Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

25 August 2026

Sherry Ramirez
Design/Construction Project Manager
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.
One Kaiser Plaza, 22nd Floor
Oakland, CA, 94162

VIA EMAIL
Sherry.L.Ramirez@kp.org

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2022-0006-03 FOR LIMITED THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATER; KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN, INC., KAISER MANTECA MEDICAL CENTER UNDERGROUND TANK INSTALLATION PROJECT, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on 9 July 2026 from Aquifer Sciences on behalf of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (hereinafter Discharger), for discharge of treated groundwater to surface water, for enrollment under the General Order for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order) R5-2022-0006-03. Based on the NOI and subsequent information submitted by the Discharger, staff has determined that the project meets the required conditions for approval under the Limited Threat General Order, as a groundwater dewatering project. This project is hereby assigned Limited Threat General Order R5-2022-0006-045 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002. Please reference your Limited Threat General Order number, **R5-2022-0006-045**, in your correspondence and submitted documents.

The project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the Limited Threat General Order and as specified in this NOA. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the entire contents of the enclosed Limited Threat General Order (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2022-0006-03_amended.pdf)

CALIFORNIA TOXICS RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Limited Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxics Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP). Screening levels for CTR constituents and other constituents of concern are found in Attachment I of the Limited Threat General Order.

Review of your water quality data in comparison to the screening values, showed reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to an exceedance of aluminum, manganese, and total suspended solids (TSS) water quality objectives in French Camp Slough, which is a water of the United States. However, the proposed treatment system addresses the water quality concern by reducing aluminum, manganese, and TSS concentrations below water quality objectives; therefore, the Project qualifies for the Limited Threat General Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Kaiser Permanente Manteca Hospital is constructing a new emergency department expansion to replace and expand the existing emergency department. The new emergency department includes three underground storage tanks; a 20,000-gallon potable water tank, a 20,000-gallon wastewater tank, and a 12,000-gallon fuel oil tank that require dewatering to install.

Construction dewatering activities are estimated to begin in August 2026 and continue for approximately 12 months. Dewatering is estimated to produce up to 200,000 gallons per day (gpd).

Groundwater samples were collected from existing a groundwater well located near the proposed improvements. Results showed that aluminum, manganese and total suspended solids were detected at concentrations above the applicable screening levels and will require treatment prior to discharge. The treatment system consists of particle settling tanks, sand filtration, and bag filtration with 50-micron filters.

The Discharger has obtained permission from the City of Manteca to discharge treated groundwater via a series of temporary pipes and pumps to two storm drain inlets located near the tank excavation sites as shown in Attachment A. The storm drain system conveys stormwater into Drain 7, which outfalls to French Camp Outlet Canal (FCOC) and eventually to French Camp Slough.

DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

Discharge prohibitions are specified in Section IV Discharge Prohibitions of the Limited Threat General Order. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the following discharge prohibitions are applicable to this discharge:

- Prohibition IV.A
- Prohibition IV.B
- Prohibition IV.C
- Prohibition IV.D. The flow rate shall not exceed 0.25 MGD.

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Effluent limitations are specified in Section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of the Limited Threat General Order. Based on the information provided in the NOI, effluent limitations are only required for the parameters identified in items 1-4, below:

1. **pH (Section V.A.1.b.i).** The pH of all limited threat discharges within the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (except Goose Lake in Modoc County) shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 and 8.5.

2. **Whole Effluent Toxicity, Chronic (Section V.A.2.a).** There shall be no chronic toxicity in the discharge.

3. **Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos.** For water bodies as specified in Table 3-4 of the Basin Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basin, effluent diazinon and chlorpyrifos concentrations shall not exceed the sum of one (1.0) as identified below:

    i. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)
    SAMEL = CD M-avg/0.079 + CC M-avg/0.012 ≤ 1.0
    CD M-AVG = average monthly diazinon effluent concentration in µg/L
    CC M-AVG = average monthly chlorpyrifos effluent concentration in µg/L

    ii. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)
    SAWEL = CD W-avg/0.16 + CC W-avg/0.025 ≤ 1.0
    CD W-AVG = average weekly diazinon effluent concentration in µg/L
    CC W-AVG = average weekly chlorpyrifos effluent concentration in µg/L

4. **Constituents and Parameters of Concern (Section V.A.1.e).** The following constituents and parameters in Table 1 below have been identified as having reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above water quality objectives and shall not exceed the effluent limitations as listed.

Table 1. Effluent Limitations for Constituents and Parameters of Concern

Parameter	Units	Average Monthly Effluent Limitations	Maximum Daily Effluent Limitations	Section Reference
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	20	V.B.1
Aluminum, Total	µg/L	310	620	V.A.1.e

Table 1 Notes:

1. **Aluminum.** Compliance with the final effluent limitations for aluminum can be demonstrated using either total or acid-soluble (inductively coupled plasma/atomic emission spectrometry or inductively coupled plasma/mass spectrometry) analysis methods, as supported by U.S. EPA's Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Aluminum document (EPA 440/5-86-008), or other standard methods that exclude aluminum silicate particles as approved by the Executive Officer. Results can be evaluated from samples that have been passed through a

1.5-micron filter to evaluate compliance with the Secondary MCL criteria.

French Camp Slough is designated as having Municipal and Domestic beneficial uses. French Camp Slough (San Joaquin County; outside Delta Waterways) is listed for Toxicity, Dissolved Oxygen, Indicator Bacteria, Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos on the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has not yet been established for French Camp Slough for Toxicity, Dissolved Oxygen, or Indicator Bacteria. Therefore, no additional 303(d) based effluent limitations or monitoring requirements are included in this NOA for these constituents. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been established for French Camp Slough for Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos. Therefore, additional 303(d) based effluent limitations or monitoring requirements are included in this NOA for Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos as described above.

RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

The Limited Threat General Order includes receiving surface water limitations in Section VIII.A. Based on the information provided in the NOI, only the following receiving surface water limitations are applicable to this discharge:

- Bacteria (VIII.A.2);
- Biostimulatory substances (VIII.A.3);
- Chemical constituents (VIII.A.4);
- Color (VIII.A.5);
- Dissolved oxygen (VIII.A.6.a.iii)
- Floating material (VIII.A.7);
- Oil and grease (VIII.A.8);
- pH (VIII.A.9.a);
- Pesticides ((VIII.A.10);
- Radioactivity (VIII.A.11);
- Suspended sediments (VIII.A.12);
- Settleable substances (VIII.A.13);
- Suspended material (VIII.A.14);
- Taste and odors (VIII.A.15);
- Temperature (VIII.A.16.a)
- Toxicity (VIII.A.17); and
- Turbidity (VIII.A.18.a).

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

The Limited Threat General Order contains Provisions in Section IX.C. Based on information provided in the NOI the following site-specific special provisions are applicable to the Project.

Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan – The Limited Threat General Order in Section IX.C.3.c requires Dischargers with projects greater than or equal to 180 days in

duration to submit and implement a Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan to identify and address sources of salinity discharged from the Facility. A Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan shall be submitted by **1 April 2027**.

For enrollees under the CV-SALTS Salt Control Program's Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach (Path 2), Table 16 of the Limited Threat General Order includes performance-based electrical conductivity (EC) triggers to be included in the NOA to ensure the Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan is effective. The Discharger submitted a Notice of Intent for the Salt Control Program in July 2026 indicating its intent to comply with the Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach and participate in the CV-SALTS Prioritization and Optimization Study. Based on effluent EC data from June 2026, the maximum effluent concentration for EC was 981 µmhos/cm, which results in an EC effluent trigger of 1,400 µmhos/cm per Table 16 of the Limited Threat General Order. If the calendar annual average effluent EC exceeds 1,400 µmhos/cm, the Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan shall be reviewed and updated. The updated Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan shall be submitted by 1 April following the calendar year in which the electrical conductivity concentration exceeded the trigger.

You must pay for the annual P&O Study fee through the Payment Portal (https://www.cvsalinity.org/po-fee-form/). If you cannot access the portal or have question on how your fee was calculated, you may contact info@cvsalinity.org. Once your payment has been accepted, you will receive a Certificate of Participation. Please submit both the Certificate and the NOI to the Central Valley Water Board at cvsalts@waterboards.ca.gov.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring and reporting requirements are contained in Attachment C of the Limited Threat General Order. The Discharger is required to comply with the following specific monitoring and reporting requirements for the effluent in accordance with Attachment C of the Limited Threat General Order.

Monitoring Locations – The Discharger shall monitor the effluent at the specified location as follows:

Table 2. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
001	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to discharging to City of Manteca Storm Drain System near St Dominic's Drive on the west side of the site.
002	EFF-002	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to discharging to City of Manteca Storm Drain

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
		System near Yosemite Ave on the southwest side of the site.

