

November 21, 2012

**Public Notice for Consideration  
of Approval of Nutrient Offset Projects  
at the Nunes Oceanview Dairy in Sonoma County**

Sonoma County

On October 30, 2012, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received a proposal from the City of Santa Rosa, requesting consideration and approval of a project to control and land apply accumulated manure and manure-enriched soils at the Nunes Oceanview Dairy, located adjacent to Windsor Creek, approximately 0.75 miles upstream of the confluence of Windsor Creek and the Laguna de Santa Rosa. The City proposes to fund the project and obtain nutrient reduction credits to offset the annual discharge of nutrients from its wastewater treatment facility to the Laguna de Santa Rosa, in accordance with Resolution No. R1-2008-0061 *Approving the Nutrient Offset Program for the Santa Rosa Subregional Water Reclamation System*.

The Project consists of the installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to eliminate nutrient runoff to Windsor Creek from manure lagoons and manure stacking areas associated with past practices at the Nunes Oceanview Dairy. BMP No. 1 involves emptying the two full manure lagoons and land applying the manure slurry and remaining solids at agronomic rates on forage fields on site. BMP No. 2 involves scraping and installation of erosion prevention practices for a 3.6-acre heavy use heifer loafing area that is situated between Windsor Creek and Mark West Creek. BMP No. 3 consists of the construction of an interim containment berm between the manure stacking area and Windsor Creek to eliminate nutrient loading contributions from the existing manure stacks and the eventual removal and beneficial reuse of the manure through land application. Details of the proposal can be found at the Nutrient Offset Program Web page at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water\\_issues/programs/nutrient\\_offset\\_program/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/nutrient_offset_program/).

The proposed nutrient credits and eligibility periods are as follows:

<b>Proposed Crediting Options</b>	<b>Annual Credits (lbs TN/yr)</b>	<b>Annual Credits (lbs TP/yr)</b>	<b>Proposed BMP Eligibility Period</b>
<b>BMP Type No. 1:</b> Empty and Manage Manure Lagoons	53,487 <sup>1</sup>	12,241 <sup>1</sup>	4 years
<b>BMP Type No. 2:</b> Upgrade Heavy Use Areas	0	92	4 years
<b>BMP Type No. 3:</b> Onsite Reuse of Stacked Manure Solids	104	21	4 years

<sup>1</sup> To account for annual reductions in the volume of manure contained in the lagoons after initiation of the project, it is proposed that annual credits for total nitrogen and total phosphorus are discounted by 40 percent and 30 percent, respectively, after the first year.

On June 8, 2008, the City of Santa Rosa certified the Discharge Compliance Project Environmental Impact Report (DCP EIR) that evaluated the potential impact of manure management and agricultural management projects, like the project specified in the proposal, which could be undertaken by the City for nutrient offset credits. The City has proposed that the Regional Water Board rely on the DCP EIR for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Project proposal is currently under review by Regional Water Board staff to determine consistency with the Nutrient Offset Program and eligibility as a nutrient offset project. If approved, the Project may begin as early as December 2012. The Project Proposal will be available for public review for 21 days beginning on **November 21, 2012**, and ending on **December 12, 2012**. Public comments will still be accepted during the entire 21-day comment period. If you have any questions, please contact staff member Charles Reed at (707) 576-2752 or by email at [Charles.Reed@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Charles.Reed@waterboards.ca.gov).