

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

AND

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR

GOLDSTONE LAND COMPANY, LLC
KURT AND SANDRA KAUTZ
BEAR CREEK WINERY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

JANUARY 2016

CONTENTS

- SECTION I - Project Description
SECTION II - Initial Study with Environmental Checklist
SECTION III - Negative Declaration

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Follows Page</u>
Figure 1	- Site Location Map	Section II
Figure 2	- Facility Site Plan	Section II

SECTION I

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Title

Bear Creek Winery Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

Project Description

The project is to install a wastewater treatment system and to expand vineyard land application areas at Bear Creek Winery (the Winery). The proposed project will be completed by August 2018. Currently the Winery is regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 71-037, which was adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 21 August 1970. On 29 December 2014, the Winery submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) to apply for revised WDRs. Prior to adoption of the revised WDRs, a review of the project's potential environmental impacts is required pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Winery has been in operation since 1934. The annual wastewater flow rate was 21.4 million gallons and the average daily flow was 0.12 million gallons per day during the crush season in 2014. At present, the winery does not have a wastewater treatment system. The winery currently discharges untreated wastewater to 9.2 acres of rapid infiltration basins and 38 acres of vineyard land application areas (LAAs) owned by the Winery. The project under review is the construction of a wastewater treatment system, and expansion of the existing wastewater LAAs from 38 to 185 acres. Goldstone Land Company, LLC owns and operates the Winery and the LAAs at Vineyards 1, 2 and 3, and Kurt and Sandra Kautz own the proposed LAAs at Vineyards 4, 5 and 6.

A CEQA review was completed on 6 April 1999 when the San Joaquin County Community Development Department issued the use permit to the Winery. For the proposed improvements, the San Joaquin County Community Development Department determined that the project does not require any additional permitting from the County and the County will not be the lead agency. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board will be the lead agency for any CEQA review that is required to support adoption of WDRs. An Initial Study Checklist is attached.

Lead Agency

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

Contact Person

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SECTION II

INITIAL STUDY WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Winery plans to install a wastewater treatment system and to increase vineyard LAAs to accommodate a production increase from 50,000 to 60,000 tons of grapes annually over the next ten years. The improvements will be completed by August 2018.

This evaluation is being performed to support adoption of revised WDRs for the discharge of wastewater to land.

Background

The facility currently operates as a bulk winery, with no barrel storage or bottling occurring at the plant. Activities at the winery include grape crushing, fermentation, storage and distribution. The facility currently does not have a wastewater treatment system.

Over 80 years, high strength wastewater generated from winemaking process has been discharged primarily to 9.2 acres of rapid infiltration basins. In recent years, the winery began discharging wastewater to 38 acres of Vineyards 1 and 2 by flood irrigation when the rapid infiltration basins were at full capacity. The organic loading rates to the rapid infiltration basins have been excessive and have exceeded generally accepted loading rates for land disposal systems, especially during the crush season.

Environmental Setting

The facility is located at 11900 North Furry Road in Lodi (Section 29, T3N, R7E, MDB&M) as shown on Figure 1. The elevation at the site is approximately 50 feet above mean sea level. The winery parcel is entirely located within a moderate flood hazard area Zone X considered between the limits of the 500-year flood and areas of the 100-year flood, with average flood depths of less than one foot. Surrounding land uses are agriculture and residential. The facility plan is shown on Figure 2.

The USGS Soil Survey shows the majority of the current rapid infiltration basins are mainly Tokay fine sandy loam with an estimated average percolation rate of 0.28 inches per day. A soil survey is summarized below.

Soil Survey		
Description	Areas	Soils
Main Parcel ¹	APN 061-160-26	Stockton clay, Tokay fine sandy loam
Vineyard #3	APN 061-150-14	Stockton clay, Tokay fine sandy loam
Vineyard #4	APN 061-140-54	Tokay fine sandy loam
Vineyard #5	APN 061-160-06	Stockton clay
Vineyard #6	APN 061-160-02, 061-160-25	Galt clay, Hollenbeck silty clay, Stockton clay, Tokay fine, sandy loam

¹ Including Winery Impervious Area, Rapid Infiltration Basins, existing LAAs Vineyard 1, and Vineyard 2.

Domestic waste is discharged to a septic tank and leachfield system regulated by the San Joaquin County Department of Public Health.

Purpose of the Initial Study

The purpose of this Initial Study is to:

1. Disclose and analyze potential environmental impacts on groundwater quality associated with the proposed project.
2. Determine whether an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.
3. Determine what mitigation measures, if any, are necessary.
4. Provide the necessary CEQA documentation.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Winery proposed to install a treatment system consisting of a new main sump, two facultative aerated lined ponds, an effluent pump and a trickling filter system.

Each pond will be constructed to have a total depth of ten feet. The total capacity of two ponds will be 1.8 million gallons with two-foot of freeboard. High-density polyethylene liners and leak detection piping will be installed in the ponds. Trickling filters are biological filters that use passive aeration and naturally occurring organisms to treat wastewater.

The trickling filter system will have four trickling filter units with total 20,480 cubic feet of treatment volume. The trickling filters will be designed to operate at or below an average loading rate of 35 lb BOD/1000 cf/day. At this loading rate, trickling filter performance is estimated to provide 65 percent BOD removal and 45 percent total nitrogen removal.

A pressurized sand filter system will be installed to screen effluent prior to vineyard irrigation via drip systems.

The Winery will review the existing filtered solids storage area and may install a new storage area with liner and berm. The proposed WDRs Order does not allow discharge of leachate from the solids storage area to the rapid infiltration basins. All leachate must be directed to the main sump for further treatment. The solid storage areas must have liners and berms, and a leak detection system must be installed.

In addition, LAAs will be expanded from 38.3 to 92.8 acres by adding Vineyard 3, and Vineyard 4 by August 2016. LAAs will be further expanded from 92.8 to 185.3 acres by adding Vineyard 5, and Vineyard 6 by August 2018.

After completion of wastewater treatment system, wastewater will typically be applied to the LAAs by drip irrigation systems. Supplemental irrigation water is from onsite supply wells.

Baseline Groundwater Conditions

The winery operates two deep wells to supply industrial water demand at the facility that draw water from approximately 160 feet to 180 feet below ground surface (bgs).

Irrigation and domestic water is supplied by separate wells. Water quality for supply water is characterized in the table below based on one sampling event conducted on 2 April 2015:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	Supply Well			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Irrigation Well</u>	<u>Domestic Well</u>
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	17	4.4	1.1	3.4
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	530	250	190/160 ¹	140

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units</u>	Supply Well	Supply Well	Irrigation Well	Domestic Well
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		
Calcium	mg/L	79	33	19	17
Chloride	mg/L	65	23	7	6
Electrical Conductivity	µmhos/cm	867	383	232	215
Iron	µg/L	<30	830	110	<30
Magnesium	mg/L	32	13	<10	8
Manganese	µg/L	<10	20	<10	<10
pH	std	7.04	7.39	7.69	7.63
Sodium	mg/L	37	17	14	9
Sulfate	mg/L	35	14	7	8
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	329	136	72	75

¹ Fixed Dissolved Solids (FDS)

Based on above data, Supply Well 1 contains a nitrate concentration of 17 mg/L, which exceeded the Primary MCL of 10 mg/L for nitrate nitrogen.

Six groundwater monitoring wells MW1 through MW6 were installed between 2001 and 2003, including two background wells MW2 and MW4 and four downgradient wells MW1, MW3, MW5, and MW6, as shown on Figure 2. The depths of groundwater in these wells ranged from 90 to 95 feet bgs. However, in recent years groundwater levels have dropped and several of these wells were dry. All six monitoring wells were replaced with deeper monitoring wells MW2D through MW7D in September and October 2014.

A summary of groundwater historical monitoring data is presented in the table below based on the groundwater data collected from 2001 to 2013 prior to the abandonment of wells MW1 through MW6.

Groundwater Average Concentration						
		TDS (mg/L)	Sodium (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	Nitrate as N (mg/L)	Sulfate (mg/L)
Destroyed Background Well	MW2 ¹	622	56	30	20	55
	MW4 ²	625	54	85	18	69
Destroyed Down-gradient Wells	MW1 ¹	925	65	76	29	84
	MW3 ¹	1,056	70	39	38	74
	MW5 ²	881	71	62	13	67
	MW6 ²	789	54	97	9	50

¹. Data collected quarterly from June 2001 through May 2010.

². Data collected quarterly from 3rd Quarter 2003 through July 2013.

Operations

Based on the monthly monitoring data collected from January 2012 through October 2014, the wastewater quality is summarized below:

Effluent Quality

Constituent	Unit	Minimum	Maximum	Flow Weighted Average
Biological Oxygen Demand	mg/L	302	10,400	2,070
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	630	8,910	2,058
Fixed Dissolved Solids	mg/L	260	5,320	916
Chloride	mg/L	35	196	85
Sodium	mg/L	39	231	71
Sulfate	mg/L	<2	1,480	151
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	<0.1	19.5	8.6
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	2	75	15

Seeds, stems, pomace from processed wine grapes are sent offsite for animal feed. Filtered solids such as lees and diatomaceous earth captured from fermentation tanks and filtration processing (estimated 300 cubic yards per year on dry volume) are currently stored on a concrete pad adjacent to the rapid infiltration basins and spread and disked into the vineyards on a routine basis. The concrete pad does not have a leachate collection system.

After completion of the proposed improvements, the treated wastewater is projected to have a flow weighted average BOD concentration of 207 mg/L, compared to current level of 2,070 mg/L; total nitrogen concentration will also decrease from current flow weighted average of 24 to 7 mg/L. The projected effluent FDS concentrations are expected to be similar to the current levels. Based on the RWD, anticipated waste constituent loading rates are tabulated below for the treated wastewater, supplemental irrigation water and solid waste applied to the LAAs.

Description	Units	Current Operations ²	Projected Rates after Improvements ³
FDS Loading ¹	lb/acre/yr	4,170	1,800
TDS Loading ¹	lb/acre/yr	8,950	2,000
Total Nitrogen Loading ¹	lb/acre/yr	110	13
Max BOD Loading ¹	lb/acre/day	260	10
Blended FDS ¹	mg/L	600	400

1. Based on treated wastewater, supplemental irrigation water and filtered residual solids applied to the vineyards.
2. Based on total areas of 47.5 acres including 9.2 acres of rapid infiltration basins and 38.3 acres of Vineyards 1 and 2.
3. Based on total areas of 194.5 acres including 9.2 acres of rapid infiltration basins and 185.3 acres of vineyards.

The projected hydraulic and waste constituent loading rates will be reduced significantly.

Constituents of concern that have the potential to degrade groundwater include salts, and nutrients as discussed below based on data collected during 2001 through July 2013 in abandoned wells MW1 through MW6:

Total Dissolved Solids. The average TDS concentrations in the downgradient wells ranged from 789 to 1,056 mg/L, which are greater than the average TDS concentration of 623 mg/L in the background wells. The discharge has degraded groundwater for TDS and has caused exceedance of the secondary maximum concentration limit (MCL) of 1,000 mg/L in the downgradient well MW3.

After completion of the proposed improvements, the wastewater FDS concentration is expected to be similar to the current levels. The current effluent FDS of 916 mg/L is still greater than the background groundwater average TDS concentration. However, the FDS loading rate will be reduced from current 4,170 to 1,800 lbs./acre/year due to increased land application areas. The proposed WDRs Order includes a time schedule in the Provisions that requires the Winery to submit a *Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan*. The Plan shall include proposals for influent salinity reduction.

