



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region



Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Agency Secretary

Robert Schneider, Chair

Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

Sacramento Main Office
11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114
Phone (916) 464-3291 • FAX (916) 464-4645
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5>

29 June 2005

Ronald Morris
Secret Ravine Vineyards, LLC
4390 Gold Trail Way
Loomis, CA 95650

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY OF RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0106, SECRET RAVINE VINEYARDS, PLACER COUNTY

Regional Board staff have received your \$872 filing fee and have reviewed your 5 June 2005 Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for coverage under Resolution No. R5-2003-0106, "A Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Including Wineries, Within the Central Valley Region." Our review finds the RWD to be complete.

Discharge Description

Ronald and Vicky Morris (hereafter Discharger) own and operate Secret Ravine Vineyards at 4390 Gold Trail Way in Loomis, Placer County. The winery consists of a 2,500 square foot winery building and concrete press and crush pads measuring approximately 800 and 1,200 square feet. Wastewater generated during grape crushing and pressing activities drains from the concrete crush pad into two sunken grates and then flows via gravity through a 4-inch ABS drain pipe into two concrete sumps. Each sump contains a level sensor and an automatically actuated pump that discharges the wastewater to a 2,500-gallon aboveground plastic holding tank via a 1.5-inch Schedule 40 PVC underground pipe. The level sensor shuts the pump off when the level in the tank reaches 2,000 gallons.

The RWD states that the Discharger crushed 33 tons of grapes during the 2004 harvest period and up to 40 tons of grapes will be crushed annually. Based on current production rates, approximately 10,000 to 15,000 gallons of wastewater will be produced annually. This estimate is based on 2 to 3 gallons of wastewater generated per gallon of wine produced. The wastewater that is collected in the holding tank is transported off site by a licensed septic hauler to a disposal facility in Placer County.

The solid waste generated during wine production consists of grape stems, skins, and seeds. The stems are collected from the de-stemmer operation and deposited in a compost pile located at the compost area. The skins and seeds are collected from the press cycle and mixed thoroughly with the materials in the compost pile. In addition, the dry extract collected from the bottom of the tanks (which have had the wine racked off) is mixed in the compost pile following removal of any liquids. The compost area is a 336 square foot fenced area located approximately 50-feet south of the press pad on the highest point of the property. The solid waste, which consists of approximately 220 pounds of solid waste per ton of grapes crushed is then spread onto 3.5 acres of vineyard during the summer months.

California Environmental Protection Agency



Because storm water that enters the crush and press pad is collected by existing drains and does not commingle with the winery wastewater, the Discharger has submitted a Notice of Non Applicability for the General Storm Water Permit.

Conditional Waiver

Based on the information submitted in the RWD, the discharge as described above satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the current amount of wastewater produced. Therefore, this letter serves as formal notice that Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 is applicable and waste discharge requirements for this facility are waived.

Enclosed is a copy of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 and the associated monitoring and reporting program. As described therein, an annual monitoring report that contains the information described in Items No. 3 and 5 of the monitoring and reporting program must be submitted by **1 February** of each year.

If the discharge violates the terms or conditions of the waiver, the Regional Board may take enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability. If the methods of winery wastewater and solids disposal change from those described in the RWD, you must submit a new RWD. Please note that the waiver will expire on 11 July 2008, at which time you must submit a new RWD with a filing fee to renew the waiver, or cease the discharge.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to call Guy Childs at (916) 464-4648.

--Original Signed By--

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Executive Officer

enc: General Order No. R5-2003-0106

cc: Brad Banner, Placer County Environmental Health Department, Auburn