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**Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**

September 15, 2016

Dear Interested Parties:

**Sent Via U.S. Mail**

**SUBJECT: REVISION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS, DISCHARGES OF WINERY WASTE AND DISCHARGES FROM CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE VINEYARDS, ORDER NO. R3-2016-0032; COMMENTS REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 17, 2016**

This letter notifies interested parties of a draft staff report, draft revised general waste discharge requirements, and draft revised monitoring and reporting requirements for discharges of winery waste and discharges from certified sustainable vineyards. The tentative order, *General Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2016-0032 for Discharges of Winery Waste and Discharges from Certified Sustainable Vineyards, Central Coast Region* (hereafter "*General Winery and Certified Sustainable Vineyard WDRs*"), includes requirements for winery waste discharges (liquid and solid) and select vineyards, certified as sustainable by the Vineyard Team or other certified programs approved by the Central Coast Water Board. The staff report, tentative order and monitoring program are available at the following web address:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml)

The intent of the order is to protect water quality, protect and enhance beneficial uses, especially drinking water, reduce the regulatory burden to the regulated public, and promote proactive land management for the protection of water quality and beneficial uses.

The *General Winery and Certified Sustainable Vineyard WDRs* will require grape processor owners and certified sustainable vineyard owners to treat wine processing wastes and implement management practices to effectively control discharges (including wine grape processing waste and vineyard irrigation tailwater and overland flow) to meet water quality standards. The proposed *General Winery and Certified Sustainable Vineyard WDRs* allow for enrollment and include tiered monitoring and reporting requirements to verify compliance (Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2016-0032).

Significant changes to the dischargers of winery waste and certified sustainable vineyards include:

- Waiver eligibility reduced to 30 cases
- Replacement of the up to 10,000 cases production category (waiver category) with limited annual monitoring and reporting
- Reduction in cost for most vineyards (vineyards under 20 acres see a minor increase of approximately \$25 dollars per year)
- Easier enrollment for combined facilities - submit a single notice of intent to enroll in the program

- Certified sustainable vineyards will not be required to participate in the Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc. Cooperative Monitoring Program

The deadline for comments on this draft Order is **October 17, 2016**. Please submit comments to:

[Howard.Kolb@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Howard.Kolb@waterboards.ca.gov)

The Regional Board will hold a public hearing regarding this matter during its December 8-9, 2016 regularly scheduled public meeting in Watsonville. At the hearing, the Regional Board will hear testimony and consider adoption of **Order No. R3-2016-0032**. Information and the agenda for the December 8-9, 2016 public meeting can be viewed at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board\\_info/agendas/2016/2016\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2016/2016_agendas.shtml)

You can also sign up to receive electronic notification of the board meeting agendas and other interested parties lists at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg3\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg3_subscribe.shtml)

If you have questions regarding subscribing to receive electronic notification, please call Cyndee Jones at (805) 549-3372.

If you have any questions regarding the staff report, draft general waste discharge requirements, and draft revised monitoring and reporting requirements, or if you would like to receive a paper copy of the documents, please contact **Howard Kolb** at **805-549-3332** or by email at **Howard.Kolb@waterboards.ca.gov**, or Chris Adair at (805) 549-3761 or by email at **Chris.Adair@waterboards.ca.gov**.

Sincerely,

for  
John M. Robertson  
Executive Officer