



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

9 April 2025

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

**WATER QUALITY ORDER 2003-0003-DWQ-0258;
STATEWIDE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND
WITH A LOW THREAT TO WATER QUALITY;
FOR
PACIFIC PIPELINE COMPANY,
PENTLAND STATION HYDROSTATIC TEST DISCHARGE;
KERN COUNTY**

On 20 March 2025, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) received a Notice of Intent (NOI) from Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Stantec) on behalf of the Pacific Pipeline Company to obtain coverage under *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality* WQ Order 2003-0003-DWQ (hereafter General Order). The NOI is for the discharge of hydrostatic test water to land from the existing Las Flores Pipeline System. The test water will be discharged to approximately 20 acres of open agricultural land owned by MFC Kern 1, LLC. The submittal includes a NOI form, project maps, signed property owner agreement, and discharge monitoring plan. The application fee was received on 21 March 2025.

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 and associated documents, the proposed discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under the General Order and assigned enrollee

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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number **2003-0003-DWQ-0258**. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge. A copy of the [Low Threat General Order](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo2003-0003.pdf) is enclosed and available on the Central Valley Water Board's website at:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo2003-0003.pdf).

PROJECT LOCATION

The Las Flores Pipeline (CA-324, CA-325A and CA-325B) runs from the Las Flores Canyon facility in Santa Barbara County to Pentland Station, which is about 4.5 miles east of Maricopa in Kern County as shown in **Attachment A**. Following completion of the testing, the hydrostatic test water will be stored in tanks, treated, and then used as irrigation water on approximately 20 acres of agricultural land adjacent to Pentland Station in Kern County, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 239-132-11 (35° 03' 15.46" N, 119° 18' 52.98" W) as shown in **Attachment B**. This portion of Kern County is within the Tulare Lake Basin.

The operative Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (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

According to the Project description, the Pacific Pipeline Company (Discharger) plans to conduct hydrostatic testing on approximately 123 miles of pipeline for the existing Las Flores Pipeline System. The Las Flores Pipeline System includes three sections (CA-324, CA-325A, and CA325B) that carry crude oil from Santa Barbara County to Kern County's Pentland Station. For the hydrostatic test, the pipeline will be filled with fresh water from private wells at the Las Flores Canyon Facility in Santa Barbara County and will require up to 5.7 million gallons of water. An additional 400,000 gallons of water will be sourced from the Pentland Station in Kern County, bringing the total volume of water to be discharged to 6.1 million gallons.

After testing the pipeline, the hydrostatic test water will be pumped out at Pentland Station and treated to remove contaminants prior to application on adjacent agricultural land owned by MFC Kern 1, LLC. Treatment will consist of a series of settling tanks followed by particulate filters and skid-mounted granulated activated carbon (GAC) filters to remove hydrocarbons and some metals. After the GAC filters, the water will pass through an additional bag filter for polishing. A treatment flow schematic is included as **Attachment C**. After treatment, the water will be stored in two 3.4-million gallon tanks, tested, and then applied to approximately 20 acres of open agricultural land. The project is expected to take approximately 15 to 60 days.

According to the Discharger, a tracer dye (Tadco Floro Yellow A-7300-50) and an antimicrobial agent (Peracetic acid) will be added to the hydrostatic test water to detect leaks, control odors, and prevent microbial build up in the pipeline during hydrostatic testing. These compounds are expected to readily break down and be removed during the treatment process.

According to the Discharge Monitoring Plan submitted with the NOI, samples of the hydrostatic test water will be collected during and after treatment to verify effectiveness of the treatment system. In addition, samples will also be collected from the storage tanks prior to land application to ensure compliance with water quality objectives per the Basin Plan. Samples will be tested for compliance prior to the initial discharge and approximately every one-million gallons or a minimum of once a week during the discharge. The Discharger will also monitor the land application area during the discharge for evidence of ponding, runoff, or erosion.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The General Order and this NOA covers the discharge of treated hydrostatic test water from testing of the Las Flores Pipeline System (CA-324, CA-325A and CA-325B) to open agricultural land owned by MFC Kern 1, LLC near Pentland Station in Kern County. The Discharger shall comply with the requirements specified in the General Order and the facility-specific requirements listed below.

1. Discharge to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
2. Discharge of wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described in the RWD and this NOA is prohibited.
3. The discharge shall be evenly spread across the land application area to minimize ponding and all water must infiltrate/evaporate within 72 hours.
4. In accordance with the General Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program all monitoring results, including volume and location of discharges, shall be submitted on a semi-annual basis (i.e., July through December monitoring data shall be submitted by 15 February of each year, and January through June monitoring data shall be submitted by 15 August of each year).
5. Flows shall be monitored, and samples of the discharge for quality analyses shall be collected at the point where it leaves the storage tanks and prior to land application. Samples shall be collected prior to the start of the discharge, and after every one-million gallons discharged. At a minimum, the discharge shall be analyzed for the following parameters:
 - pH
 - Electrical conductivity (EC)

- Total dissolved solids (TDS)
 - Title 22 metals
 - Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX)
 - Total petroleum hydrocarbons (as gasoline, diesel, and motor oil)
 - Volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs and SVOCs)
6. The GAC filters shall be switched or changed out and replaced, as needed, to ensure a proper level of treatment as described in the Discharge Monitoring Plan.
7. 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.

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the details of the proposed discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements of this NOA, Low Threat Order 2003-0003-DWQ, or applicable monitoring requirements may result in enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code, which could include civil liability.

DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: PPC Pentland Station – Hydrostatic Discharge
Program: NON-15
Order: 2003-0003-DWQ-0258
CIWQS Place ID: 900609

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Fresno Office
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706

All documents, including responses to inspections and written notifications, submitted to comply with this Waiver shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the Compliance and Enforcement Unit, attention to Omar Mostafa. Mr. Mostafa can be

reached at (559) 488-4397 or Omar.Mostafa@waterboards.ca.gov. Questions regarding the permitting aspects of the General Order, and notification for termination of coverage under the NOA, shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the WDR Permitting Unit, attention Katie Carpenter. Ms. Carpenter can be reached at (559) 445-5551 or by email at Katie.Carpenter@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. [Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions](#) may be found on the internet or will be provided upon request.
(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality).

Original signed by Alex. S. Mushegan
For Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Attachment A – Pipeline Map
Attachment B – Site Map
Attachment C – Treatment Flow Schematic

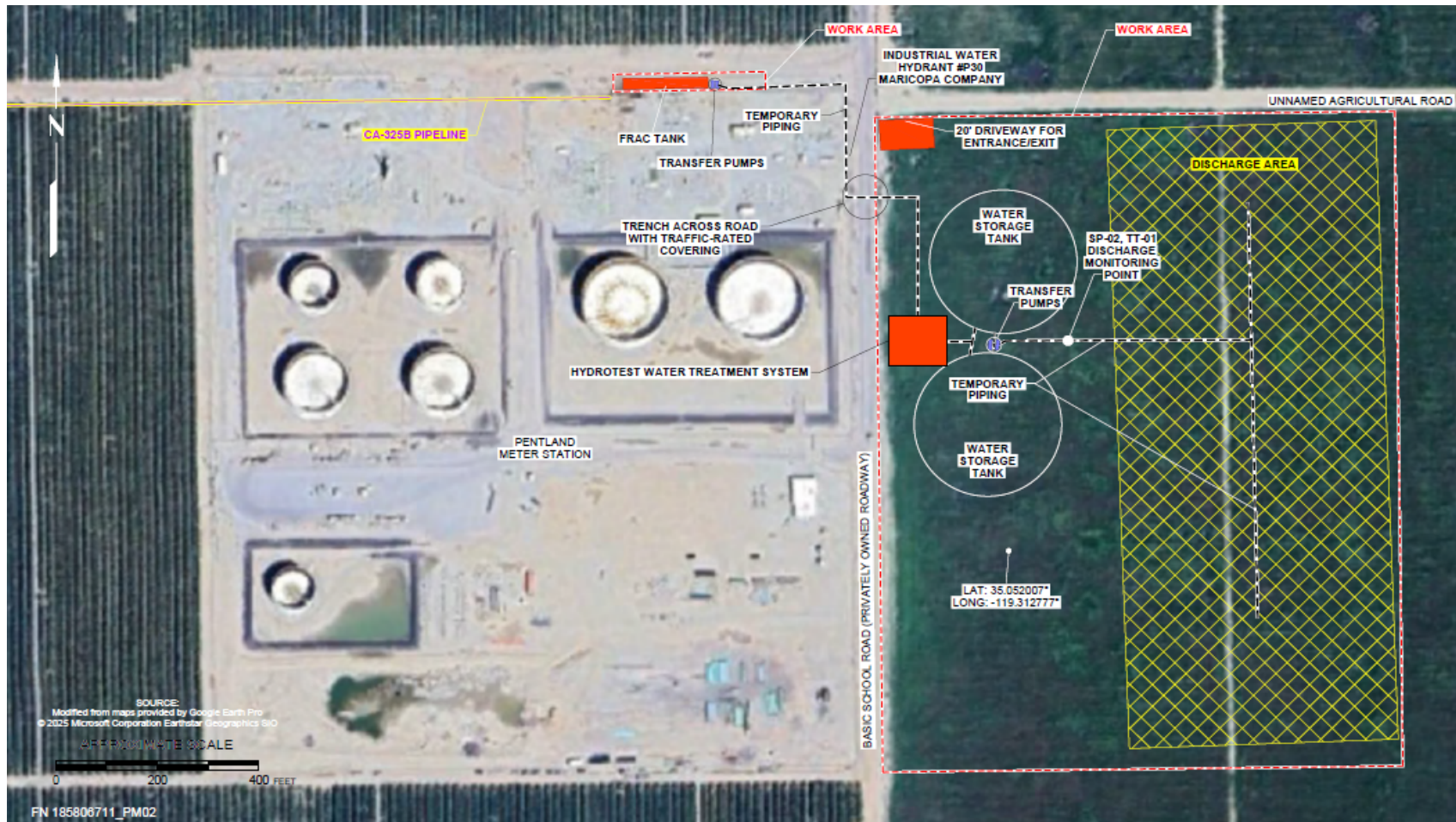
Enclosures: General Order 2003-0003-DWQ

cc w/o encs.: Chris Moskal, State Water Resources Control Board, OCC (via email)
Omar Mostafa, Central Valley Water Board (via email)
James Anderson, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (via email)
Gary Zunkel, Bluefin (via email)
Bradley Petras, HPC Industrial (via email)

ATTACHMENT A – Pipeline Map



Attachment B – Site Map



PROPOSED LAYOUT OF WATER TREATMENT, STORAGE AND DISCHARGE LOCATIONS

PACIFIC PIPELINE COMPANY CA324A - CA325 HYDROTEST
Santa Barbara County to
Pentland Station - Unincorporated Kern County

EXPLANATION

Location of Piping, Staging, Treatment, Storage and Discharge locations proposed for treated hydrotest water from the CA324A-CA325A Hydrotest removed at Pentland Station and pumped, treated, stored and discharged on a privately owned agricultural parcel located in unincorporated Kern County near Pentland, California.

Attachment C – Treatment Flow Schematic

