2021

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION**

TENTATIVE ORDER NO. R9-2021-0150

**AN ORDER RESCINDING ORDER NO. 93-13,
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE WARNER SPRINGS RANCH
RESORT LLC, WARNER SPRINGS RANCH RESORT WASTEWATER
TREATMENT PLANT, SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board), finds that:

1. Order No. 93-13, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the Warner Springs Ranch Resort LLC, Warner Springs Ranch Resort Wastewater Treatment Plant, San Diego County* (Order No. 93-13), established requirements for the discharge of domestic wastewater from an onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS). The OWTS is an extended aeration treatment package plant consisting of an influent flow equalization basin, an extended aeration tank, a secondary clarifier, a chlorine contact basin, and a flow meter. The San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. 93-13 on February 1, 1993. The Warner Springs Ranch OWTS is located at 31652 Highway 79, Warner Springs, California.

Addendum No. 1 to Order No. 93-13, An Addendum Establishing Requirements for the Prevention of Overflows at Warner Springs Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant Disposal Ponds (Addendum No. 1) modified Order No. 93-13 establishing discharge specifications and monitoring and reporting requirements related to percolation ponds. The San Diego Water Board adopted Addendum No. 1 on January 21, 2009.

Addendum No. 2 to Order No. 93-13, An Addendum Transferring Responsibility for Order No. 93-13 to Warner Springs Ranch Resort LLC (Addendum No. 2) modified Order No. 93-13 transferring responsibility for complying with the established waste discharge requirements to Warner Springs Ranch Resort LLC. The San Diego Water Board adopted Addendum No. 2 on August 14, 2013.

2. Order No. 93-13 and addenda must be replaced to ensure that the discharges are regulated consistent with current state policy and requirements. Discharges from small package treatment plants and OWTS such as these have certain common characteristics, such as similar constituents, concentrations of constituents, disposal techniques, and flow ranges, and they require the same or similar treatment standards. The State Water Resources Control Board issued Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order), to regulate these types of discharges consistently throughout the state. Enrollment of the Warner

Springs Ranch Resort OWTS in the General Order will provide a level of water quality protection equal to that provided in Order No. 93-13.

3. The discharge from the Warner Springs Ranch Resort OWTS is eligible for enrollment in the General Order based on information submitted in monitoring reports and obtained during a compliance inspection conducted by San Diego Water Board staff on December 20, 2016. As such, the discharge from the Warner Springs Ranch Resort OWTS is more appropriately regulated under the General Order than individual WDRs.
4. The San Diego Water Board will issue a Notice of Applicability (NOA) to the Warner Development Company for enrollment in the General Order prior to the September 8, 2021 board meeting. The NOA's effective date of enrollment in the General Order coincides with the adoption date of this rescission Order.
5. Adoption of Order No. R9-2021-0150 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.). Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15060(c)(2) and 15061(b)(3), the action to rescind Order No. 93-13 and addenda will not have potentially significant adverse effects on the environment because the discharges that were regulated by Order No. 93-13 are now regulated under the General Order. In addition, adoption of Order No. R9-2021-0150 is exempt from CEQA pursuant to categorical exemptions listed in title 14, section 15301 (ongoing or existing projects).

The State Water Resources Control Board considered the environmental impacts associated with the adoption of the General Order, and prepared an Initial Study in accordance with title 14, section 15063. Analysis in the Initial Study and early consultation with responsible and trustee agencies did not identify any significant impacts on the environment. Therefore, a Negative Declaration was prepared. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Negative Declaration on September 23, 2014, through Resolution No. 2014-0054, California Environmental Quality Act, Negative Declaration, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems. The General Order will provide a level of water quality protection equal to that provided in Order No. 93-13.

6. The San Diego Water Board heard and considered all comments pertaining to the adoption of Order No. R9-2021-0150 in a public meeting on September 8, 2021.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 93-13 is rescinded.

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on September 8, 2021.

TENTATIVE

David W. Gibson, Executive Officer