Leprino Foods

351 N Belle Haven Dr
Lemoore, CA 93245

Via E-mail

Alexander S. Mushegan (Alexander.Mushegan@waterboards.ca.gov)
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer
Katie Carpenter (Katie.Carpenter@waterboards.ca.gov)
Engineering Geologist
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov)
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706

Re: Lemoore/Leprino River Ranch, Tentative WDRs Comments

Dear Mr. Mushegan and Ms. Carpenter:

Leprino Foods Company (Leprino) respectfully writes to comment on the referenced Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements Order (TWDRs) pursuant to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Water Board's) 14 November 2023 Notice (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/riverranch/river ranch_noph.pdf).

Leprino's only comment is to request that language be added to the TWDRs to confirm the circumstances under which it is permissible to discharge combined effluent from the irrigation canals into the evaporation basin. Specifically, Leprino requests that the following highlighted language be added to Discharge Prohibition B.6.:

6. Discharge of toxic substances into the evaporation basin at River Ranch is prohibited. Discharge of combined effluent from the irrigation canals into the evaporation basin is not prohibited where necessary (a) due to wet weather conditions (see Finding 32), (b) to maintain the required 2-foot minimum depth (see Discharge Specification F.14.), (c) to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (see Provision K.17.), or (d) to prevent runoff or tailwater from entering any surface water drainage course or storm water drainage system that leaves the River Ranch property (see Land Application Area Specification ¶H.4.).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Tim Hutcheson, Regional Director
Leprino Foods Company