

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: Lucero Olive Oil, LLC and Crane Mills, Inc., Lucero Olive Oil, Tehama County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of New Waste Discharge Requirements*

BACKGROUND: Lucero Olive Oil, LLC and Crane Mills, Inc. (Discharger) operate an olive oil processing plant (Facility) in Corning in Tehama County. From 2005 through 2007, the Discharger milled olives off-site at various local olive oil facilities regulated by the Central Valley Water Board. In 2008, the Discharger obtained coverage under the *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Including Wineries (Resolution R5-2003-0106) (Waiver)* for discharge of wastewater less than 100,000 gallons annually to land. In 2010, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for individual waste discharge requirements, since the projected flow criteria for coverage under the Waiver would be exceeded.

The Discharger's olive harvest typically begins in mid-September and ends mid-December. During this time, processing occurs approximately eight hours per day, five days a week. Raw olives are unloaded and conveyed to a wash tank where they are cleaned. The washed olives are then conveyed to a crusher, where the pits, meat, stems, and skin of the olives are ground together to form a paste. The paste is transferred to one of six 400-gallon malaxers, where the paste is agitated at a controlled temperature and the oil is separated from the fruit. A boiler is used to heat the malaxers; all boiler washdown and blowdown water is collected and disposed of offsite by a contracted cleaner. The remaining paste is transferred to a decanter to further separate the oil, water, and solids; the water and solids that are separated within the decanter are termed pomace. The pomace is sent to holding tanks or dump end trailers for disposal and the oil is sent to a polisher to further separate the oil and water. Wastewater is sent to storage tanks at the Facility. No chemicals are used at the facility; equipment is cleaned with a pressure washer.

Public comments were received from a private citizen and responses are included in the Response to Comments document included in this agenda item.

ISSUES: The main issue for this facility is that it has exceeded the daily volume in the General Order, and requires an Individual Waste Discharge Order. The 180-acre land application will receive (at full buildout) 0.17 inches/year of wastewater and 46 inches/year of irrigation water. Currently there is only 0.05 inches/year of wastewater being applied to the 180-acre land application area, along with the 46 inches/year of irrigation water.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review __BJS__
Legal Review __PEP__
| 02/03 February 2012
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