

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

PUBLIC HEARING
concerning

**RENEWAL OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
(NPDES NO. CA0083681)
for**

**J.F. ENTERPRISES AND BURCHELL NURSERY, J.F. ENTERPRISES WORM FARM
STANISLAUS COUNTY**

J.F. Enterprises is the owner and operator of the J.F. Enterprises Worm Farm, hereinafter Facility. Burchell Nursery owns the property at 10412 North Wamble Road on which the Facility is located. Together, J.F. Enterprises and Burchell Nursery are hereinafter referred to as the Discharger. The Facility cultivates tubifex worms (*Tubifex veragatus*) for use as live food for tropical fish. As part of the worm culturing operation, 3 to 4 million gallons of water is diverted each day from the Stanislaus River to 41 shallow ponds on the south bank of the River. Water from the shallow ponds is directed to a treatment system consisting of a settling pond and then is discharged to the Stanislaus River. Once harvested, the worms are passed through two cleaning baths. Wastewater from the cleaning process is drained into a series of small settling trenches and flows by gravity to a small unnamed creek that is tributary to the Stanislaus River. The Stanislaus River is a water of the United States, within the Lower San Joaquin River Watershed.

The proposed Order includes new effluent limitations for acute toxicity. New requirements for discharges from the cleaning process are also included in the proposed Order.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Regional Water Board meeting which is scheduled for:

DATE: June 12/13, 2008
TIME: 8:30 AM
PLACE: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Staff of Central Valley Regional Water Board
- J.F. Enterprises and Burchell Nursery staff

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting

such request in writing to the Board no later than **5 June 2008**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

The tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and Cease and Desist Order were issued on **6 March 2008**. Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item shall submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Regional Water Board no later than **31 March 2008**. Written evidence or comments submitted after **14 April 2008** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Regional Water Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair

Anyone having questions on the proposed Orders should contact Ken Landau at (916) 464-4726. Interested parties may download the proposed Orders and related documents from the Regional Water Board's Internet website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/tentative/>. Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Regional Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The procedures governing Regional Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_laws/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Water Board's website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_meetings/mtgprocd.html or by contacting any one of the Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

original signed by
Kenneth D. Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

6 March 2008