# CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CENTRAL COAST REGION 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101 San Luis Obispo, California 93401

# Draft WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R3-2015-0007

For

# WINDSET FARMS (CALIFORNIA), INC. SANTA MARIA GREENHOUSES SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (hereafter also referred to as the "Water Board") finds:

#### SITE OWNER AND LOCATION

1. Windset Farms (California), Inc. (hereafter also referred to as "Windset Farms" or the "Discharger") owns and operates a greenhouse growing and packing business located at 1650 Black Road in Santa Maria in Santa Barbara County, as shown in Attachment A.

#### **PURPOSE OF ORDER**

- 2. The Discharger filed a complete Report of Waste Discharge, in accordance with Section 13260 of the California Water Code, for authorization to discharge wastewater from its Santa Maria greenhouses.
- 3. This order promulgates new waste discharge requirements in conformance with the Central Coast Water Board's adopted *Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin* (hereafter also referred to as the "Basin Plan") for the discharger's existing sanitary, agricultural, and industrial waste streams.
- 4. To consolidate regulation of the Discharger's wastewater streams, this order also terminates the Discharger's existing (as of the date of adoption of this order) enrollment under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 97-10-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*.

#### **FACILITY/SITE DESCRIPTION**

- 5. **Facility** The Discharger grows a variety of crops (primarily tomatoes and cucumbers) on a 221-acre land parcel that includes:
  - a. Four 32-acre, hydroponic greenhouses surrounding a centralized 5.7-acre pack house building, and
  - b. Sixteen acres of growing-related structures (i.e., tanks, pumps, etc.), six acres of parking and walkways, eight acres of landscaping, and 57 acres of undeveloped land.

- 6. The Discharger began operating its first 32-acre (phase 1) greenhouse in 2010. The Discharger's phase 2, 3, and 4 greenhouses were constructed and began discharging in August 2013.
- 7. **Discharge Type** The greenhouse growing and packing business produces sanitary wastewater, stormwater runoff, agricultural wastewater from growing operations, and industrial wastewater from packing operations.
  - a. Approximately 650 employees produce approximately 8,000 gallons per day of sanitary wastewater.
  - b. A weather-dependent stormwater runoff wastewater stream results from precipitation falling on the Discharger's 221-acre property. The property includes 156 acres of impermeable area and 65 acres of permeable undeveloped surface or landscape uses. A storm water detention pond sized to 12.5 acres is located on the adjacent property to the north and is not included in these surface area calculations.
  - c. The agricultural and industrial wastewater streams are weather- and crop-dependent, historically ranging from 150,000 gallons per day to 750,000 gallons per day and averaging 365,000 gallons per day. The overwhelming majority of wastewater is composed of Reverse Osmosis (RO) brine and growing operation tailwater. Other minor streams also contribute to the wastewater stream; however the effect of those streams on wafer quality is negligible. The agricultural and industrial wastewater streams consist of the following sub-streams:
    - i. <u>RO Brine</u> Water is extracted from groundwater wells and undergoes RO. The RO process does not add salts to the supply water; it splits the supply water into two streams. One stream, the RO permeate, has a lower TDS concentration than the original supply water while the other stream, the RO brine stream, has a higher concentration than the original supply water. The RO permeate is used for plant growth, while the RO brine is not used in the greenhouse operations but is combined with other wastewater streams and recycled onto the adjacent field as irrigation water for the fodder crop.
    - ii. Growing Operation Tailwater Some RO water used for growing operations drains from the growing substrate and results in a tailwater. The tailwater originates as relatively low TDS RO permeate. During irrigation, the RO permeate concentrates TDS as a result of evapotranspiration. During irrigation fertilizers are added to the permeate, which increases wastewater salts. The tailwater is collected and recirculated through the greenhouses' irrigation systems. Significant recirculation of the irrigation water can result in increases of mineral concentrations in the irrigation water. To keep irrigation water quality within ranges acceptable for Windset Farms' needs, the discharger from time to time freshens the irrigation water by diverting a portion of the tailwater out of the irrigation system and adding fresh make-up water. When this occurs, the unused tailwater is combined in the waste tank with other wastewater streams.
    - iii. <u>Evapotranspiration Condensate</u> The growing operations involve evapotranspiration. Some evapotranspiration water condenses on greenhouse interior surfaces. Condensed evapotranspiration water is nearly pure water. That condensate is collected and combined in the waste tank with other wastewater streams.

- iv. <u>Water Softening Brine</u> The Discharger softens water for a very small part of their operation. Water softening generates a brine waste stream, which is combined in the waste tank with other wastewater streams.
- v. <u>Boiler Blowdown</u> The Discharger operates boilers, which generates a boiler blowdown wastewater stream. The boiler blowdown is combined in the waste tank with other wastewater streams.
- vi. Cooling The greenhouse facility utilizes two cooling systems; one for the greenhouse growing areas and one for the product shipping portion of the packhouse. The greenhouse cooling system is an evaporative system similar to a swamp cooler, changing liquid water into water vapor. The source water is from the RO process units. Any resulting drainwater from the cooling system is collected into the same distribution system as the irrigation tailwater. The cooling system in the shipping portion of the packhouse is a closed-loop compression refrigeration system.
- vii. <u>Facility/Equipment Cleaning and Sanitation</u> Food production involves regular sanitation, which produces a sanitation wastewater stream. The facility is not "washed" with hoses or pressure washers. Localized cleaning of packaging equipment and mopping of floors occurs.
- 8. Wastewater Treatment The various wastewater streams are treated as follows:
  - a. Sanitary wastewater is treated using an onsite septic tank/seepage pit system, which is separated from other wastewater treatment and disposal systems.
  - b. The discharger routes growing operation tailwater through denitrifying (woodchip) bio-filters to reduce effluent nitrogen concentrations. This will provide a dual benefit of allowing the Discharger to optimize its bioreactor operation, as well as remediate groundwater nitrates resulting from responsible parties other than the Discharger. While the Discharger will attempt to maximize the amount of nitrate-impacted groundwater extracted, the volume of this groundwater to be denitrified will be dependent on biofilter capacity, concentration of nitrates in the extracted groundwater, performance limitations of shallow groundwater extraction wells and the irrigation needs of the fodder crop at the point of discharge. It is anticipated that Discharge will route approximately 5,250,000 gallons of shallow groundwater from extraction wells through Biofilters 1 and 2 annually, in addition to the irrigation tail water associated with their growing operations. [Move to a finding]
- Wastewater Recycling In addition to recirculating the irrigation water within the growing operation, the discharger recycles combined agricultural and industrial wastewater streams as fodder crop irrigation water on an adjacent pasture. The fodder crops are cattle-grazed and harvested.
- 10. **Hydrologic Setting** The discharge occurs within the Santa Maria Hydrologic Unit, Guadalupe Hydrologic Area, Green Canyon sub-watershed.
- 11. **Topography and Soils** The discharge area is characterized by flat to gently rolling alluvial plain soils consisting of loamy sands, silty sands, and clay layers. Water not utilized by the fodder crops readily percolates into the soil.
- 12. **Neighboring Land Uses** The site is just within the Santa Maria city limits in a primarily agricultural area, although an auto wrecking business and the city of Santa Maria's

wastewater treatment facility are in the vicinity of the Discharger's site. The Discharger's site is bound to the north by pasture land used primarily for cattle grazing, and to the east, south, and west by irrigated agricultural land growing mostly strawberries, broccoli, lettuce and celery crops. The western side of the facility parallels Black Road. Beyond Black Road lies agricultural land.

- 13. **Surface Water** Other than a potential storm water discharge during an extremely wet period, the Discharger proposes no discharge of storm water to surface water. Beyond the area's storm water conveyance infrastructure, the nearest surface water is the Santa Maria River, which is four miles away.
- 14. **Groundwater** The discharge overlies the Santa Maria groundwater basin. Groundwater is approximately 108 to 127 feet below ground surface.
- 15. **Groundwater Basin Management Reporting** Annual groundwater reporting is part of the June 30, 2005, Stipulation of the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Santa Clara in the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin litigation. The stipulation created three management areas of the broader Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. Windset Farms overlies the largest one, the Santa Maria Valley Management Area (SMVMA). As part of the stipulation, groundwater managers annually report on groundwater extraction and discharge in the SMVMA. Given the potential impacts of Windset Farms on the groundwater basin, this order requires Windset Farms to report groundwater extraction and disposal volumes and water quality to the court-appointed area engineer for the SMVMA and the Water Board.

#### **Total Maximum Daily Load**

- 16. California's 2010 303 (d) list of impaired water bodies, which was approved by USEPA in October 2011, identifies surface waters in the Santa Maria River watershed as being impaired for fecal indicator bacteria, nutrients, toxicity, pesticides, and salts.
- 17. In the Santa Maria River watershed, TMDL projects for fecal indicator bacteria, nutrients, toxicity and pesticides have been adopted by the Water Board and salt TMDLs are under development. Agricultural operations are identified as sources of impairment in the TMDLs. Most irrigated agricultural operations in the Santa Maria Valley implement the TMDLs through enrollment in the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands, Order WQ-2013-0101 (Ag Order).
- 18. This Order includes requirements of all TMDLs that are applicable to the Facility.

#### **EXISTING ORDERS**

- 19. On May 27, 2010, the executive officer enrolled the sanitary wastewater discharge under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 97-10-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (General Order).
- 20. Greenhouses that grow food crops under cover are not included in the scope of the State Water Board's Industrial Stormwater Permit. Nonetheless, Windset Farms' stormwater runoff flows to a retention basin where organic pollutants can be subjected to typical pond/soil treatment processes.

#### **COMPLIANCE HISTORY**

- 21. The enrollment referred to in Finding 19 (above) was made with the understanding that no process or irrigation wastewater was anticipated. Subsequent to the enrollment referred to in Finding 19 (above), staff:
  - a. Discovered that the Discharger had an on-going process and irrigation wastewater discharge,
  - b. Required the Discharger to submit a report of waste discharge, and
  - c. Determined that report of waste discharge was incomplete and issued an April 30, 2014 *Notice of Violation.*
- 22. Since the April 30, 2014 *Notice of Violation* was issued, the Discharger has been cooperative with staff.

#### **BASIN PLAN**

- 23. The Water Board has adopted the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin* (the Basin Plan), which designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for receiving waters within the Region.
- 24. The Basin Plan designates the existing and anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater in the vicinity of the Facility to include agricultural water supply, municipal and domestic water supply, and industrial use.
- 25. For receiving waters with designated beneficial uses of municipal and domestic water supply, the Basin Plan establishes the primary drinking water maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), listed at Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 64431 (inorganic compounds) and 64444 (organic compounds), as applicable water quality objectives.

#### **ANTI-DEGRADATION**

26. State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California* (Resolution No. 68-16) requires Regional Water Boards, in regulating the discharge of waste, to maintain high quality waters of the state until it is demonstrated that any change in quality will be consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state, will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses, and will not result in water quality less than that described in a Regional Water Board's policies (e.g., quality that exceeds applicable water quality standards). Resolution No. 68-16 also states, in part:

Any activity which produces or may produce a waste or increased volume or concentration of waste and which discharges or proposes to discharge to existing high quality waters will be required to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in best practicable treatment and control of the discharge necessary to assure that (a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained.

- 27. This Order requires the Discharger to implement best practicable treatment or control. The Discharger's compliance with this Order will prevent pollution and nuisance and will maintain the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State.
- 28. The Discharger engages in the agricultural growing of commercial food crops, as well as packing of its harvested vegetables. The Discharger's treatment and control measures exceed those of nearly all other commercial food growers in the Central Coast Region. Exemplary treatment and control measures implemented by the discharger include:
  - a. **Land Use** Minimizing land used for agricultural production by providing an environment and practices that increase crop yields.
  - b. **Water Use** Collecting crop drainage and re-using collected crop drainage multiple times for crop irrigation, then ultimately recycling wastewater for fodder crop irrigation.
  - c. **Stormwater** Placing a roof over growing areas to divert stormwater from contacting and discharging agricultural pollutants including pesticides, fertilizers and sediment.
  - d. **Groundwater** Placing an impermeable floor under growing areas to:
    - i. Preclude pollutants from percolating to groundwater.
    - ii. Eliminate the potential of sedimentation from typical agricultural soil manipulation practices.
  - e. **Pesticide Reduction** Entirely enclosing crops and maintaining a positive air pressure within the enclosure to minimize pesticide needs, as well as implementing integrated pest management practices.
  - f. **Nitrogen Reduction** Tightly controlling fertilizer applications, re-using fertilizers not uptaken by crops, and treating crop drainage tailwater to significantly reduce nitrogen discharges prior to recycling to land for fodder crops.
  - g. **Nitrogen Reduction** Removing nitrate in shallow groundwater not originating from the Discharger.

#### **RECYCLED WATER POLICY**

- 29. The Strategic Plan Update 2008-2012 for the Water Boards includes a priority to increase sustainable local water supplies available for meeting existing and future beneficial uses by 1,725,000 acre-feet per year, in excess of 2002 levels, by 2015, and ensure adequate water flows for fish and wildlife habitat. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Recycled Water Policy via Resolution No. 2009-0011 on February 3, 2009<sup>1</sup>. The Recycled Water Policy is intended to support the Strategic Plan priority to Promote Sustainable Local Water Supplies. Increasing the acceptance and promoting the use of recycled water is a means towards achieving sustainable local water supplies and can result in reduction in greenhouse gases, a significant driver of climate change. The Recycled Water Policy is also intended to encourage beneficial use of, rather than solely disposal of, recycled water.
- 30. The Recycled Water Policy calls for the development of regional groundwater basin/sub-basin salt/nutrient management plans. The State Water Resources Control Board

<sup>1</sup> http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/board\_decisions/adopted\_orders/resolutions/2009/rs2009\_0011.pdf

recognizes that, pursuant to the letter from statewide water and wastewater entities<sup>2</sup> dated December 19, 2008, and attached to Resolution No. 2009-0011 adopting the Recycled Water Policy, the local water and wastewater entities, together with local salt/nutrient contributing stakeholders, will fund locally driven and controlled, collaborative processes open to all stakeholders that will prepare salt and nutrient management plans for each basin/sub-basin in California, including compliance with CEQA and participation by Water Board staff.

- 31. It is the intent of the Recycled Water Policy that salts and nutrients from all sources be managed on a basin-wide or watershed-wide basis in a manner that ensures attainment of water quality objectives and protection of beneficial uses. The State Water Resources Control Board finds that the appropriate way to address salt and nutrient issues is through the development of regional or subregional salt and nutrient management plans rather than through imposing requirements solely on individual projects. The Water Board finds that a combination of regional management plans and individual or programmatic project requirements may be necessary to protect beneficial uses.
- 32. One of the primary components of the required regional salt/nutrient management plans is the development and implementation of groundwater basin/sub-basin monitoring programs. As specified in the Recycled Water Policy, salt/nutrient contributing stakeholders will be responsible for conducting, compiling, and reporting the monitoring data once the regional groundwater monitoring programs are developed.
- 33. A large number of technical reports and data contained within Water Board files document widespread and increasing salt and nutrient impacts within the groundwater basins throughout the Central Coast Region, including the Santa Maria River watershed.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY**

- 34. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) The city of Santa Maria is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Cal. Pub. Res. Code Section 15367). As the lead agency, the City certified a Mitigated Negative Declaration on May 27, 2009, for the project. The Mitigated Negative Declaration did not identify any potentially significant environmental effects with respect to the adoption of these waste discharge requirements and within the jurisdiction of the Central Coast Water Board.
- 35. The Central Coast Water Board is a responsible agency pursuant to CEQA (CEQA Guidelines Section 15096). The Central Coast Water Board has considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration and makes its own conclusions in this Order on whether and how to approve the waste discharge requirements for the project. Since the Mitigated Negative Declaration has not identified any potentially significant environmental effects within the Water Board's jurisdiction, the Water Board is not required to make any specific finding pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096. The proposed waste discharge requirements will result in improved water quality in the Santa Maria Basin since they allow the Discharger to remediate shallow groundwater nitrate and improve the understanding of the Santa Maria groundwater basin, which is a goal of the Recycled Water Policy.
- 36. These waste discharge requirements are for an existing facility and are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\_info/agendas/2009/feb/020309\_7\_%20rw\_policy\_funding\_letter.pdf

21000, et. seq.) in accordance with Section 15301, Article 19, Chapter 3, Division 6, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

#### **MONITORING PROGRAM**

37. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2015-0007 (MRP) is a part of the proposed Order. The MRP is intended to verify compliance and ensure protection of groundwater quality.

#### **GENERAL FINDINGS**

- 38. Discharge of waste is a privilege, not a right, and authorization to discharge is conditional upon the Discharger's complying with provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, to protect beneficial uses, and to prevent nuisance. Compliance with this order should ensure this and mitigate potential adverse changes in water quality due to the discharge.
- 39. On February 25, 2015, the Water Board notified the Discharger and interested parties of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with a copy of the proposed Order and an opportunity to submit written views and comments.
- 40. After considering all comments pertaining to this discharge during a public hearing on May 28, 2015, this Order was found consistent with the above findings.
- 41. Any person affected by this action of the Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with Section 13320 of the California Water Code and Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 2050. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition within 30 days of the date of this Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided upon request.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order. Pursuant to authority in Sections 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, Windset Farms (California), Inc., its agents, successors, and assigns, may discharge waste at the above-described facility providing compliance is maintained with the following:

Throughout these requirements footnotes are listed to indicate the source of requirements specified. Requirement footnotes are as follows (requirements without footnotes are BPJ unless otherwise noted):

