
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

26 September 2023

Trever Van Noort
CTPO/Utilities Superintendent
City of Grass Valley
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VIA EMAIL:
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA) AMENDMENT; MUNICIPAL GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY R5-2017-0085-019, CITY OF GRASS VALLEY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, NEVADA COUNTY

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) enrolled the City of Grass Valley (Discharger) Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) under General Order R5-2017-0085-01 for Municipal Wastewater Dischargers That Meet Objectives/Criteria at the Point of Discharge to Surface Water (Municipal General Order) on 14 December 2021. The Facility was assigned Municipal General Order R5-2017-0085-019 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CAG585001, which regulates the discharge of tertiary treated domestic wastewater from the Facility to Wolf Creek, a tributary to the Bear River within the Bear River watershed.

AMENDMENTS

On 18 January 2022, the Discharger requested a reduction in pretreatment monitoring. The Discharger has not had any Industrial Users (IUs) since 2016 and regularly reviews new connections to their sewer system for IUs. The Central Valley Water Board finds that pretreatment monitoring and reporting once per NOA term is sufficient to meet the pretreatment requirements of 40 CFR Part 403 and is consistent with section X.D.5 of Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program of the Municipal General Order; therefore, Municipal General Order, NOA R5-2017-0085-019 is amended to revise pretreatment monitoring and reporting once per NOA term, as described below.

Appendix C – Supplemental Fact Sheet of the Notice of Applicability is amended to revise the first paragraph of section IV.E.1 to the following:

1. Biosolids monitoring for compliance with 40 C.F.R. part 503 regulations administered by U.S. EPA is not included in the Municipal General Order, and therefore, is not included in this NOA. However, sludge monitoring is required once per NOA term for compliance with the pretreatment requirements as specified in the Municipal General Order, Attachment E, section X.D.5.a.

MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Appendix D – Monitoring and Reporting Program of the Notice of Applicability is amended to revise section IX.A.1.d to the following:

- d. Sampling records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. A log shall be maintained of sludge quantities generated and of handling and disposal activities. The frequency of entries is discretionary; however, the log must be complete enough to serve as a basis for part of the once per NOA term report.

Appendix D – Monitoring and Reporting Program of the Notice of Applicability is amended to revise the last row in Table D-8. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule to once per NOA term monitoring:

Table D-8. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Once per NOA term	1 February 2022 through 31 January 2027	Submit with quarterly SMR

Appendix D – Monitoring and Reporting Program of the Notice of Applicability is amended to revise the reporting frequency in section IX.D.4 to the following:

- 4. Pretreatment Reporting Requirements.** The Discharger shall submit once per NOA term a report to the Central Valley Water Board, with copies to U.S. EPA Region 9 and the State Water Board (submittal requirements follow this section), describing the Discharger's pretreatment activities since the last Pretreatment Report submittal. In the event that the Discharger is not in compliance with any conditions or requirements of the Municipal General Order and this NOA, including noncompliance with pretreatment audit/compliance inspection requirements, then the Discharger shall also include the reasons for noncompliance and state how and when the Discharger shall comply with such conditions and requirements.

A one-time report shall be submitted by the due date shown in the Technical Reports Table D-9 and include at least the following items:

- a. A summary of analytical results from representative sampling of the POTW's influent and effluent for those pollutants U.S. EPA has identified under section 307(a) of the CWA which are known or suspected to be discharged by nondomestic users. This will consist of a once per NOA term full priority pollutant scan. The Discharger is not required to sample and analyze for asbestos. The Discharger shall submit the results of the priority pollutant scan electronically to the Central Valley Water Board using the State Water Board's CIWQS Program Website.

Sludge shall be sampled during the same 24-hour period and analyzed for the same pollutants as the influent and effluent sampling and analysis. The sludge analyzed shall be a composite sample of a minimum of 12 discrete samples taken at equal time intervals over the 24-hour period. Wastewater and sludge sampling and analysis shall be performed as specified in this NOA. The Discharger shall also provide any influent, effluent or sludge monitoring data for other constituents of concern which may be causing or contributing to Interference, Pass-Through or adversely impacting sludge quality. Sampling and analysis shall be performed in accordance with the techniques prescribed in 40 C.F.R. part 136 and amendments thereto.

