

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 9, 2008
Prepared on April 16, 2008

ITEM: 15

SUBJECT: Constellation Wine US (Formerly Pacific Wine Partners), Gonzales, Monterey County:

1. Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 87-138, and
2. Enrollment in Order No. R3-2008-0018, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste"

KEY INFORMATION

Discharger: Constellation Wine US, Gonzales Winery
Location: 800 South Alta St., Gonzales, Monterey County, CA
Discharge Type: Winery Process Wastewater
Discharge Volume: Current: 175,000 GPD (annual calendar-day average) Proposed: 340,000 GPD (ave, non-crush), 480,000 GPD (ave, crush)
Pretreatment: Solids separation with drain screens and a rotary screen
Treatment: Aeration ponds
Recycling: Vineyard irrigation
Existing Order: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 87-138
This Action: Rescind Order No. 87-138

SUMMARY

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 87-138 on September 4, 1987. Order No. 87-138 regulates the discharge of winery process wastewater generated from the Pacific Wine Partners in Gonzales. In 2008, the Water Board adopted Order No. R3-2008-0018, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste" (General Winery Requirements) to more efficiently regulate the large number of wineries in the central coast region. Accordingly, Water Board staff proposes to rescind Order No. 87-138 (Attachment 1) and enroll the Discharger under the General Winery Requirements.

DISCUSSION

Constellation Wine US (formerly Pacific Wine Partners) operates a winery located at 800 South Alta St., Gonzales, Monterey County. During the last two harvests, the winery crushed about 60,000 tons of grapes. Ultimately, the winery will expand their production to 100,000 tons crush. That production will result in an average crush flow of 480,000 gallons per day and a peak crush flow of 1,000,000 gallons per day.

Barrels and tanks are washed with spray balls with caustic, ozone, or hot water. Floor washing is done by a pressure washer, hose with water, or ozone. Currently, screened winery process water is pumped to two aerated ponds for aerobic treatment. The treated effluent is stored in

three storage ponds and reused for irrigation. The existing treatment system is adequate for the proposed future flows.

The solid wastes from the facility that are hauled offsite include: pomace and stems, solids greater than 0.02 inches, diatomaceous earth material, and general trash. The screened solids from the rotary screens are land-applied onsite.

The winery is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 87-138. Water Board staff's judgment is that the wastewater discharge from the Constellation Wine US, Gonzales Winery would be more appropriately regulated by Order No. R3-2008-0018, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste" (General Requirements) adopted by the Regional Board on February 8, 2008. The intent of the General Requirements is to facilitate the enrollment and regulation of the large number of wineries located in the Central Coast Region. Constellation Wine US, Gonzales Winery will be enrolled in General Order No. R3-2008-0018 on May 9, 2008, and Order No. 87-138 will be rescinded. The proposed discharge will comply with Regional Board standards, prohibitions, and requirements to protect water quality.

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

As of the date of this staff report, no comments have been received.

RECOMMENDATION

Rescind Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 87-138.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Order No. 87-138 including Monitoring and Reporting Program

TJK

126-01

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Hard File: Order R3-2002-0084, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste