

**Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
Board Meeting – 21-22 April 2016**

**Response to Written Comments for
Ardagh Glass Inc.
Air Liquide Industrial U.S. Limited Partnership and
Strategic Materials Inc.
Glass Facility
Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements**

At a public hearing scheduled for 21 and 22 April 2016, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (Central Valley Water Board) will consider adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Ardagh Glass Inc., Air Liquide Industrial U.S. Limited Partnership, and Strategic Materials Inc., Glass Facility (Facility). This document contains responses to written comments received from interested parties regarding the tentative WDRs (TWDRs) initially circulated on 3 February 2016. Written comments from interested parties were required by public notice to be received by the Central Valley Water Board by 4 March 2016 to receive full consideration. Ardagh Glass Inc., submitted written comments.

Written comments from the above interested party are summarized below, followed by the response of the Central Valley Water Board staff. Central Valley Water Board staff did make some changes to the TWDRs based on comments and to improve clarity and fix typographical errors.

ARDAGH GLASS INC. (ARDAGH) COMMENTS

On 4 March 2016, Ardagh submitted comments via email with hardcopies received on 9 March 2016 that included Attachment A: Pond Capacity Study from Environmental Resources Management signed and stamped by Heather Dawn Balfour (RCE No. C64854), and Attachment B: Ardagh Glass Inc. questions related to Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 1: Ardagh requests to include Strategic Materials Inc., as a co-discharger in the TWDRs since Strategic Material Inc., discharges its storm water into Ardagh's collection system and the storm water is eventually discharged to Ardagh's evaporation/percolation ponds and unlined southwest holding pond.

RESPONSE: The requested change has been made.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 2: Ardagh comments that the owner name reference between Saint-Gobain Containers, LLC and Ardagh Glass Inc., is inconsistent in the TWDRs. Ardagh recommends combining finding one and three of the TWDRs refer to Ardagh Glass Inc., as Ardagh Glass Inc. (formerly Saint-Gobain Containers LLC.)

RESPONSE: The requested change has been made. Finding one and three have been combined to provide more clarity on the ownership of the Glass Facility.

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ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 3: Ardagh requests that finding four of the TWDRs include a description of the storm water discharge from Strategic Materials Inc.

RESPONSE: The requested change has been made.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 4: Ardagh recommends defining “Glass Facility” in finding five of the TWDRs.

RESPONSE: The requested change has not been made. The “Glass Facility” is defined in finding one.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 5: Ardagh requests that the TWDRs only reference solids related to the wastewater streams such as: oily sludge or fire water pond sediment. Ardagh discusses that scrubber solids are not part of the wastewater streams and that the semi-dry scrubber system is permitted and regulated by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

RESPONSE: The requested change has been made. Central Valley Water Board staff has spoken to Sangeetha Arunagiri, Environmental Manager with Ardagh to clarify how solids are handled at the Glass Facility. According to Ms. Arunagiri, scrubber solids generated from the semi-dry scrubber system are collected in Department of Transportation approved super sacks. The super sacks are then placed in a steel bin with capacity to hold eight super sacks. The steel bin is covered. After 90 days, the scrubber solids are hauled off-site to Clean Harbors – Grassy Mountain Landfill in Grantsville, Utah. Based on the information provided by Ms. Arunagiri, it appears that the scrubber solids generated at Ardagh will be properly handle and disposed of with no potential to impact groundwater.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 6: Ardagh requests that language in the TWDRs differentiate between drainage inlets related to storm water versus drainage inlets related to blowdown. Ardagh request that drainage inlets related to storm water be referred to as “catch basins” and drainage inlets related to blowdown be referred to as floor drains.

RESPONSE: Central Valley Water Board staff spoke with Karyn Wong, Senior Engineer with Environmental Resources Management (Ardagh’s Consultant) regarding the naming convention for the drainage inlets. Central Valley Water Board staff explained to Ms. Wong that naming the storm water drainage inlets “catch basins” can create confusion. Central Valley Water Board staff and Ms. Wong agreed that naming the drainage inlets related to storm water as storm water drainage inlets was appropriate to differentiate between storm water and blowdown drainage inlets.

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The appropriate changes have been made throughout the TWDRs to refer to drainage inlets related to storm water as storm water drainage inlets and drainage inlets related to blowdown as floor drains.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 7: The main comment by Ardagh has to do with parts of the TWDRs that discuss land application area. Ardagh no longer proposes to discharge non-contact cooling tower blowdown to the 30 acres of land originally proposed in their Report of Waste Discharge (RWD). Ardagh requests that all references to landscape irrigation of the land application area be removed from the TWDRs. Ardagh request that the language in the TWDRs be modified to read as follows:

“The facility manufactures glass and currently discharges treated domestic wastewater and non-contact cooling tower blowdown to on-site evaporation/percolation ponds. The facility proposes to continue to discharge treated domestic wastewater to the on-site evaporation/percolation ponds and to redirect cooling tower blowdown (1) as a supplement fire water pond; (2) as a supplement to cooling water for an oil/water separator recirculation system and (3) discharge to the on-site evaporation/percolation ponds.”

RESPONSE: The requested change has been made. Portions referring to the land application area have been removed from the TWDRs as appropriate, including the Provision requiring Ardagh to install a flow meter to monitor flow to the land application area. Language in the TWDRs has been modified to include Ardagh’s comment and also to provide clarity regarding the ponds.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 8: Ardagh points out that there may be a discrepancy in the direction of groundwater flow described in Finding 30 and 32. Finding 30 describes groundwater flow in the northeast direction and Finding 32 describes groundwater flow in the west/northwest direction.

RESPONSE: Central Valley Water Board staff has verified the direction of groundwater flow. There is a discrepancy between the two different groundwater flow directions, Finding 30 describes groundwater on a regional scale and Finding 32 describes groundwater that is more localized.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 9: Ardagh requests clarification why groundwater data from Constellation Mission Bell Winery is included in the TWDRs for Ardagh. Ardagh requests that the TWDRs not include groundwater data from Constellation Mission Bell Winery. According to Ardagh there is a concern with control and access to the groundwater monitoring wells owned by Constellation Mission Bell Winery.

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RESPONSE: TWDRs typically include groundwater findings to describe the quality of groundwater in the area of the discharge and determine possible impacts to groundwater pursuant to State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-16, (“Antidegradation Policy”).

Ardagh has been recalcitrant in providing sufficient technical information for Central Valley Water Board staff to write TWDRs. Several iterations of the RWD dated 4 February 2014, 17 November 2014, 18 September 2015, 7 January 2016, 8 January 2016, and 4 March 2016 have been submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and none of these iterations included sufficient information to characterize underlying groundwater in the area of the discharge.

The Central Valley Water Board has moved forward with writing WDRs based on best available data to characterize the quality of groundwater near Ardagh. This includes data from nearby groundwater monitoring wells from the Department of Water Resources, Water Data Library; United States Geological Survey, National Water Information System: Mapper; and Constellation Mission Bell Winery.

The requested change has not been made. The alternative is to include a provision in the TWDRs requiring Ardagh to install their own groundwater monitoring well network to monitor the impacts to groundwater from their discharge. The Constellation Mission Bell Winery groundwater data is public information and provides a representation of groundwater quality near the discharge.

ARDAGH COMMENT NO. 10: Ardagh requests clarification on Provision F.13 of the TWDRs. Ardagh inquires if quarterly monitoring reports are considered technical reports and if all quarterly monitoring reports require the signature and stamp of a professional engineer or geologists. In addition, Ardagh inquires if there are exceptions to having the quarterly monitoring reports signed and stamped by a professional engineer or geologist.

RESPONSE: Provision F.13 of the TWDRs provides standard language the Central Valley Water Board includes in all of its Orders. The signature and stamp of a professional engineer or geologist is required only if the monitoring report or other technical report includes engineering or geologic evaluations and judgement, then it shall be prepared by or under the direction of registered professionals.

The TWDRs for Ardagh as written do not require technical reports at this time. In addition, the Monitoring and Reporting Program does not include groundwater monitoring that would require the submittal of groundwater contour maps prepared by a registered professional.