CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER No. R2-2017-0019

RESCISSION OF ORDER No. 85-99

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS for:

SEBASTIANI VINEYARDS
GREEN ACRES RANCH
SONOMA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter the Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. **Purpose of Order:** The purpose of this Order is to rescind Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 85-99, adopted September 18, 1985, for Sebastiani Vineyards (the Discharger) for the facility known as Green Acres Ranch (the Discharge Site) in the unincorporated community of Schellville, Sonoma County.

2. **Background:** The Regional Water Board adopted Order No. 85-99 to prescribe discharge requirements for the purpose of authorizing the discharge of wine processing wastewater onto 135 acres of undeveloped property at the Discharge Site, owned by the Discharger. The discharge requirements were in active use from 1985 until 1996.

   The Discharge Site, located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Highway 12 and Arnold Drive in Schellville, served as the discharge site for wastewater produced by the Discharger from 1985 until 1996. The discharge did not contain sanitary waste and consisted only of wastewater collected at floor drains and trenches within the Discharger's winery buildings and in exterior crushing and washdown areas (the Facility). Wastewater was screened with a 0.016 mesh rotary screen, and its pH was adjusted to a range of 6.0 to 8.0 using an automatic pH adjustment device. The Facility wastewater was then diverted to a fleet of tanker trucks for transportation to the Discharge Site. Discharge was a seasonal operation that was concentrated in a six week period between August 15 and November 15 during the years in which the discharge requirements were in active use. On average, 50,000 gallons per day of wastewater were spray discharged from the tanker trucks. In 1996, the Discharger began pretreating and subsequently discharging its Facility wastewater to the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's (the District's) sanitary sewer system, and the discharges to land were terminated.

   No discharges have occurred at the Discharge Site since the Discharger began diverting its Facility wastewater to the District's sanitary sewer system. Any future proposed wastewater management systems on the Discharger's property will require new infrastructure and an application to the Regional Water Board for new waste discharge requirements.

3. **Basis for Rescission:** The discharges of winery wastewater to land regulated by Order No. 85-99 have been terminated, and all winery wastewaters generated by the Facility are now

discharged to the District's sanitary sewer system. Accordingly, Order No. 85-99 is no longer applicable and no longer needed.

4. **CEQA:** This action rescinds an order of the Regional Water Board. Rescission of the order is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). There is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 §§ 15378 and 15061, subd. (b) (3).)

5. **Notification:** The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to rescind the waste discharge requirements and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments.

6. **Public Hearing:** The Regional Water Board, at a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this Order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 85-99 is rescinded, except for the purposes of future enforcement for past violations of the requirements of Order No. 85-99.

I, Bruce H. Wolfe, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on May 10, 2017.

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Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer

Regional Water Board Case File Reference: CIWQS and ECM Place Number 227859