The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereafter referred to as Regional Water Board), finds:

1. The City of Willows owns a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system, and provides sewerage service to the City of Willows and the Northeast Willows Community Service District. ECO Resources, Inc. operates the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The City of Willows and ECO Resources, Inc. are hereafter collectively referred to as Discharger. The WWTP is located at 1600 South Tehama Street in Willows.

2. On 26 January 2006, the Regional Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. R5-2006-0009, NPDES No. CA0078034, prescribing waste discharge requirements for the Discharger’s WWTP. Order No. R5-2006-0009 included effluent limitations for ammonia, with which the Discharger could not comply until plant upgrades were completed.

3. Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R5-2006-0010 adopted by the Regional Water Board on 26 January 2006, provided a time schedule for the Discharger to comply with the effluent limitations for ammonia by 1 March 2007.

4. The Discharger completed the construction of treatment facility upgrades necessary to assure compliance with the effluent limitations. The treatment facility upgrades included the construction of two aeration basins, two secondary clarifiers, six continuous backwash sand filters, disinfection with sodium hypochlorite, dechlorination using sodium bisulfite, and equalization/emergency storage ponds and sludge storage lagoons. The new treatment facilities were in full operation by 1 March 2007. Monitoring results since completion of the plant upgrades indicate compliance with the effluent limits for ammonia. Since April of 2007, the average monthly effluent concentrations of ammonia are 0.14 mg/L, with a maximum daily effluent concentration of 0.40 mg/L. The monthly average effluent limitations for ammonia are 1.1 and 1.9 mg/L (1 May through 31 October and 1 November through 30 April). The daily maximum effluent limitations for ammonia are 2.1 and 3.8 mg/L (1 May through 31 October and 1 November through 30 April).

5. As the Discharger complied with CDO No. R5-2006-0010, rescission of CDO No. R5-2006-0010 is appropriate.
6. The Discharger and interested agencies and persons were notified of the intent to consider rescission of CDO No. R5-2006-0010 and provided an opportunity for public hearing and an opportunity to submit written views and recommendations.

7. Issuance of this Order is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.), in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15321.

8. All comments and evidence pertaining to this matter were heard and considered in a public meeting.

9. Any person adversely affected by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review this action. The petition must be received by the State Board, Office of the Chief Counsel, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100, within 30 days of the date in which the action was taken. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided on request.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2006-0010 is rescinded.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 24 April 2009.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer