

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
concerning
TENTATIVE REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
SETTON PISTACHIO OF TERRA BELLA, INC. AND PORTERVILLE CITRUS, INC.
TERRA BELLA PISTACHIO AND CITRUS PACKING FACILITIES
TULARE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) will consider adoption of the subject Order at a public meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 3/4 June 2026
TIME: **To Be Determined**
PLACE: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Rancho Cordova
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova CA 95670

The date, time, and location of the public meeting may change after this Notice is issued. A Final Agenda for the meeting will be made available at least 10 days before the meeting. The Final Agenda will provide the location and format of the meeting, the anticipated date that the proposed order will be considered, and the anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the proposed order.

The Final Agenda, and any information concerning changes to the date, time, location, or format of the public meeting, will be posted on the Central Valley Water Board's website, [Central Valley Water Board's website](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/)

and will be emailed to all persons that sign up for the [GovDelivery subscription list](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg5_subscribe.html).

The meeting will be webcast live on YouTube. A weblink for viewing will be provided in the Final Agenda. Any person who would like to participate in the meeting, but who is unable to attend in-person, may participate remotely via video or teleconference. Instructions for doing so will be provided in the Final Agenda for the meeting.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Mindy Bunn at (916) 464-4839 or Mindy.Bunn@waterboards.ca.gov at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922. To request oral interpretation or sign language services, please submit

your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by calling (916) 341-5254 or e-mailing opp-languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov.

Opportunities to Comment

The Central Valley Water Board will consider oral and written comments on the proposed Order before it votes on whether to adopt the Order.

Written comments or evidence concerning the Order must be submitted by 5:00 pm on 8 April 2026. Please email any comments to Jeffrey.Pyle@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line, "Terra Bella Pistachio and Porterville Citrus Processing Facilities, Tentative Orders" While email is preferred, written comments may also be mailed to the following address:

Attention: Jeff Pyle
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706

The Board Chair may refuse to admit any comments or evidence received after the comment period unless the submitting party provides a reasonable explanation for why the submission is late and the Board Chair determines that admission of the late submission would not prejudice any other party.

Oral comments concerning the Order must be presented at the scheduled public meeting. Interested parties are generally allowed up to three minutes each to provide their comments. Certain **designated parties** may provide longer comments and have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, cross-examine opposing witnesses, impeach any witness, and to rebut the evidence against him or her. The party's subject to the proposed Order are designated parties. Any other party may request recognition as a designated party by submitting a written statement of how they are directly affected by the discharge(s) to be regulated and why they would like to be considered a designated party. Such requests must be submitted to Central Valley Water no later than 5:00 p.m. on 8 April 2026. Instructions on how to provide oral comments will be included in the Final Agenda for the meeting.

Proposed Order

If adopted, the tentative Order will revise current waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for the discharge of wastewater to land from operations at the Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. (Setton) Terra Bella Pistachio Processing Facility (Pistachio Facility) and the Porterville Citrus, Inc. (Porterville Citrus) Citrus Processing Facility (Citrus Facility), both located at 9370 Road 234 in Terra Bella. The Pistachio Facility is owned and operated by Setton and is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 92-191. The Citrus Facility is owned and operated by Porterville Citrus and is currently regulated by WDRs Order No. 94-302. WDRs 92-191 authorizes the discharge

Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. and Porterville Citrus, Inc.
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of up to 1.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of pistachio processing wastewater to 153 acres of adjacent land application areas (LAA) owned by various subsidiaries of Setton. WDRs Order No. 94-302 authorizes the discharge of up to 0.08 mgd of citrus processing water and storm water to 6.4 acres of LAA. The facilities were issued Revised Monitoring and Reporting Program R5-2019-0802-01 on 11 September 2020, which specifies joint monitoring and reporting requirements for both facility discharges. Changes to the wastewater treatment and disposal systems have occurred at the facilities since the adoption of the current WDRs Orders, and combined revised WDRs are necessary to reflect current operations and waste discharge to land.

The proposed WDRs Order would authorize:

- A maximum daily flow of pistachio process wastewater up to 3 mgd and an annual flow limit of 85 million gallons, and a maximum daily flow of citrus process wastewater up to 0.08 mgd.
- Treatment of the process wastewater with a new treatment system
- LAA expansion totaling 961 acres
- Pistachio wastewater performance based salinity limit of 3,300 mg/L (as fixed dissolved solids)
- Citrus wastewater performance-based salinity limit of 1,700 mg/L (as fixed dissolved solids)
- Biochemical oxygen demand cycle average loading to the LAAs shall not exceed 100 lbs/ac/day
- Preparation and implementation of a Wastewater and Nutrient Management Plan
- Compliance with the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs
- Influent, effluent, pond, LAA, and soil monitoring

To conserve paper and reduce mailing costs, a paper copy of the proposed Order was sent only to the Discharger(s). All others may access a digital copy of the Order on the Central Valley Water Board's [Tentative Orders website](#), under the heading, "Discharger-Specific Order for Future Board Meetings"

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/).

Copies of the proposed Order and associated documents may also be obtained by visiting the office of the Central Valley Water Board at 1685 E Street, Fresno, California, 93706 or by contacting the Board by phone at (559) 445-5116, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Questions concerning the proposed Order or anything in this Notice should be directed to Jeff Pyle at (559) 445-5145 or Jeffrey.Pyle@waterboards.ca.gov.

Other Information

The [Procedures Governing Central Valley Water Board Meetings](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found in California Code of

Tentative WDRs
Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. and Porterville Citrus, Inc.
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Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 1.5 (starting with section 647) and are available upon request.

Additional information on meeting procedures can be found on the Central Valley Water Board's [Meeting Procedures webpage](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml).

Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. All meeting procedure information is also available on request to anyone of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Mindy Bunn at (916) 464-4839 or Mindy.Bunn@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Digitally Signed by
Alexander S. Mushegan
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer