

ITEM: 19

SUBJECT: Guenoc Winery, Inc., Guenoc Winery, Wastewater Treatment System, Lake County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements and a New Cease and Desist Order*

BACKGROUND: Guenoc Winery, Inc. (Discharger) owns and operates the Guenoc Winery, which is approximately two miles southeast of Middletown on Butts Canyon Road in Lake County. The winery will process up to 140,000 cases per year for export and local sale. Wastewater was previously treated in a series of five unlined evaporation/percolation ponds and was discharged to approximately seven acres of pastureland (Dedicated Disposal Area No. 1; DDA-1) or to 54 acres of pastureland (DDA-2). However, because this discharge polluted the underlying groundwater with salts and the Discharger did not comply with the schedule in the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) to cease the discharge of this waste to the ponds and to DDA-1, these revised WDRs were prepared. Wastewater will now be treated using a Bioreactor and a lined pond meeting Title 27 performance and prescriptive standards. Surface water from a nearby lake will be added to the wastewater prior to irrigating DDA-2. Process wastewater is estimated at up to 16,500 gallons per day (gpd) during the peak grape processing period and approximately 6,800 gpd during the off-season.

Because the Discharger is unable to immediately comply with the limitations of the revised WDRs and because the Discharger must remediate its plume of polluted groundwater, a companion Cease and Desist Order (C&D) was prepared. The C&D Order requires the Discharger to submit a Report of Waste Discharge containing a design for a Title 27 lined pond. The C&D Order requires that the pond be constructed and operational by 1 July 2007. In addition, the C&D Order requires the Discharger to install and operate the Bioreactor by 1 October 2006, and submit a report certifying that the treatment system has been built as described in the revised WDRs.

ISSUES: Staff has worked extensively with the Discharger to discuss the Orders and revise the timelines. This item is uncontested.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review _____

Legal Review _____

4/5 May 2006

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
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