

## INFORMATION SHEET

TIME SCHEDULE ORDER R5-2018-XXXX  
WESTLAKE FARMS, INC., SANDRIDGE PARTNERS LP,  
CITY OF LEMOORE, AND LEPRINO FOODS COMPANY  
KINGS COUNTY

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 96-050 authorizes the Combined Discharge of disinfected effluent from the City of Lemoore's (City) wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) and Leprino Food Company's (Leprino) industrial process wastewater to the Westlake Canal for irrigation of fiber and grain crops not intended for human consumption on property owned by Westlake Farms, Inc. (Westlake). Westlake has indicated that it will discontinue its use of the effluent for irrigation due to the increased salinity of the Combined Discharge, which exceeds the limit for electrical conductivity (EC) specified in WDRs 96-050, and could damage salt sensitive crops. Westlake has proposed to route the Combined Discharge separately and apply it to approximately 3,800 acres outside of those areas specified in WDRs 96-050 owned by Sandridge Partners LP (Sandridge) for irrigation of salt tolerant fodder crops (e.g., Jose tall grass, barley/oats, or similar crops). The proposed Interim Application Area is in an area underlain by poor quality groundwater within the historic Tulare Lake Bed. A Basin Plan amendment to remove the Municipal and Domestic supply (MUN) and Agricultural (AGR) beneficial uses for groundwater within this portion of the Tulare Lake Bed has been adopted and approved.

This Time Schedule Order would provide for the proposed interim disposal option and sets a two-year time schedule for the City and Leprino to bring the Combined Discharge into compliance with applicable effluent limits in WDRs 96-050 or to arrange for an alternative disposal option.

One issue with this interim disposal is obtaining the necessary approvals to route the Combined Discharge through land owned by the County Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County (Sanitation District) and ensure that the use of the canals for transport of tile drainage water from the Sanitation District's lands can be kept separate. The Parties are currently working on a License Agreement to ensure this. The Combined Discharge would not be routed through the Sanitation District's land until this agreement is finalized.

Concerns were expressed by an adjacent property owner (J.G. Boswell) that the proposed Interim Application Area is prone to flooding and use of these lands for application of wastewater during flood events could impact adjacent crops used for human consumption (e.g., tomatoes). The Tulare Lake bottom including the Interim Application Area may flood during major flood events. However, major flood events are rare and there are levees and flood control features in place to minimize flooding in the area. This Time Schedule Order requires that all wastewater be kept within the Interim Application Area at all times. In addition, the agreement between Leprino and Sandridge includes a provision requiring Sandridge to arrange for an alternate disposal area for the Combined Discharge in the event of a major flood event within the lands regulated by WDRs 96-050 that are owned by Sandridge. J.G. Boswell also expressed concerns, that poor farming practices on the adjacent lands have caused problems to their operations in the past and that the proposed farming of the interim land application area so close to their property may make things worse. This Time Schedule Order requires that the wastewater be applied at agronomic rates to preclude the creation of nuisance or odor conditions. Failure to comply with the conditions in the Time Schedule Order could result in further enforcement and/or fines.