

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. R5-2015-XXXX

REVISING ORDER NO. R5-2014-0030  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS GENERAL ORDER  
FOR GROWERS WITHIN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED  
THAT ARE MEMBERS OF A THIRD-PARTY GROUP

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereafter Central Valley Water Board) finds that:

1. On 12 March 2014, the Central Valley Water Board issued Order No. R5-2014-0030 Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers within the Sacramento River Watershed that are Members of a Third-Party Group (Sacramento River Watershed Order).
2. The Central Valley Water Board's authority to regulate waste discharges that could affect the quality of the waters of the state, which includes both surface water and groundwater, is found in the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code Division 7).
3. This Order revises the Monitoring and Reporting Program to allow the third-party to participate in an Executive Officer approved Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) [such as the Delta RMP]. The changes will allow the third-party to submit a proposal for Executive Officer approval to reduce the surface water monitoring requirements and instead provide funding and/or in-kind support to an approved RMP.
4. This Order revises the Sacramento River Watershed Order to provide the third-party additional time to submit the Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan (Comprehensive Management Plan) to be due 60 days after Executive Officer approval of the Groundwater Assessment Report (GAR), rather than one-year after the Notice of Applicability. The Comprehensive Management Plan development is dependent on the vulnerability designations yet to be determined in the GAR. Therefore, the Comprehensive Management Plan due date should follow the GAR approval date, and not be due on the same date as the GAR.
5. Adoption of this Order to amend Order No. R5-2014-0030 is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15061 (b)(3). The changes to the provisions in the Sacramento River Watershed Order do not have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, since the changes are administrative in nature and do not change the substantive provisions of the Sacramento River Watershed Order. This Order does not change the original CEQA findings accompanying Order No. R5-2014-0030.
6. The Central Valley Water Board has notified interested agencies and persons of its intent to adopt this Order for discharges of waste from irrigated lands within the Sacramento River Watershed, and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit comments.

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7. The Central Valley Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this Order.
8. Any person affected by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review this action. The State Water Board must receive the petition within 30 days of the date on which the Central Valley Water Board adopted this Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided upon request.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2014-0030 is revised by making the modifications identified in Attachment 1 of this Order.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 4 June 2015.

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PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

Attachment 1: Revision to Waste Discharge Requirements R5-2014-0030

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## ATTACHMENT 1

### Proposed revisions to Waste Discharge Requirements for Growers within the Sacramento River Watershed that are Members of a Third-Party Group R5-2014-0030

#### WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

##### Page 35, section VIII.I.4, Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan due date extended 60 days after the Executive Officer's GAR approval

In lieu of submitting separate groundwater quality management plans in the timeframe identified in section VIII.H.1, the third-party may submit a Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan ~~along with its Groundwater Quality Assessment Report, within 60 days of the Executive Officer's approval of the Groundwater Quality Assessment Report.~~ With the exception of the timeframe identified in section VIII.H.1, all other provisions applicable to groundwater quality management plans in this Order and the associated MRP apply to the Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan. The Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan must be updated at the same time as the Management Plan Status Report (see attached MRP, Appendix MRP-1, section I.F) to address any constituents and areas that would have otherwise required submittal of a Groundwater Quality Management Plan.

#### ORDER ATTACHMENT B – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

##### Page 4, Section III. Surface Water Quality Monitoring Requirements

The third-party may elect to participate in an Executive Officer approved Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) [such as the Delta RMP]. If the third-party elects to participate in a RMP, the third-party may submit a proposal to the Executive Officer for approval to reduce some elements of the surface water monitoring requirements described below and instead provide funding and/or in-kind support to an approved RMP. Participation in a Regional Monitoring Program by a third-party shall consist of providing funds and/or in-kind services to the Regional Monitoring Program at least equivalent to discontinued individual monitoring and study efforts. Written approval of the third-party's request, by the Executive Officer, is required prior to discontinuing any monitoring. Approval by the Executive Officer is not required prior to participating in a Regional Monitoring Program.

If the third-party participates in an Executive Officer approved Regional Monitoring Program in lieu of conducting individual surface water monitoring, the third-party shall continue to participate in the Regional Monitoring Program until such time as the third-party informs the Board that participation in the Regional Monitoring Program will cease and the monitoring prior to approved reductions is reinstated. Executive Officer approved reduced monitoring may continue so long as the third-party adequately supports the Regional Monitoring Program. If the Discharger fails to adequately support the Regional Monitoring Program, as defined by the Regional Monitoring Program, the third-party shall reinstate monitoring required prior to approved reductions upon written notice from the Executive Officer.

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