Best Professional Judgment of Regional Water Quality Control Board Staff

The Discharger's Report of Waste Discharge

<sup>40CFR</sup> Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations

BP Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Plan

Title 22 CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3, Water Reclamation Criteria

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code)

#### A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

- 1. Discharge of treated wastewater to areas other than the disposal area shown in Attachment "B" is prohibited.
- 2. Discharge of any wastes including overflow, bypass, seepage, or overspray from transport, treatment, or disposal systems to adjacent drainage ways or onto adjacent properties is prohibited.
- 3. Bypass of the treatment facility and discharge of untreated or partially treated wastes is prohibited. PC
- 4. A discharge of sludge, residues, or any other wastes into surface waters or into any area where it may be washed into surface water is prohibited. PC
- 5. Discharge of waste classified as "hazardous" or "designated" as defined in CCR, Title 23, Chapter 15, Section 2521 (a) and CWC Section 13173, respectively, to any part of the wastewater disposal system is prohibited.
- 6. The treatment and disposal of wastes at the facility shall not cause pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined in CWC Section 13050.

#### **B. SPECIFICATIONS**

### **System Operation**

- 1. All wastewater conveyance, treatment, disposal, and re-use shall occur as described in the Discharger's Report of Waste Discharge.
- 2. All equipment must be tested and calibrated as recommended by the equipment manufacturer.
- 3. The Discharger shall route all irrigation drain water through denitrification bioreactors identified as Biofilter 1 and Biofilter 2.
- 4. When Biofilters 1 and 2 have excess de-nitrifying capacity, the Discharger shall augment the water flow into the Biofilters with existing nitrate-impacted groundwater extracted from shallow zones.
- 5. Fodder crop irrigation shall occur at or below agronomic rates for moisture and nutrients.
- 6. Greenwaste shall be maintained separate from municipal waste. Greenwaste shall be hauled off-site for composting.
- 7. All solids generated must be reclaimed or disposed of in a manner acceptable to the Executive Officer.
- 8. The Discharger shall use a conservation tillage approach when mowing fodder crops.
- 9. Solids accumulation in each septic tank shall be regularly measured as stated in Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2015-0007 and the appropriate tank cleaned when

- a. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one-third of the tank depth of the first compartment.
- b. The scum layer is within 4 inches of the outlet device.
- c. The sludge layer is within 10 inches of the outlet device. Odors associated with the treatment and disposal of wastewater shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the Discharger's property boundary.

#### **Effluent Limitations**

Sanitary wastewater discharge rate shall not exceed a 30-day running average of 8,000 gpd.

#### **Groundwater Limitations**

- 11. The discharge shall not cause total nitrogen concentrations in the groundwater affected by disposal activities to exceed 5 mg/L as N or shall not cause a statistically significant increase of total nitrogen concentrations in underlying groundwater, whichever is more stringent.
- 12. Wastewater discharged to the leachfield zones shall not cause groundwater to contain tasteor odor-producing substances in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses. <sup>BP</sup>
- 13. Discharge shall not cause the median concentration of human fecal coliform organisms in groundwater over any seven-day period to be more than 2.2/100 ml.
- 14. The discharge shall not cause a statistically significant increase of mineral or organic pollutant concentrations in underlying groundwater, as determined by statistical analysis of samples collected from wells in the vicinity of the treatment and disposal area. BP
- 15. To protect the municipal and domestic supply beneficial uses of groundwater underlying the leachfields, treated wastewater discharged from the Facility shall not cause groundwater to: BP/BPJ/T22
  - a) Exceed the Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels for organic chemicals set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 5.5, Section 64444.
  - b) Exceed the Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels for inorganic chemicals set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 4, Section 64431.
  - c) Exceed the levels for radionuclide set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 64443.
- 16. The discharge shall not cause radionuclide to be present in groundwater in concentrations that are deleterious to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life, or result in the accumulation of radionuclide in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. BP

## **Wastewater Disposal**

- 17. Wastewater shall be confined to land owned or controlled by the Discharger. BPJ
- 18. Effluent shall not be discharged within 100 feet of any existing water supply well.

19. Effluent application rates shall be consistent with accepted engineering practice. BPJ

# C. SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM<sup>3</sup>

- The Discharger shall maintain an ongoing salt and nutrient management program with the
  intent of reducing mass loading of salts and nutrients (with an emphasis on nitrogen species)
  in treated effluent to a level that will ensure compliance with effluent limitations and protect
  beneficial uses of groundwater.
- 2. Salt reduction measures shall focus on all potential salt contributors to the collection system.
- 3. Nutrient reduction measures shall focus on optimizing wastewater treatment processes for nitrification and denitrification, or other means of nitrogen removal. Reduction measures may also include source control as appropriate.

#### D. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1. The Discharger shall comply with MRP No. R3-2015-0007, as specified by the Executive Officer. The Executive Officer is authorized to revise the MRP at any time during the Permit term.
- 2. All technical and monitoring reports submitted pursuant to this Order are required pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code. Failure to submit reports in accordance with schedules established by this Order, attachments to this Order, or failure to submit a report of sufficient technical quality acceptable to the Executive Officer, may subject the discharger to enforcement action pursuant to Section 13268 of the California Water Code.
- 3. The Discharger shall comply with all applicable items of the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements," dated December 5, 2013.
- 4. Physical facilities shall be designed and constructed according to accepted engineering practices and shall be capable of full compliance with this Order when properly operated and maintained. Operation and maintenance of the wastewater system shall conform to the Operations and Maintenance Plan, which shall be periodically reviewed, and, if appropriate, revised. The Operations and Maintenance Plan is subject to review by the Executive Officer, who shall be provided a current copy within ten days of any significant revision.
- 5. All discharges from the Facility shall comply with lawful requirements of the municipalities, counties, irrigation districts, drainage districts, and other local agencies regarding discharges of waste to land and surface waters within their jurisdiction.

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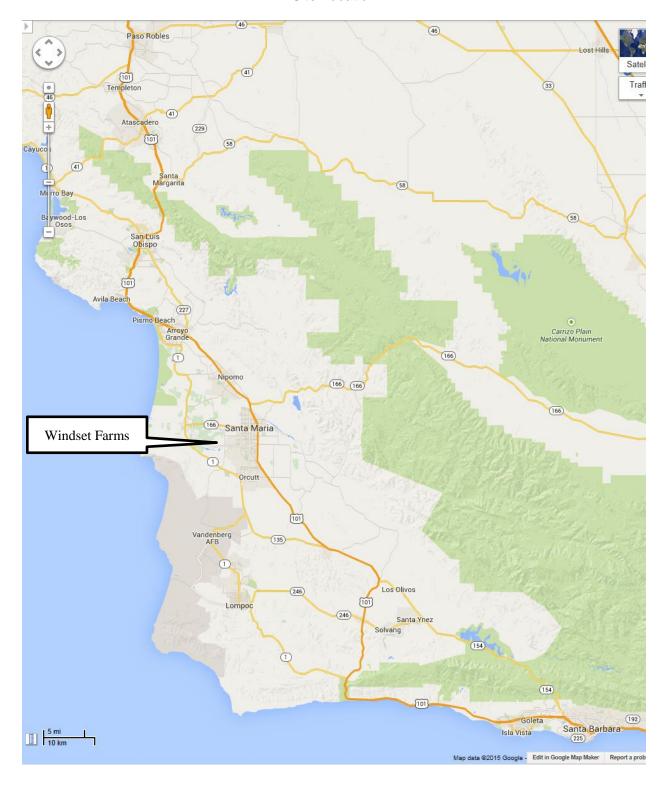
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As an alternative to the salt and nutrient management program requirements described in this section, upon Executive Officer approval, the Discharger may submit documentation and a summary of participation in a regional salt and nutrient management plan implemented under the provisions of State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 2009-0011 (Recycled Water Policy).

- 6. The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or waste management activities that may result in noncompliance with this Order.
- 7. This Order may be reopened to address any changes in state or federal plans, policies, or regulations that would affect the requirements for the discharge.
- 8. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or facilities presently owned or utilized by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner(s) or operator(s) of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Water Board.
- 9. The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 9, of the California Administrative Code given a material change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge. Material changes warranting submittal of a Report of Waste Discharge include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Addition of a major industrial waste discharge to a discharge of essentially domestic sewage, or the addition of a new process or product by an industrial facility resulting in a change in the character of the waste.
  - b) Significant change in disposal method, e.g., change from a land disposal to a direct discharge to water, or change in the method of treatment which would significantly alter the characteristics of the waste.
  - c) Significant change in the disposal area, e.g., moving the discharge to another drainage area, to a different water body, or to a disposal area significantly removed from the original area potentially causing different water quality or nuisance problems.
  - d) Increase in flow beyond that specified in the waste discharge requirements.

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# Site Location



# Disposal/Discharge Area Windset Farms, Santa Maria, CA