- b. A discussion of Upset, Interference, or Pass-Through incidents, if any, at the treatment plant, which the Discharger knows or suspects were caused by nondomestic users of the POTW. The discussion shall include the reasons why the incidents occurred, the corrective actions taken and, if known, the name and address of, the nondomestic user(s) responsible. The discussion shall also include a review of the applicable pollutant limitations to determine whether any additional limitations, or changes to existing requirements, may be necessary to prevent Pass-Through, Interference, or noncompliance with sludge disposal requirements.
- c. The cumulative number of nondomestic users that the Discharger has notified regarding Baseline Monitoring Reports and the cumulative number of nondomestic user responses.
- d. An updated list of the Discharger's significant industrial users (SIU's) including their names and addresses, or a list of deletions, additions and SIU name changes keyed to a previously submitted list. The Discharger shall provide a brief explanation for each change. The list shall identify the SIU's subject to federal categorical standards by specifying which set(s) of standards are applicable to each SIU. The list shall indicate which SIU's, or specific pollutants from each industry, are subject to local limitations. Local limitations that are more stringent than the federal categorical standards shall also be identified.
- e. The Discharger shall characterize the compliance status through the year of record of each SIU by employing the following descriptions:
 - i. complied with baseline monitoring report requirements (where applicable);
 - ii. consistently achieved compliance;
 - iii. inconsistently achieved compliance;
 - iv. significantly violated applicable pretreatment requirements as defined by 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2)(vii);
 - v. complied with schedule to achieve compliance (include the date final compliance is required);

- vi. did not achieve compliance and not on a compliance schedule; and
 - vii. compliance status unknown.
- f. If necessary, a report describing the compliance status of each SIU characterized by the descriptions in items iii through vii above shall be submitted for each calendar quarter by the first day of the second month following the end of the quarter. The report shall identify the specific compliance status of each such SIU and shall also identify the compliance status of the Facility with regards to audit/pretreatment compliance inspection requirements. If none of the aforementioned conditions exist, at a minimum, a letter indicating that all industries are in compliance and no violations or changes to the pretreatment program have occurred during the quarter must be submitted.
- g. A summary of the inspection and sampling activities conducted by the Discharger since the last Pretreatment Report to gather information and data regarding the SIU's. The summary shall include:
- i. The names and addresses of the SIU's subjected to surveillance and an explanation of whether they were inspected, sampled, or both and the frequency of these activities at each user; and
 - ii. The conclusions or results from the inspection or sampling of each industrial user.
- h. The Discharger shall characterize the compliance status of each SIU by providing a list or table which includes the following information:
- i. Name of SIU;
 - ii. Category, if subject to federal categorical standards;
 - iii. The type of wastewater treatment or control processes in place;
 - iv. The number of samples taken by the POTW since the last Pretreatment Report;
 - v. The number of samples taken by the SIU since the last Pretreatment Report;
 - vi. For a SIU subject to discharge requirements for total toxic organics, whether all required certifications were provided;
 - vii. A list of the standards violated since the last Pretreatment Report. Identify whether the violations were for categorical standards or local limits.
 - viii. Whether the facility is in significant noncompliance (SNC) as defined at 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2)(viii) at any time since the last Pretreatment Report; and
 - ix. A summary of enforcement or other actions taken since the last Pretreatment Report to return the SIU to compliance. Describe the type of action (e.g., warning letters or notices of violation, administrative

- orders, civil actions, and criminal actions), final compliance date, and the amount of fines and penalties collected, if any. Describe any proposed actions for bringing the SIU into compliance;
- x. Restriction of flow to the POTW.
 - xi. Disconnection from discharge to the POTW.
 - i. A brief description of any programs the POTW implements to reduce pollutants from nondomestic users that are not classified as SIU's;
 - j. A brief description of any significant changes in operating the pretreatment program which differ from the previous Pretreatment Report including, but not limited to, changes concerning: the program's administrative structure, local limits, monitoring program or monitoring frequencies, legal authority, enforcement policy, funding levels, or staffing levels;
 - k. A summary of the annual pretreatment budgets since the last Pretreatment Report, including the cost of pretreatment program functions and equipment purchases; and
 - l. A summary of activities to involve and inform the public of the program including a copy of the newspaper notice, if any, required under 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2)(viii).
 - m. Pretreatment Program reports shall be submitted as follows:
 - i. Electronically to the Central Valley Water Board using the CIWQS system or emailed as a PDF file to: RB5S-NPDES-Comments@waterboards.ca.gov; and
 - ii. Emailed to the State Water Board as a PDF file to: NPDES_Wastewater@waterboards.ca.gov; and
 - iii. Emailed to the U.S. EPA to: R9Pretreatment@epa.gov.

Appendix D – Monitoring and Reporting Program of the Notice of Applicability is amended to revise row 16 to the following, which updates pretreatment reporting to once per NOA term, and removing rows 17 through 20 in Table D-9. Technical Reports:

Table D-9. Technical Reports

Report #	Technical Report	Due Date	CIWQS Report Name
15	Pretreatment Report	31 January 2026	MRP X.D.4

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 amendment, except that if the thirtieth day

following the date of this NOA amendment 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](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/) or will be provided upon request.

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc:

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