Nitrate. Background groundwater quality is poor with respect to nitrogen and averages 20 mg/L, which exceeds the primary MCL of 10 mg/L. Nitrate nitrogen concentrations in the downgradient wells ranged from 9 to 38 mg/L. After completion of proposed improvements, the effluent total nitrogen concentration is expected to decrease from current 24 to 7 mg/L, which will be less than the Primary MCL of 10 mg/L for nitrate as nitrogen; the total nitrogen loading rate is projected to be 13 lb/acre/year, which is less than crop demand for vineyards. Therefore, the discharge is not likely to degrade groundwater quality for nitrogen in the future.

3.0 DETERMINATION OF PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Environmental Checklist follows this page.

4.0 REFERENCES

Report of Waste Discharge, Goldstone Land Company, LLC, 29 December 2014.

Revised Report of Waste Discharge, Goldstone Land Company, LLC, 30 April 2015.

CEQA Environmental Checklist

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

Project Title:	Bear Creek Winery Wastewater Treatment and Disposal
Lead agency name and address:	California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Sacramento, CA 95670-6114
Contact person and phone number:	Scott Armstrong, (916) 464-4616
Project Location:	11900 North Furry Road , Lodi
Project sponsor's name and address:	Goldstone Land Company, LLC dba, Bear Creek Winery. 11900 North Furry Road , Lodi, CA 95240
General plan description:	The project is to install a wastewater treatment system and to expand vineyard land application areas. The proposed project will be completed by August 2018.
Zoning:	Section 29, T3N, R7E, MDB&M
Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation.)	The project is to install a wastewater treatment system and to expand vineyard land application areas.
Surrounding land uses and setting; briefly describe the project's surroundings:	Surrounding land uses are agriculture and residential.
Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g. permits, financial approval, or participation agreements):	

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

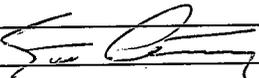
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project. Please see the checklist beginning on page 3 for additional information.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geology/Soils
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	X	Hydrology/Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use/Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Noise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation/Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities/Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required

Signature: 	Date: 01/28/2016
Printed Name: SCOTT ARMSTRONG	For: CU-RWQ03

CEQA Environmental Checklist

Dist.-Co.-Rte. P.M/P.M. E.A.

This checklist identifies physical, biological, social and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed project. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with the projects indicate no impacts. A NO IMPACT answer in the last column reflects this determination. Where there is a need for clarifying discussion, the discussion either is included following the applicable section of the checklist or is within the body of the environmental document itself. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to CEQA, not NEPA, impacts. The questions in this form are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non- attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: Would the project:

- a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?
- b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

An assessment of the greenhouse gas emissions and climate change is included in the body of environmental document. While Caltrans has included this good faith effort in order to provide the public and decision-makers as much information as possible about the project, it is Caltrans determination that in the absence of further regulatory or scientific information related to GHG emissions and CEQA significance, it is too speculative to make a significance determination regarding the project's direct and indirect impact with respect to climate change. Caltrans does remain firmly committed to implementing measures to help reduce the potential effects of the project. These measures are outlined in the body of the environmental document.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ⇒	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ⇒	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ⇒	X	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ←	X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ←	X
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

VIII. a. & f.) No significant groundwater degradation is anticipated over baseline conditions. Furthermore, the discharge from the expanded facility and the potential for groundwater degradation allowed in the waste discharge requirements are consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-16 since: (a) the Discharger has implemented best practicable treatment and control of the discharge to minimize degradation, (b) the limited degradation allowed by the Waste Discharge Requirements will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, or result in water quality less than water quality objectives, and (c) the limited degradation is of maximum benefit to people of the State. Furthermore, the Winery will be required to monitor effluent and groundwater quality to verify the discharge is in compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

VIII. b.) The proposed project is not anticipated to significantly deplete groundwater supplies. Groundwater used in the facility will primarily be applied to vineyards in lieu of other agricultural supply water.

VIII. h. & i.) Permits are required from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board for any work done in in a “regulated stream” (including portions of Pixley Slough), designated floodway, and/or on any federal flood control project levee, including the placement, construction, reconstruction, removal, or abandonment of any landscaping, culvert, bridge, conduit, fence, projection, fill, embankment, building, structure, obstruction, encroachment or works of any kind, and including the planting, excavation, or removal of vegetation, and any repair or maintenance that involves cutting into the levee, wholly or in part, within an area for which there is an adopted plan of flood control. Though Pixley Slough runs through the facility regulated by the proposed WDRs, the portion of Pixley Slough that is considered a “regulated stream” under the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board is well downstream of the facility.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
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b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? X

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? X

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES: Would the project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? X

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? X

XII. NOISE: Would the project result in:

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? X

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? X

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? X

Potentially Significant Impact Less Than Significant with Mitigation Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? X

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? X

) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? X

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING: Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| Fire protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| Police protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| Schools? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| Parks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| Other public facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XV. RECREATION:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |
| b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC: Would the project:

a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS: Would the project:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

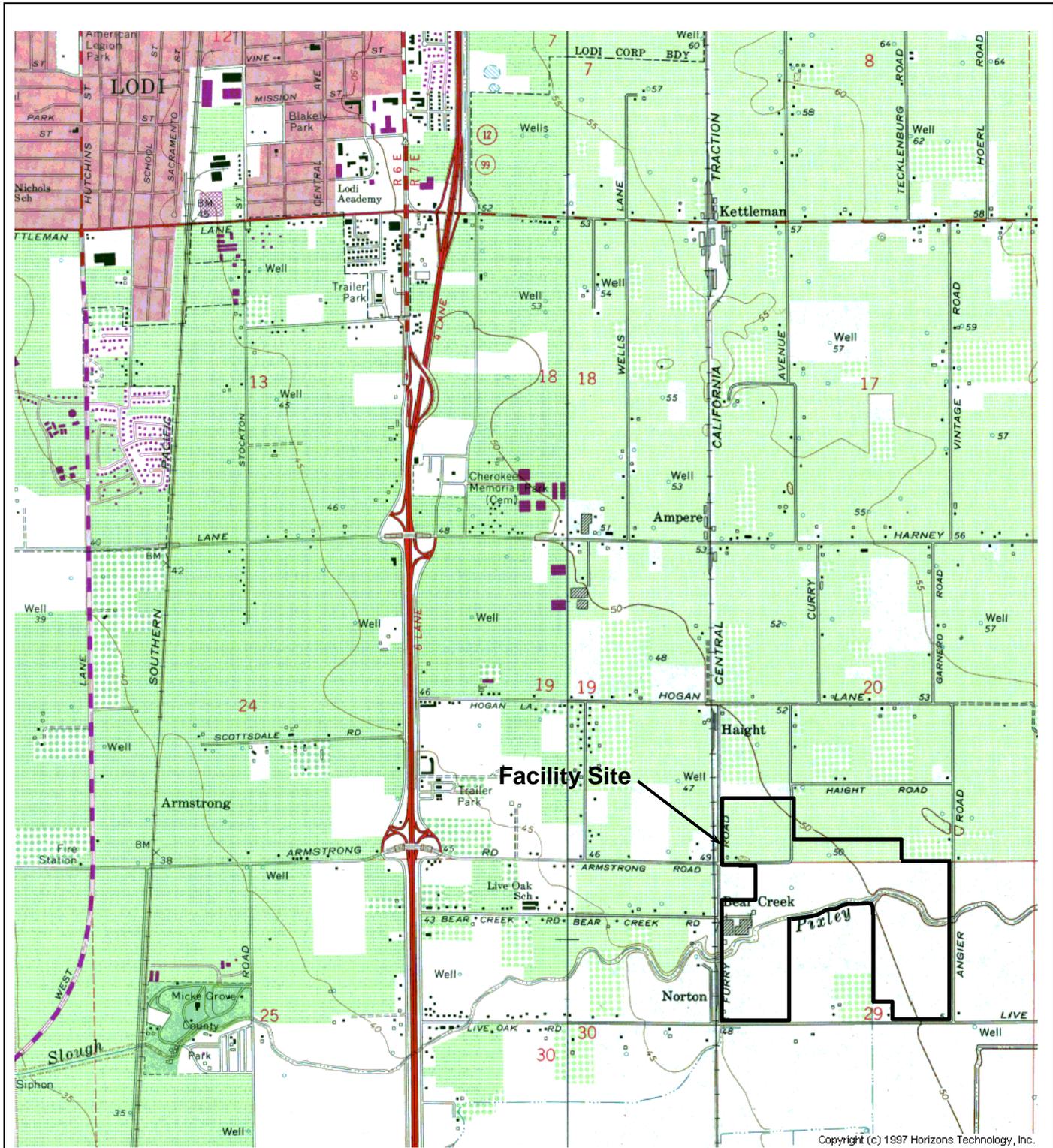
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste? X

