

California Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast  
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
(707) 576-2220

**Notice of Public Comment Period, Public Hearing  
and Notice of Intent**

to

Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration and

Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Mello 3/Llano Oaks Dairy,  
Sonoma County, California Order No. R1-2015-0051

In the North Coast Region

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) proposes to adopt Order No. R1-2015-0051, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Mello 3/Llano Oaks Dairy, Sonoma County, California and the associated California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) proposed Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Mitigated Negative Declaration).

These items will be open for public comment between September 28, 2015 and October, 27, 2015.

**I. Project Description**

This Project consists of development of a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for dairy operations and related land management activities conducted by the Mello family in the Russian River Basin, Sonoma County, California.

If adopted, the Regional Water Board would prescribe a Waiver for discharges, or threatened discharges, of wastes (e.g., earthen materials such as soil, silt, sand, clay, and rock), and organic materials (e.g., slash, sawdust, bark, nutrients, and manure), from the dairy operation and related land management activities on lands operated by the Mello family, 3915 Llano Road, Santa Rosa, in the Laguna de Santa Rosa, a tributary stream to the Russian River in Sonoma County, California. Activities covered by the Waiver include farming, milking operations, grazing animals, maintenance, reconstruction of a building roof, manure application to land, and water quality monitoring.

**II. Document Availability**

The proposed Order and Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for public review and comment and can be downloaded from the Regional Water Board's website at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/)

These files can also be viewed by contacting or visiting the Regional Water Board's office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California, weekdays between 8:00am and 5:00pm. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.

### **III. Public Comments**

To be evaluated and responded to by the Regional Water Board, and fully considered in advance of the hearing, all written comments and evidence must be *received* by the Regional Water Board no later than **5:00 p.m. on October 27, 2015**. Untimely submittal of written comments will not be accepted or responded to.

Please send comments to the attention of Cherie Blatt at the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to the mailing address below or electronically to the email address [NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov) or by fax to 707-523-0135.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region  
ATTN: Cherie Blatt  
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A  
Santa Rosa, California 95403

Oral comments will be heard at the hearing to take place **8:30 A.M., Thursday November 19, 2015** at 5550 Skylane Blvd. Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA.

### **IV. Public Hearing Procedures**

A public hearing to consider adoption of the Order and Mitigated Negative Declaration is scheduled for **November 19, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.**, in Santa Rosa, California, or as announced in the Regional Water Board's agenda. The meeting will be held at the Regional Water Board Hearing Room, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, in Santa Rosa, California. Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

Time limits may be imposed on oral testimony at the public hearing; groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. Written comments submitted prior to the close of the comment period will be considered by the Regional Water Board as part of their decision making process. Changes to the proposed Orders consistent with the general purpose of the Orders may be considered by the Regional Water Board during the hearing. Testimony at the above scheduled hearing may summarize or explain timely submitted written evidence.

### **V. Accessibility**

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting should contact Patti Corsie at 707-576-2220 at least five days prior to the scheduled meeting. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 800-735-2929 or voice line at 800-735-2922.

## **VI. Program and Email Subscription**

Information on the Regional Water Board's Dairy Program can be found at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water\\_issues/programs/dairies/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/dairies/)

Persons wishing to receive notices related to the Dairy Program should subscribe to the Dairies email list, under Resources, Email Subscriptions, on the left side of the Regional Water Board's main web page at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast>.

## **VII. Regional Water Board Staff Contact**

Questions regarding the Order should be directed to Cherie Blatt, by phone at (707) 576-2755 or email at [Cherie.Blatt@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Cherie.Blatt@waterboards.ca.gov)