
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
concerning
TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
SUNSWEEET GROWERS
GRIDLEY DRYER – 51
BUTTE 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: 22/23 October 2026
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Redding City Hall
777 Cypress Avenue
Redding, CA 96001

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](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings) concerning changes to the date, time, location, or format of the public meeting, will be posted on the 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 e-mail list](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg5_subscribe.html) at (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 persons 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

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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 written and oral comments on the proposed Recission before it votes on whether to adopt the Recission.

Written comments or evidence concerning the Order must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on 3 September 2026. Please email any comments to Valerie.Rasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov, with the subject line, "Comments for Tentative Recission of Order 94-307." While email is preferred, written comments may also be mailed to the following address:

Valerie Rasmussen
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002

The Board Chair may refuse to admit any late submissions 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. Instructions for how to provide oral comments will be included in the Final Agenda for the meeting.

Parties to the Proceeding and Interested Persons

Participants in the hearing will be considered "parties" or "interested persons."

Parties include the person to whom the agency action is directed and any other person whom the Board determines should be designated as a party. Parties may present written evidence, offer witness testimony, cross-examine witnesses, and provide closing statements. At the time of this Notice, the party to this action is: Sunsweet Growers.

Interested Persons are those individuals and organizations that are interested in the outcome of the hearing who have not been designated as a party. Interested persons are generally allowed up to three minutes each to provide oral comments during the Board meeting. Interested persons may request that the Board Chair authorize a longer time period for their comments.

Both Parties and Interested Persons may be asked to respond to questions from the Board or its staff.

Proposed Order

If adopted, Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2026-XXXX will prescribe requirements for management of waste discharged from Gridley Dryer – 51, located at 26 E. Evans Reimer Road. Gridley, Butte County (Facility). Facility is owned and operated by Sunsweet Growers (Discharger). The Discharger will be responsible for maintaining compliance with Order requirements. Discharger operates a prune dehydrator, where plums are rinsed, dehydrated, stored, and sorted. The Facility is comprised of three dipper tanks, wash lines, drying tunnels, an aerated concrete basin, and land application area. The Facility's waste discharges are currently regulated under WDRs Order 93-084. If adopted, the proposed WDRs Order will rescind and replace the previous Order.

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](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/), under the heading, "Discharger-Specific Order for Future Board Meetings," at (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 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002 or by contacting the Board by phone at (530) 224-4845, 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 Valerie Rasmussen at (530) 224-6130 or Valerie.Rasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov.

Other Information

Any person or organization may request to be recognized as a party to the proceeding by submitting a written statement describing why they would like to be considered a party, their interest in presenting evidence rather than policy statements or legal arguments, and an acknowledgement that those testifying may be subject to cross examination consistent with applicable regulations. Such requests must be submitted to Central Valley Water Board **no later than 5:00 p.m, on 3 September 2026.**

The [Procedures Governing Central Valley Water Board Meetings](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found in California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 1.5 (starting with section 647) and are available upon request or via the web, at (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/).

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), at (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml). All meeting procedure information is also available upon request to any of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Mindy Bunn at (916) 464-4839 or Mindy.Bunn@waterboards.ca.gov.

Stacy S. Gotham, P.E.
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer