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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

19 December 2017

Kevin Oliver  
Wood Industries Company  
7715 Avenue 296  
Visalia, CA 93291

Quinn Enterprises  
7282 Orangethorpe Avenue  
Buena Park, CA 90622

### NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

#### WATER QUALITY ORDER 2015-0121-DWQ GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPOSTING OPERATIONS WOOD INDUSTRIES COMPANY, TULARE COUNTY

On 10 October 2017, Wood Industries Company (Wood Industries) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI), filing fee and preliminary technical information for the Wood Industries Company Composting Facility (facility). A more comprehensive technical report was submitted on 19 October 2017. These documents were submitted to obtain coverage under Water Quality Order 2015-0121-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (hereafter General Order) for composting operations at the above-referenced site. The complete General Order can be accessed at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/water\\_quality/2015/wqo2015\\_0121\\_dwq.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2015/wqo2015_0121_dwq.pdf)

This Notice of Applicability (NOA) was developed after the review of your NOI and technical report as described in the attached memorandum, which is a part of this NOA. Based on staff's review, the facility meets the conditions of the General Order and is hereby covered under General Order **2015-0121-DWQ-R5F010** as a **Tier II** composting operation. The Discharger must comply with all Tier II requirements of the General Order.

The filing fee for the Wood Industries Company Composting Facility is based on Threat to Water Quality and Complexity rating of 3B. The submitted \$4,699 filing fee covers the first year permitted by this NOA. The Discharger shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until the NOA is officially terminated.

To fully comply with this NOA, please be familiar with the contents of the enclosed memorandum and all of the requirements of the General Order. The Discharger is responsible for implementing all operations in a manner that complies with the General Order. Any noncompliance with this General Order constitutes a violation of the Water Code, and is grounds for enforcement action, and/or termination of enrollment under this General Order.

Conditions of this Composting General Order include but are not limited to:

1. Provide the results of the proposed comprehensive soil analysis by 31 October 2018.
2. Submit a Water and Wastewater Management Plan by 31 October 2018.
3. Address any flood protection deficiencies by 31 July 2022.
4. Address any hydraulic conductivity deficiencies by 31 July 2022.
5. Expand existing stormwater basins or add additional stormwater basins to meet the design storm storage requirements by 31 July 2022.
6. Install a pan lysimeter beneath each stormwater basin and install a liner system, which meets the requirements of the General Order, in all stormwater basins by 31 July 2022.
7. The existing facility needs to be graded so that all surface runoff drains to the drainage conveyance system by 31 July 2022.
8. Technical reports must be submitted 90 days prior to each construction activity. While post-construction reports must be submitted 60 days after the completion of each construction activity.
9. Any expansion of facility operation must meet the requirements of the General Order prior to commencement of composting operations in any new area.
10. A revised NOI is required at least 90 days prior to:
  - o adding a new feedstock, additive, or amendment;
  - o changing material or construction specifications;
  - o changing a monitoring program; or
  - o changing an operation or activity not described in the approved NOI and technical report.

Attachment B of the General Order includes specific monitoring and reporting requirements that you must comply with, including routine monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board. The first year Annual Monitoring and Maintenance Report as identified in the General Order must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board no later than **1 April 2018**, and then annually by 1 April each year.

All reports and other correspondence must be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB are to be emailed to: [centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov). Documents that are 50 MB or larger are to be transferred to a portable data storage device and mailed to this office at the address provided on the cover page.

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 for this office:

Discharger Name:	Wood Industries Company
Facility Name:	Wood Industries Company Composting Facility
County:	Tulare County
CIWQS Place ID:	272904

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the attached memorandum, please contact Kristen Gomes at (559) 445-5108 or [kristen.gomes@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kristen.gomes@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Original Signed by Clay L. Rodgers for*

Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Memorandum

cc: Nadine Langley, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento  
Matt Razor, 4 Creeks, Visalia

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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Daniel L. Carlson  
Senior Engineering Geologist

Scott J. Hatton  
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

Clay L. Rodgers  
Assistant Executive Officer

FROM: Kristen S. Gomes  
Water Resource Control Engineer  
PE No. 79025

DATE: 19 December 2017

### **APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WATER QUALITY ORDER 2015-0121-DWQ, WOOD INDUSTRIES COMPANY, TULARE COUNTY**

#### **REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE**

On 10 October 2017, Wood Industries Company (Wood Industries) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI), filling fee and preliminary technical information for the Wood Industries Company Composting Facility (facility). A more comprehensive technical report was submitted on 19 October 2017. These documents were submitted to obtain coverage under Water Quality Order 2015-0121-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (hereafter General Order) for composting operations at the above-referenced site.

#### **SITE CONDITIONS**

The facility is located at 7715 Avenue 296 in Tulare County, west of the City of Visalia. Composting operations occur on 25 acres of the 92-acre site. An additional 10 acres is used for material receiving, screening, and processing, which includes chipping and grinding activities. The chipping and grinding activities are exempt from the General Order and occur on the western end of the site. The site includes Assessor Parcel Numbers 081-080-11 and 081-090-01.

Based on Department of Water Resources (DWR) data, depth to groundwater at the facility is estimated to be 140 feet below ground surface, and the groundwater flow gradient is generally to the south. Currently, there are no monitoring wells at this facility.

Data from the Hanford, Visalia, and Porterville stations were used to determine the average (9.12 inches), minimum (2.96 inches), and maximum (17.50 inches) annual precipitation. The average annual pan evaporation ranged between 65 inches (Bakersfield station) and 68 inches (Fresno station). The magnitude of the 24-hour 25-year design storm was estimated to be 2.74 inches based on the data provided from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Administration. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Floodplain Community Panel Nos. 06107C0910E and 06031C0250C, the facility is located in a Zone A and Zone X designation.

Zone X represents areas outside the 1-percent annual chance floodplain, areas of 1% annual chance sheet flow flooding where average depths are less than 1 foot, areas of 1% annual chance stream flooding where the contributing drainage area is less than 1 square mile, or areas protected from the 1% annual chance flood by levees. No Base Flood Elevations or depths are shown within this zone. Insurance purchase is not required in these zones.

FEMA defines a Zone A to represent areas with a 1% annual chance of flooding and a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Detailed analyses are not performed for such areas and no depths or base flood elevations are shown within these zones. This designation locates approximate areas of flooding within the 100-year peak storm events but does not include a base flood elevation. Since a portion of the facility is within the Zone A designation, flood protection may be required for these specific areas of the production area. Once existing site studies are completed, including hydraulic conductivity testing, the required facility modifications will be identified and designed. Any flood protection deficiencies will be addressed by 31 July 2022.

Land uses within one mile of the facility include rural agricultural land, a recycling center, a few commercial businesses, an airport, a golf course, and the City of Visalia wastewater treatment plant. Water is supplied to the facility by two on-site agricultural wells, one of which is located in the northwestern portion of the site and the other in the southeastern. The nearest domestic supply well is over 1,000 feet west of the facility. The closest surface water bodies are Mill Creek and Persian Ditch, which run through the property. Composting operations are located south and the facility grading diverts surface runoff to the stormwater basin. Wood Industries Company will ensure that composting operations are not within 100 feet of the wells or the surface water bodies.

Geologic maps and cross sections provided by the Department of Water Resources for the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District were used to analyze the site's lithology and structural features. The facility hydrogeology is made up of older alluvium deposits interfingering by a clay layer. Additionally, a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey Custom Soils Resources Report was performed for the facility. The soil type for the working surfaces of the composting operation was determined to be colpien loam. Site specific hydraulic conductivity tests directly below the operation boundary are pending.

### **COMPOSTING OPERATIONS**

Wood Industries Company is currently permitted to receive and process up to 400 tons per day of green waste and smaller quantities of source separated food and agricultural wastes. The permitted operational capacity is currently 500,000 cubic yards. Most incoming feedstock arrives to the facility in bulk. It is then size-reduced, screened, and sorted to remove undesirable material. The facility currently utilizes the open windrow composting technique. Windrows are monitored, watered, and turned during the composting process.

Composting operations are on native soil and the working surfaces have some compaction from the daily operation of equipment onsite. The facility currently has one unlined stormwater basin that is inadequately sized for the 25-year, 24-hour storm event. Wood Industries Company proposes to either add additional basins or to expand the existing basin to meet the design

stormwater storage requirements. Wood Industries Company is currently testing the working surfaces and soil beneath the stormwater basins to evaluate the hydraulic conductivity and the results are pending. If the preliminary results meet the hydraulic conductivity requirements in the sampled areas, Wood Industries Company intends to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the entire site to evaluate the hydraulic conductivity of the soils in working surface and stormwater basin areas. The comprehensive soil analysis is expected to be completed by 31 December 2018. Any deficiencies noted in hydraulic conductivity requirements are expected to be brought into compliance by 31 July 2022. The stormwater basin will be expanded, lined, one pan lysimeter will be installed under each basin by 31 July 2022, in accordance with the General Order.

### **TIMELINE FOR COMPLIANCE**

Full compliance with the General Order must be completed by August 2022 for existing facility operations. Any expansion of facility operation must meet the requirements of the General Order prior to commencement of composting operations in any new area. Wood Industries Company proposes a four year time schedule for compliance with the General Order. Wood Industries Company must comply with the following timeline.

<b>Improvement</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
Correction of Hydraulic Conductivity, Grading, and Flood Protection Deficiencies	<b>31 July 2022</b>
Stormwater Basin Expansion, Liner and Pan Lysimeter Installation	<b>31 July 2022</b>

Wood Industries Company must submit a post-construction report to the Central Valley Water Board within 60 days of completing all construction activities associated with all applicable containment and monitoring structures, as required for compliance with this General Order and the MRP.

Additionally, prior to any facility expansion, Wood Industries Company will have to submit a technical report with design information at least 90 days prior to new construction of working surfaces, detention ponds, berms, ditches, or any other water quality protection containment structure for approval by the Central Valley Water Board. The design information must include water balance calculations for detention ponds and wastewater conveyance features.

### **MONITORING AND REPORTING**

Wood Industries Company will regularly inspect and maintain all containment, control, monitoring structures, and monitoring systems pursuant to the technical report and Attachment B of the General Order Monitoring and Reporting requirements. The frequency of inspections will be sufficient to prevent discharges of feedstocks, compost (active, curing, or final product), or wastewater from creating, threatening to create, or contributing to conditions of contamination, pollution, or nuisance.

Wood Industries Company will conduct a monitoring program as prescribed in the applicable portions of Attachment B of General Order Monitoring and Reporting requirements. Sections that apply are A.1., A.2., and B. Results of monitoring will be reported annually in the Annual Monitoring and Maintenance Report, which will be submitted by **1 April** of each year as long as the Notice of Applicability is in effect.

### **SITE CLOSURE**

At least 90 days prior to ceasing composting operations, Wood Industries Company shall submit a Site Closure Plan to the RWQCB for approval. The site restoration shall include work necessary to protect public health, safety, and the environment.

### **DISCUSSION**

The facility was inspected on 10 October 2017. Current and proposed future composting operations are on native surfaces. On-site stormwater basins and drainage ditches are unlined and inadequately sized for the 25-year 24-hour storm event. Hydraulic conductivity test results are pending for these areas. Wood Industries Company intends to meet the hydraulic conductivity and liner system requirements of the General Order.

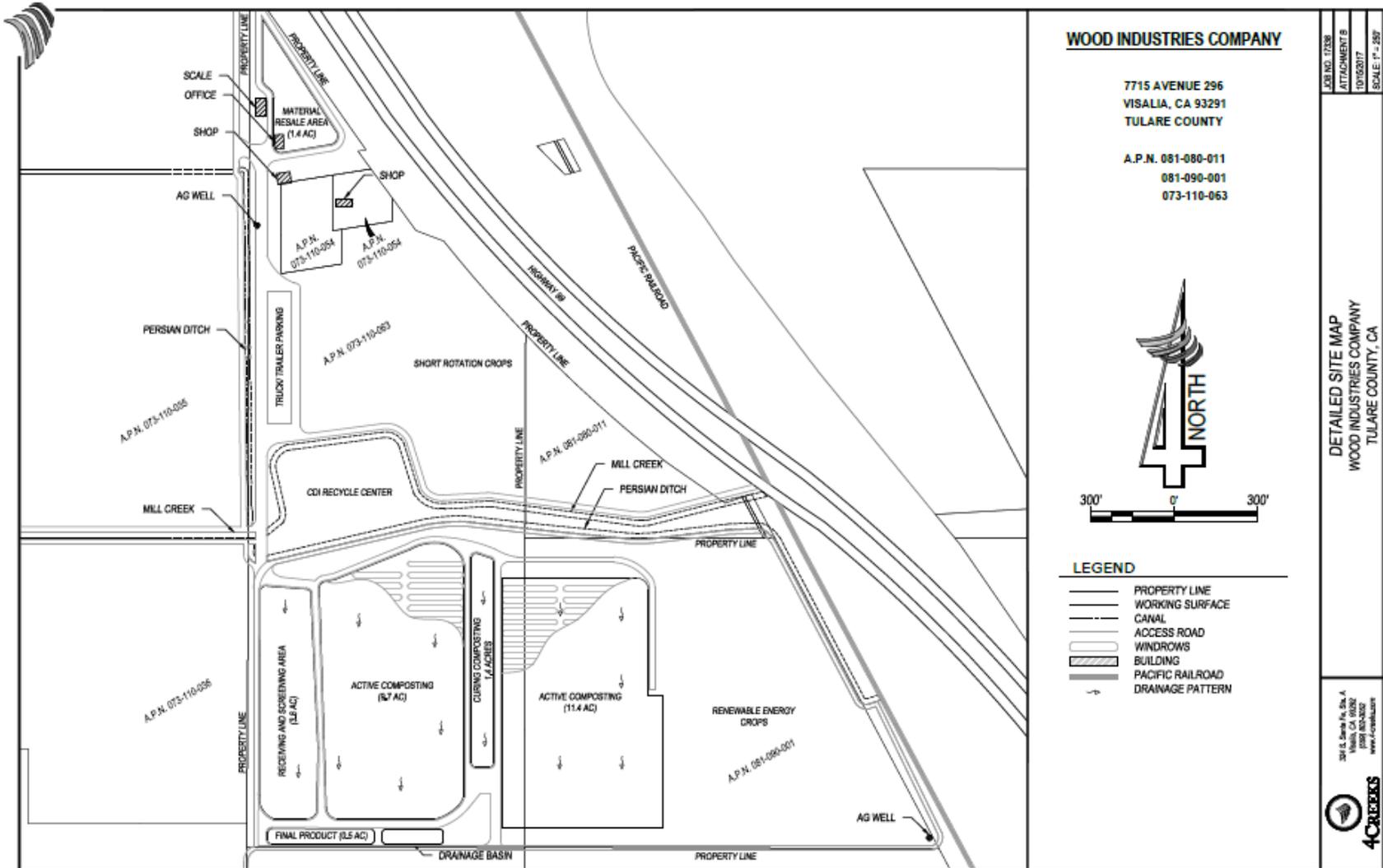
### **RECOMMENDATION**

Based on staff review of the technical report and supporting documents, it is anticipated that Wood Industries Company can meet the minimum requirements of the General Order. The Notice of Applicability can be issued and stay in effect as long as the Wood Industries Company implements all operations in a manner that complies with the requirements of the General Order.

Wood Industries Company must comply with the following items:

1. Provide the results of the proposed comprehensive soil analysis by 31 October 2018.
2. Submit a Water and Wastewater Management Plan by 31 October 2018.
3. Address any hydraulic conductivity and flood protection deficiencies by 31 July 2022.
4. Expand existing stormwater basins or add additional stormwater basins to meet the design storm storage requirements by 31 July 2022.
5. Install a pan lysimeter beneath each stormwater basin and install a liner system, which meets the requirements of the General Order, in all stormwater basins by 31 July 2022.
6. The existing facility needs to be graded so that all surface runoff drains to the drainage conveyance system by 31 July 2022.
7. Technical reports must be submitted 90 days prior to each construction activity. While post-construction reports must be submitted 60 days after the completion of each construction activity.
8. Any expansion of facility operation must meet the requirements of the General Order prior to commencement of composting operations in any new area.

ATTACHMENT A



**WOOD INDUSTRIES COMPANY**

7715 AVENUE 296  
 VISALIA, CA 93291  
 TULARE COUNTY

A.P.N. 081-080-011  
 081-090-001  
 073-110-063



**LEGEND**

- PROPERTY LINE
- WORKING SURFACE
- CANAL
- ACCESS ROAD
- WINDROWS
- ▭ BUILDING
- PACIFIC RAILROAD
- DRAINAGE PATTERN

JOB NO. 17038  
 ATTACHMENT B  
 10/10/2017  
 SCALE 1" = 250'

DETAILED SITE MAP  
 WOOD INDUSTRIES COMPANY  
 TULARE COUNTY, CA

301 S. Santa Fe, Box A  
 Visalia, CA 93292  
 (559) 802-8300  
 www.4creed.com