Effluent Monitoring – When discharging to surface water, the Discharger shall monitor the effluent at EFF-001 in accordance with Table C-3 of the Limited Threat General Order and this NOA. The applicable monitoring requirements are as follows in Table 3 and subsequent Table 3 Notes:

Table 3. Effluent Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Discharge Flow Rate	MGD	Calculated	1/Day
Electrical Conductivity @ 25 °C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Month
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Month
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Month
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Month
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	2/Month
Aluminum,Total	µg/L	Grab	2/Month
Manganese, Total	µg/L	Grab	1/Month
Chronic Toxicity	--	Grab	1/Year

Table 3 Notes

1. **Electrical conductivity, pH, turbidity, temperature, and DO.** A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.
2. **All parameters, except flow.** Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.
3. **Chronic toxicity. Chronic toxicity testing shall be conducted within 3 months of initiation of discharge.** See the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment C, Section V) for toxicity monitoring requirements.

Receiving Water Monitoring - *Not required.* The Project discharges directly to the storm drain system which has multiple inputs before reaching French Camp Slough. Therefore, receiving water monitoring in French Camp Slough would not provide sufficient information to evaluate compliance with the receiving water limitations. Where

feasible, compliance with the receiving water limitations will be evaluated through monitoring of the effluent.

Monitoring Report Submittals - Monitoring in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order shall begin upon initiation of discharge. Monitoring Reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis, beginning with the **Third Quarter 2026**. This report shall be submitted on **1 November 2026**. All Monitoring Reports shall specify the dates during the monitoring period the discharge did or did not occur. If monitoring samples were not obtained within 24 hours of initiation of the discharge, the Discharger must document the reasons in the corresponding Monitoring Report. If treatment and discharge has not begun there is no need to monitor. However, a certified Monitoring Report must be submitted stating that there has been no discharge. Table 5, below, summarizes the Monitoring Report due-dates required under the Limited Threat General Order. Quarterly Monitoring Reports must be submitted until your coverage is formally terminated in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order, even if there is no discharge during the reporting quarter.

Table 5. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Monitoring Period for All Sampling Frequencies	Quarterly Report Due Date
First Quarter (1 January through 31 March)	1 May
Second Quarter (1 April through 30 June)	1 August
Third Quarter (1 July through 30 September)	1 November
Fourth Quarter (1 October through 31 December)	1 February of the following year

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger must notify Central Valley Water Board staff within 24 hours of having knowledge of 1) the start of each new discharge, 2) noncompliance, and 3) when the discharge ceases. The Central Valley Water Board shall be notified immediately if any effluent limit violation is observed during implementation of the project.

Discharge of material other than what is described in the application is prohibited. The required annual fee (as specified in the annual invoice you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing when the discharge regulated by the Limited Threat General Order is no longer necessary by submitting the Request for Termination of Coverage (Attachment E). If a timely written request is not received, the Discharger will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Limited Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory

Minimum Penalty (MMP) of $3,000 per violation. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly monitoring period, the Discharger must still submit a quarterly certified Monitoring Report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

COMMUNICATION

We have transitioned to a paperless office; therefore, please convert all documents to a searchable Portable Document Format (pdf). All documents, including Monitoring Reports, written notifications, and documents submitted to comply with this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order, should be submitted to the NPDES Compliance and Enforcement Unit, Attention: Jon Rohrbough at centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov and jon.rohrbough@waterboards.ca.gov. Mr. Rohrbough may also be reached by phone at (916) 464-4822.

Please include the following information in the body of the email:

- Attention: NPDES Compliance Unit
- Discharger: Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.
- Facility: Kaiser Manteca Medical Center
- County: San Joaquin County
- CIWQS place ID: 907776
- CV-SALTs ID: 3713

Documents that are 50 megabytes or larger must be transferred to a DVD, or flash drive and mailed to our office, attention “ECM Mailroom-NPDES".

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water 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 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 Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Links to the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Petitions Home Page (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

Digitally signed by Patrick Pulupa
Date: 2026.08.26 10:03:16 -07'00'

Water Boards

Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer

Enclosures (2): Attachment A - Project Location Map

Monitoring Report Transmittal Form (Discharger only)

cc: Peter Kozelka, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
Prasad Gullapalli, U.S. EPA Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento (email only)

ATTACHMENT A – PROJECT LOCATION MAP