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? X

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)? X

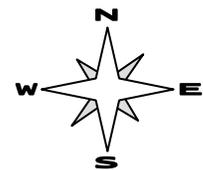
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? X



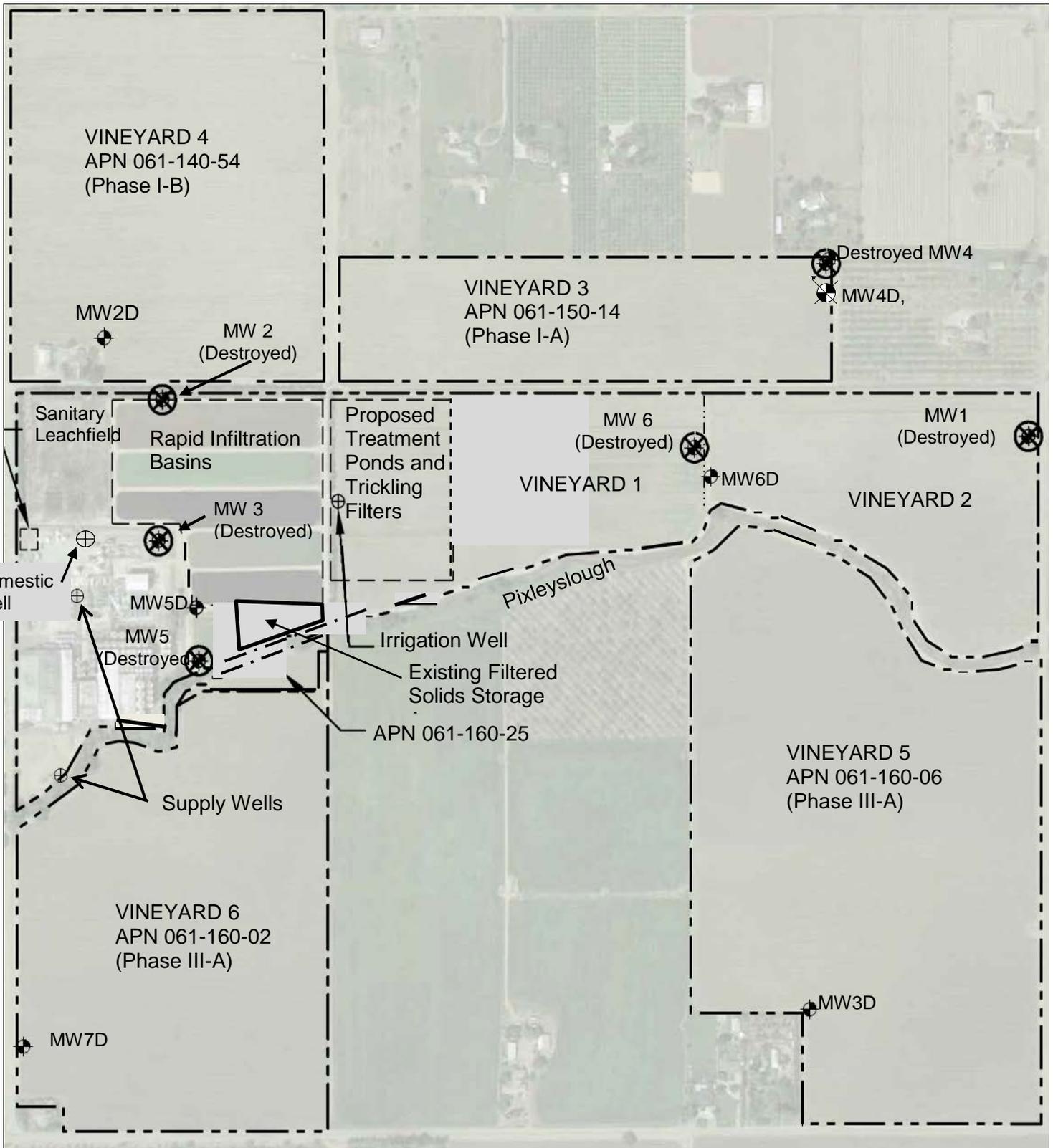
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Drawing Reference:
 LODI SOUTH
 U.S.G.S TOPOGRAPHIC
 MAP
 7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE

FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION MAP
 GOLDSTONE LAND COMPANY, LLC AND
 KURT AND SANDRA KAUTZ
 BEAR CREEK WINERY
 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

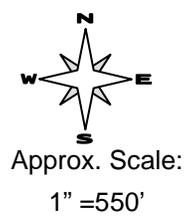


approx. scale
 1 in. = 1/2 mi.



Drawing Reference:
 RWD, Bear Creek Winery, December
 2014

FIGURE 2- FACILITY SITE PLAN
 GOLDSTONE LAND COMPANY, LLC
 KURT AND SANDRA KAUTZ
 BEAR CREEK WINERY
 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY



SECTION III
NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Title: Adoption of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Bear Creek Winery

Project Description: The project will authorize the Bear Creek Winery to install a wastewater treatment system and to expand vineyard land application areas. The proposed project will be completed by August 2018.

Currently the Bear Creek Winery is regulated under WDRs Order 71-037, which was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 21 August 1970. On 29 December 2014, the Bear Creek Winery submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) to apply for revised WDRs. Prior to adoption of the revised WDRs, the Board conducted a review of the project's potential environmental impacts pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.).

The Winery has been in operation since 1934. The winery currently does not have a wastewater treatment system. The winery currently discharges approximately 21.4 million gallons of wastewater per year to 9.2 acres of rapid infiltration basins and 38 acres of vineyard land application areas (LAAs) owned by the winery. The Board has reviewed the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of a new wastewater treatment system and with the expansion of the existing wastewater LAA from 38 to 185 acres. The treatment system will consist of a new main sump, two aerated lined ponds, an effluent pump and a trickling filter system. Goldstone Land Company, LLC owns and operates the Winery and LAAs at Vineyards 1, 2 and 3, and Kurt and Sandra Kautz own the proposed LAAs at Vineyards 4, 5 and 6.

Findings: Based on its independent judgment, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that the information contained in the Initial Study and the entire record before the Central Valley Water Board does not contain substantial evidence that a fair argument has been made that the project would have a significant effect on the environment.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, adopted a Resolution adopting this Negative Declaration on ___ April 2016.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer