
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Dan Williamson, Director
Leprino Foods Company
351 N. Belle Haven Drive
Lemoore, CA 93245

15 April 2019

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ; STATEWIDE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY; LEPRINO FOODS COMPANY; DEWATERING DISCHARGES FROM RECYCLED WATER PIPELINE INSTALLATION; KINGS COUNTY

On 28 March 2019, Apex Companies, LLC submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) on behalf of Leprino Foods Company (Leprino or Discharger) to obtain coverage under Water Quality Order 2003-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* (hereafter General Order), for discharges of dewatered groundwater from construction associated with installation of a recycled water pipeline (Project) near the City of Lemoore in Kings County. The submittal included a completed NOI form, application fee, a discharge monitoring plan (DMP), and CEQA compliance documentation.

The submittal contains all the information required to evaluate the applicability of the discharge under the General Order. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under **General Order 2003-0003-DWQ-0197**. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

PROJECT LOCATION

Dewatering activities will occur in areas approximately four miles west of the City of Lemoore along the Avenal Cutoff Road between Jackson Avenue and Hanford-Armona Road in Kings County (Township 19 South, Range 19 East, sections 2 through 25). This portion of Kings County is within the Tulare Lake Basin.

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, Third Edition*, revised May 2018 (hereafter Basin Plan), designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project involves installing a pipeline to transport recycled water from the City of Lemoore to the wastewater reclamation area known as Stone Ranch. During installation of the pipeline the construction company will need to construct excavation pits (Jack and Bore pits) to install the pipeline under Highway 198 and the San Joaquin railroad crossing. Due to shallow groundwater in the area, the Discharger expects to encounter groundwater which will need to be removed during construction activities in these areas.

According to the NOI five observation/extraction wells will be constructed in the area around the excavation pits to extract groundwater that could encroach on excavation activities. The dewatered groundwater will be stored in a 21,000-gallon frac tank until it can be discharged within the pipeline easement for compaction and dust control during construction of the pipeline. The dewatered groundwater will be discharged intermittently at a flow rate of less than 250 gallons per day to prevent ponding or runoff conditions. According to the DMP, the discharge will be monitored daily and the discharge ceased if any evidence of excessive ponding, runoff, or contamination is observed. The discharge will not resume until these conditions have been mitigated.

Upon completion of construction activities, the observation/extraction wells will be destroyed, and the excavation areas returned to pre-existing conditions.

The General Order and this Notice of Applicability (NOA) regulate the discharge of dewatered groundwater to land during construction activities associated with installation of the recycled water pipeline near the City of Lemoore in Kings County.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. All observation/extraction wells shall be permitted, constructed, and permanently abandoned in accordance with Kings County requirements and under oversight by Kings County Environmental Health Services.
2. Water generated during construction dewatering shall be disposed of as described in this NOA and in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.
3. Discharge of dewatered groundwater at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI is prohibited.
4. All technical reports required herein that involve evaluation, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1.
5. In accordance with the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program, all monitoring results, including volume and locations of discharges, shall be recorded and submitted on a semi-annual basis (i.e., July through December monitoring data shall be submitted by 15 February and January through June monitoring data shall be submitted by 15 August).

6. The Discharger shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing statement issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until this NOA is officially terminated.
7. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, and this NOA, could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has gone to a Paperless Office System. All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15, Place ID: 857591, Facility Name: Leprino Recycled Water Pipeline-Dewatering Discharge, General Order 2003-0003-DWQ-0197.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, please contact Katie Carpenter at (559) 445-5551 or by email at kcarpenter@waterboards.ca.gov.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CLAY RODGERS FOR

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Enclosure: General Order 2003-0003-DWQ (Discharger Only)

cc: Sean Porter, Apex Companies, LLC, San Diego (via email)
Nathan Olson, City of Lemoore, Lemoore (via email)
Kings County, Environmental Health Services, Hanford