

**15 OCTOBER 2021 BOARD MEETING  
UNCONTESTED AGENDA ITEM**

**AGENDA ITEM: 16**

**SUBJECT:**

Following are proposed Waste Discharge Requirements Orders that prohibit discharge to surface waters. All agencies and the dischargers concur or have offered no comments. Items indicated as updates on the summary agenda make the requirements consistent with current plans and policies of the Board.

**BOARD ACTION:**

Consideration of Waste Discharge Requirements

**BACKGROUND:**

**a. Caltrans, Panoche Hills CAPM 06-0X270 Project, Fresno County**

A Waste Discharge Requirements Order (Order) is proposed for a Caltrans project along Interstate 5 southwest of the City of Mendota in Fresno County. The Project consists of rehabilitating the pavement on the mainline, shoulders, and on the off-ramps and on-ramps as well as upgrade the existing drainage systems, dikes, and guardrail systems. The proposed work will extend the operational life of the existing culverts, repair damaged culverts structures, and improve hydraulics of the drainage system on Interstate 5. The Project will temporarily impact 0.01 acre and permanently impact 0.09 acre of various small drainages that have been deemed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be outside of federal jurisdiction but are waters of the state.

The proposed Order provides details of the proposed Project activities, including compensatory mitigation measures planned to compensate for the permanent loss of waters of the state and requiring avoidance and minimization measures to reduce on-site impacts during construction activities. The proposed Order describes technical conditions required to be met throughout the implementation of construction activities that allow for activities to meet Basin Plan requirements.

The proposed Order was noticed for a 30-day public comment period, and no comments were received.

**b. County of Kern, Arvin Sanitary Landfill, Kern County**

The County of Kern, hereinafter referred to “Discharger”, owns the Arvin Sanitary Landfill (Facility). The Facility is located approximately five miles west of the city of Arvin in Kern County. On 29 July 2010, the Central Valley Water Boards adopted WDRs Order R5-2010-0086, which incorporated the applicable provisions of Title 27 and the California Water Code. This Order continues such classifications. This Order updates the WDRs for the Facility, as part of an administrative policy of periodic review, to incorporate revisions to regulations and policies adopted thereunder, for post-closure maintenance and corrective action.

The Facility is situated on a 170-acre property comprised of Assessor’s Parcel Numbers (APNs) 189-330-27 and 189-330-27. The Facility consists of one closed, unlined Waste Management Unit (WMU) covering 128 acres. The WMU does not have a leachate collection and removal system.

Comments on the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements were received from the Discharger on 1 September 2021 and were incorporated as summarized in the Response to Comments document included in the agenda package.

**c. Meridian Beartrack Company and Meridian Gold Company, Royal Mountain King Mine, Calaveras County**

Meridian Beartrack Co. and Meridian Gold Company (hereafter jointly Discharger) operated the Royal Mountain King Mine (RMKM or Facility) in Calaveras County for the extraction of gold. The now closed Facility is regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order (WDR Order) R5-2016-0055 adopted on 24 June 2016. The associated Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) R5-2016-0055 was revised to R5-2016-0055-01 on 23 February 2021.

On 13 April 2021, the Dischargers requested a change in Threat to Water Quality and Complexity (TTWQ/C) classification for the facility which is used for annual fee assessment. Specifically, they requested a decrease in Complexity from A to B.

Analysis of conditions at the Facility supports the Dischargers' claim that Complexity B is appropriate because:

- a. The facility does not discharge or store toxic waste.
- b. Liquid Group B mining waste streams are no longer present at the Facility. The remaining Group B solid mining waste in LCRF no longer generates leachate.
- c. Mining units other than LCRF contain Group C mining waste.
- d. The management of mining-influenced water in Skyrocket Pit includes chemical treatment.
- e. Stable groundwater quality conditions at the facility allowed 2021 MRP revision which reduced the number of compliance groundwater wells and monitoring points.

This Order amends Order R5-2016-0055 to classify Threat to Water Quality and Complexity as 2 B.

**d. O'Neill Beverages Co LLC, Reedley Winery Class II Surface Impoundment, Fresno County**

O'Neill Beverages Co LLC, hereinafter referred to "Discharger", owns the Reedley Winery, Class II Surface Impoundment (Facility). The Facility is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the City of Reedley in Fresno County. On 14 June 2001, the Central Valley Water Boards adopted WDRs Order 5-01-141 to regulate the construction, operation, and monitoring of the Class II surface impoundment. This Order updates the WDRs for the Facility's surface impoundment, as part of an administrative policy of periodic review, to incorporate revisions to regulations and policies adopted thereunder, for continued operation and maintenance.

The Discharger currently discharges a maximum of approximately 34,300 gallons per day of industrial wastewater from the tank farm and bottling plant to the Class II surface impoundment.

Comments on the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements were received from the Discharger and Jo Anne Kipps on 7 September 2021 and were incorporated as summarized in the Response to Comments document included in the agenda package.

**e. South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant, Stanislaus County**

The South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) owns and operates the Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant (WTP) which provides clean drinking water to the communities of Tracy, Lathrop and Manteca in Stanislaus County. The WTP operates year-round, treating raw water from Woodward Reservoir to produce 40 million gallons per day (MGD) of potable water. Process wastewater is generated when the WTP cleans its ultrafiltration units to remove inorganic foulants. The Discharger has requested a flow increase and reconsideration of effluent trigger limits.

Originally only quarterly cleanings were required, but as the filter media ages more frequent cleanings are required, resulting in a greater wastewater volume. Additionally, the Discharger is anticipating an expansion of the WTP to increase daily production to 60 MGD, which higher throughput is expected to necessitate more frequent filter media cleanings, generating additional wastewater volume

Currently wastewater is disposed of solely in percolation / evaporation ponds, along with maintenance and emergency releases of potable or in-process water, (which is of higher quality than raw water from the reservoir). Although the percolation / evaporation ponds have the capacity to handle the increased flow, the Discharger has proposed adding landscape irrigation as a beneficial reuse of wastewater to replace some or all of the raw water currently being used for landscape irrigation on the WTP site.

The WTP has been regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2014-0026, adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 07 February 2014.

There are no issues associated with the requested changes. No comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

**f. Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources, Fink Road Landfill, Stanislaus County**

The County of Stanislaus owns and operates the Fink Road Landfill (Facility), an active, 203-acre municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill facility

located in Stanislaus County near the Interstate 5 freeway about six miles south of the City of Patterson and 4.5 miles west of the town of Crows Landing.

The existing Facility consists of a closed unlined MSW waste management unit (LF-1), active lined MSW waste management units LF-2 and LF-3, and two class II surface impoundments SI-1 and SI-2. Other on-site facilities include access roads; precipitation and drainage controls, including a sedimentation pond; erosion controls; leachate collection systems; a LFG extraction system and flare station; monitoring wells/probes, and various other ancillary facilities.

The Facility was previously regulated under WDR Order R5-2008-0144. On 23 August 2019, the Discharger submitted a revised JTD describing significant changes at the Facility since 2008 and plans for a vertical expansion, including, but not limited to, the following information:

- a. Construction of three additional landfill modules (LF-2 Cells 5 & 6 and LF 3 Cell 4);
- b. A plan for infill and vertical expansion of LF-2 (construction estimated to begin in 2027) that would extend the estimated active life of the Facility by 27 years;
- c. An updated PCPMP reflecting preliminary plans for landfill closure after lateral and vertical expansion of LF-2;
- d. Updated slope stability analysis and pipe hydraulics and loading calculations for the proposed infill and vertical expansion of LF-2;
- e. Updated monitoring data collected under previous WDRs since 2008;
- f. An updated WQPS Report;
- g. Financial assurance cost estimates and funding for post-closure maintenance and corrective action; and
- h. Updated Facility maps and related information showing the existing landfill gas (LFG) extraction system, monitoring wells and other site improvements implemented since the adoption of previous WDRs in 2008.

The tentative Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 7 June 2021 with comments due by 7 July 2021. The only comments were received from the Discharger.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements.

**REVIEWS:**

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| Management Review: |  |
| Legal Review:      |  |

**BOARD MEETING LOCATION:**

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Meeting  
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

***Internet Zoom Meeting***