

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT Regarding

**TENTATIVE ORDER R3-2026-0014
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
PERMIT CA0049224
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE SOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY
SOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND RECLAMATION
FACILITY DISCHARGE TO THE PAJARO RIVER, SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) will accept public comments on the tentative National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of treated wastewater from the South County Regional Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility and hold a public hearing to propose adoption of the NPDES permit. You may download the tentative NPDES permit from the Central Coast Water Board website at the following address:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/

The tentative NPDES permit includes new and updated requirements for the South County Regional Wastewater Authority's South County Regional Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility, in Gilroy, Santa Clara County. The facility collects wastewater from domestic, commercial, and industrial users and may discharge tertiary treated wastewater to the Pajaro River. The Central Coast Water Board currently regulates the facility's discharges under Order R3-2017-0028, NPDES Permit CA0049964.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS BY 12:00 PM ON FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Interested persons are invited to submit comments in writing to the Central Coast Water Board no later than **12:00 pm on February 17, 2026**. Please electronically submit comments or questions with the subject line "**Comment Letter, South County Regional Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility NPDES**" to RB3-NPDES@Waterboards.ca.gov.

Written comments can also be mailed or delivered to:

NPDES Unit
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

JANE GRAY, CHAIR | RYAN E. LODGE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

All comments received prior to that date will be considered in the formulation of staff recommendations regarding the NPDES permit. The Central Coast Water Board will not accept written comments or other written submittals on the proposed NPDES permit after **12:00 pm on February 17, 2026**, unless the Chair of the Central Coast Water Board rules that exclusion would create a hardship, and that the late submission will not prejudice any party or the Central Coast Water Board. Any person submitting late comments or other submittals must explain why such materials were not submitted by **12:00 pm on February 17, 2026**. The Chair of the Central Coast Water Board will rule on late submittals at or before the hearing. Late submittals that consist of evidence (as opposed to policy statements or comments) are generally prejudicial unless all parties and Central Coast Water Board staff have time to consider the evidence before the hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 16-17, 2026

The Central Coast Water Board will hold a public hearing on **April 16-17, 2026**, to consider the issuance of the proposed NPDES permit at the following location:

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Office
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo

Interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and may make oral comments relevant to the proposed NPDES permit. The Chair of the Central Coast Water Board will impose time limits on oral comments. Information will be available as part of the meeting agenda, at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2026/2026_agendas.html

STAFF CONTACT AND DOCUMENTS

The permit application, fact sheet, related documents, and all comments received may be downloaded as set forth above, and they are also available for inspection and copying by the public. Please submit any requests to review documents electronically to rb3-npdes@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please direct questions pertaining to the tentative NPDES permit to rb3-npdes@waterboards.ca.gov or to Sarah Bragg-Flavan at (805) 542-4636 or sarah.bragg-flavan@waterboards.ca.gov or Tamara Anderson at (805) 549-3334 or tamara.anderson@waterboards.ca.gov.

LANGUAGE SERVICES

The tentative NPDES permit are available in English. To request translation of written documents, interpretation services in another language or sign language services, please use one of the following options:

- Submit an online [Language Services Request](#)
- Call the Office of Public Participation at (916) 445-5615
- Email the Office of Public Participation at opp-languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov