CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

[TENTATIVE] RESOLUTION R5-2026-XXXX

APPROVING AN INITIAL STUDY AND ADOPTING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PACKING FACILITIES
WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (or Central Valley Water Board) finds:

1. The Central Valley Water Board proposes to adopt General Waste Discharge Requirements for Fruit and Vegetable Packing Facilities Within the Central Valley Region (Packing General Order or Project) to regulate the discharge of process wastewater and associated solids to land from the fruit and vegetable packing industry.

2. Adoption of the Packing General Order is a discretionary action taken by the Central Valley Water Board subject to environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code § 21000 et. seq., hereafter CEQA).

3. The Central Valley Water Board is the lead agency for this Project under CEQA and has conducted an Initial Study in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15060 et seq.

4. The proposed Project includes conditions and prohibitions to ensure potential environmental impacts are less than significant.

5. On 5 March 2026, the Central Valley Water Board transmitted a consultation request in accordance with AB 52 to representatives of local tribal communities throughout the Region. None of the tribes requested consultation status during preparation of the Initial Study.

6. On 19 June 2026, the Central Valley Water Board circulated copies of the draft Initial Study, Negative Declaration, and tentative Packing General Order to interested parties for a 30-day public comment period. In addition, a Notice of Intent (NOI) was posted in a regional newspaper (Sacramento Bee), and copies of the documents were posted on State of California's Land Use & Climate

Innovation CEQAnet Web Portal and the Central Valley Water Board's Tentative Order web page.

7. The Central Valley Water Board considered all testimony and evidence at a hearing held on 27 August 2026 in Rancho Cordova and good cause was found to approve the Initial Study and adopt the Negative Declaration.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 21080, et. seq., of the California Resources Code, the Central Valley Water Board, after considering the entire record, including written and oral testimony at the hearing:

1. Approves the Initial Study and adopts the Negative Declaration for General Waste Discharge Requirements for Fruit and Vegetable Packing Facilities Within the Central Valley Region.

2. The Central Valley Water Board finds that the record contains no substantial evidence that a fair argument has been made that the proposed Project will have a significant effect on the environment.

I, PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region on 27 August 2026.

_____

PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer