

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
AND
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
POM WONDERFUL, LLC
WHOLE FRUIT AND JUICE EXTRACTION PLANT
FRESNO COUNTY**

POM Wonderful, LLC (POM) applied for Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for expansion of its treatment and land application of food processing wastewater generated at its whole fruit and juice extraction plant at 5286 South Del Rey Avenue, Del Rey in Fresno County (Assessor's Parcel Number 350-230-08).

The facility has been operating and discharging process wastewater to land under WDRs Order No. 93-126. POM submitted a Report of Waste Discharge in May 2009 for the expansion of the activities at the plant, including: an increase in pomegranate fruit production resulting in an increase in wastewater discharge; construction of up to two wastewater storage ponds (total of 18 acres); planting up to 291 acres with alfalfa to receive treated wastewater for irrigation; and constructing a new building (approximately 37,180 square feet) for existing arils processing (recovery of pomegranate seeds for retail sale instead of sending to waste stream).

Prior to adoption of WDRs to regulate the treated wastewater discharge, a review of the project's potential environmental impacts is required pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Fresno County determined that the proposed activity is a by-right use which does not require a discretionary land use permit. Therefore, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is the lead agency for the CEQA review.

The public review period begins on 5 July 2012 and ends on 6 August 2012. Interested parties are advised that the documents are available on the Central Valley Water Board's web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb5/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml

under the heading of "Discharger-Specific Orders for Future Board Meetings."

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting, which is scheduled for:

DATE: 3/4/5 October 2012
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Any comments or recommendations you may have concerning the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Tentative WDRs must be submitted to this office at 1685 "E" Street, Fresno, California, 93726, by **5:00 p.m. on 6 August 2012** in order for us to give them full consideration prior to the 3/4/5 October 2012 meeting of the Central Valley Water Board. Comments received after this time will not be considered or included in the administrative record unless allowed by the Chair.

Anyone without access to the Internet who needs a paper copy of the tentative Order should contact Scott Hatton at (559) 445-5116 or shatton@waterboards.ca.gov.