# CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100 Public Notice No. 7-23-44
Palm Desert, CA 92260 Notice Date: October 13, 2023
Phone: (760) 346-7491 NPDES Permit CA0104841

# **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS PROPOSED ORDER R7-2023-XXXX

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7-2023-XXXX (Tentative Order), which will serve as the reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number CA0104841 and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the following discharger and facility:

DATE GARDENS ASSET PARTNERS, L.P. (Discharger)

DATE GARDENS MOBILE HOME PARK (MHP) WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT 1020 WEST EVAN HEWES HIGHWAY EL CENTRO – IMPERIAL COUNTY (Facility)

#### **HEARING PARTICIPATION**

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of the Tentative Order at the date, time and location specified below:

Date: December 12, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100

Palm Desert, California 92260

(virtual public participation available; see below)

The public may participate either in person at the physical meeting location or virtually via the Zoom meeting platform. Instructions concerning how to participate virtually are available on the Regional Water Board's website. Persons desiring to receive information about changes to the format of this meeting should subscribe to the <a href="Lyris email list">Lyris email list</a> (Select Board Meetings Agenda).

Interested persons are invited to attend and express their views orally on this matter at the public hearing. The Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that those persons wishing to speak at the hearing provide a copy of their oral comments in writing before or during the hearing to ensure accuracy of the record. Links for the meeting, a phone call option, and <a href="Remote Participation Instructions">Remote Participation Instructions</a> are posted on the Board's website (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\_info/remote\_meeting/#participation\_via\_video conference).

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Board's <u>Meeting Procedures</u> (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\_info/agenda/docs/bm\_procedures.pdf).

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Discharger owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system (Facility) and provides service to a population of approximately 144 individuals residing at the Mobile Home Park located in the town of El Centro. The permitted maximum daily flow limitation is equal to the design capacity of the wastewater treatment plant which is 0.02 million gallons per day (MGD). The Facility is located in the SW ¼ of Section 34, T15S, R13E, SBB&M. The discharge from the Facility consists of disinfected secondary treated wastewater.

The treatment system consists of two activated sludge treatment plants operated in parallel. One of the package treatment plants has a design capacity of 0.005 MGD (Unit 1) and the other plant has a design capacity of 0.015 MGD (Unit 2). Sewage is conveyed from the Mobile Home Park residents by gravity through bar screens to a wet well with two openings located adjacent to the package plants. Sewage is pumped up to the package plants using two submersible sewage pumps. From the wet wells, two pumps convey wastewater through a rotary drum screen, then to an aeration basin. Following transfer to the aeration basin, wastewater is then pumped to a clarifier for settling. Return activated sludge is pumped from the clarifier to the aeration basin. Waste activated sludge is pumped to the activated sludge unit (Unit 1). Clarifier effluent (i.e., overflow) is then directed through two sand filters in parallel, and then through an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system prior to being directed through a final effluent channel and weir box.

The current configuration of the treatment plant employs one of the package plants (Unit 1) as a solids digester unit as a means to reduce the amount of sludge generated at the treatment plant. Digested sludge from the solids digester (Unit 1) is pumped to one of two (2) drying beds located next to the package plant. Dried sludge is then removed from the beds and disposed of at a landfill. Further, solids removed during preliminary treatment (i.e., screening and grit removal) are dried and removed daily for pick-up by the trash removal service, which hauls solid waste off-site.

Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point 001 to Rice Drain No. 3, a water of the United States, and tributary to New River. Rice Drain No. 3 flows for a distance of approximately seven miles before entering New River at a point approximately 30 miles from the Salton Sea.

#### SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept comments during a 30-day public comment period, which ends on **November 13, 2023**. Written comments on the proposed Order must be received no later than **5:00 p.m.** on **November 13, 2023**. Comments received by this deadline will be included in the administrative record.

Comments should be mailed to the attention of **Fatima Alrahem** at the address shown below or emailed to: <u>Fatima.Alrahem@Waterboards.ca.gov</u> or faxed to the office at (760) 341-6820.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100 Palm Desert, CA 92260

## **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

The Tentative Order has been posted to the Board's <u>Tentative Orders</u> webpage (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board decisions/tentative orders/index.shtml).

To receive a physical copy by mail, contact **Mary Castaneda** at (760) 776-8945 or at Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov.

## ACCESSIBILITY AND LANGUAGE NEEDS

Individuals who require special accommodations or interpreter services to participate in this meeting, please contact **Mary Castaneda** via email at <a href="Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov">Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov</a> at least 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting to notify us that you will be utilizing these services. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-(800) 735-2929 or voice line at 1-(800) 735-2922.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact **Fatima Alrahem** at (760) 313-1290 or <a href="mailto:Fatima.Alrahem@Waterboards.ca.gov">Fatima.Alrahem@Waterboards.ca.gov</a>. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.

File: WDID No. 7A131057011, Date Gardens Mobile Home Park (MHP) Wastewater Treatment Plant, Board Order R7-2023-XXXX