



EDMUND G. BROWN JR
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

May 31, 2013

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested
Article Number: 7011 0470 0002 8961 8699

Mr. Brian Brady
Rainbow Municipal Water District
990 East Mission Road
Fallbrook, CA 92088-2290

In reply refer to:
766892:RMitchell

Mr. Brady:

Subject: Incomplete Notice of Intent to Enroll under the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharger Requirements for Agricultural and Nursery Operations

On March 7, 2013, the Rainbow Municipal Water District (RMWD) submitted a notice of intent (NOI) to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Diego Water Board) to establish a monitoring group to assist agricultural and nursery operations (farms), located within the RMWD service area, to comply with the monitoring and reporting provisions of the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Agricultural and Nursery Operations (Ag Waiver) issued by the San Diego Water Board. In reviewing the documents submitted, the San Diego Water Board found the RMWD did not provide a detailed description of irrigation, storm water runoff, nutrient, pesticide, erosion control, composting, and other site-specific management measures (MMs) and/or best management practices (BMPs) that have been implemented by each participant in the proposed monitoring group.¹ Therefore, the San Diego Water Board has deemed the NOI incomplete.

At this time, the RMWD may elect to either: submit the necessary information to complete the NOI, satisfying the requirements specified in section 4.I.B.8.d of the Ag Waiver; or withdrawal the NOI to establish a monitoring group for Operations within the RMWD service area. Please note several farm owners/operators within the RMWD service area have expressed to the San Diego Water Board their perception that they are complying with the Ag Waiver as a member of a monitoring group administered by the RMWD.

In accordance with the provisions of the Ag Waiver, individual farms which are not participating members of an approved monitoring group, are solely responsible for the costs associated with completing the water quality monitoring and reporting requirements of the Ag Waiver,² and must have filed a NOI, as either an individual commercial operations or as part of a monitoring group, with the San Diego Water Board, not later than January 1, 2011.

¹ Pursuant to Ag Waiver section 4.I.B.8.d.

² Pursuant to Ag Waiver section 4.I.E.

The San Diego Water Board requests that the RMWD provide written notification of its decision to either submit the necessary information to complete the NOI, or withdrawal the NOI to establish a monitoring group for Operations within the RMWD service area. Please provide the written notification to the San Diego Water Board by July 9, 2013. This will help the San Diego Water Board follow-up, in a timely manner, with individual owners/operators about compliance with the Ag Waiver.

In the subject line of any response, please include the requested "In reply refer to" information located in the heading of this letter. Please contact Mr. Roger Mitchell at (858)467-2724 or at RMitchell@waterboards.ca.gov if you have any questions on this matter.

Respectfully,



John R. Odermatt, P.G., Senior Engineering Geologist
Land Discharge Unit

JRO:nm

Attachment: Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Agricultural and Nursery Operations

Technical Staff Info & Use	
Place ID	766892
Regulatory Measure	384940