# State of California CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION

#### ORDER NO. R4-2025-0182

TERMINATION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND A NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT, ORDER NO. R4-2020-0078, FOR DISCHARGES FROM THE CAMROSA WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY (WRF) TO CALLEGUAS CREEK

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board), finds:

- On June 11, 2020, the Los Angeles Water Board adopted Order No. R4-2020-0078, which serves as WDRs and an NPDES permit, and regulates the discharge of up to 2.25 million gallons per day (MGD) of disinfected tertiary-treated effluent from the Camrosa WRF to Calleguas Creek.
- 2. The Camrosa Water District (CWD) is the owner and operator of the Camrosa WRF. The Camrosa WRF last discharged tertiary-treated effluent to the Calleguas Creek in January 2005 due to severe storm events. Since then, there has been no discharge to Calleguas Creek and 100% of the tertiary-treated effluent has been beneficially reused for crop and landscape irrigation.
- 3. The production and use of recycled water from the Camrosa WRF are regulated under WDRs and Water Reclamation Requirements (WRRs) Order No. R4-2019-0118, adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on October 10, 2019. The CWD operates and maintains the recycled water distribution system and conducts training/inspections of individual user sites.
- 4. CWD is also permitted to discharge up to 2.25 MGD (Camrosa WRF's design capacity) to the Pacific Ocean via the Calleguas Municipal Water District's Regional Salinity Management Pipeline pursuant to WDRs and NPDES permit Order No. R4-2019-0075, adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board and issued to the Calleguas Municipal Water District on June 13, 2019. The Camrosa WRF may discharge tertiary-treated effluent to the Pacific Ocean via the Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline when the demand for recycled water is low.
- 5. On January 27, 2025, CWD submitted a request for termination of Order No. R4-2020-0078, authorizing discharges of tertiary-treated effluent to Calleguas Creek for the following reasons:
  - A. CWD operates four offsite ponds with a total effluent storage capacity of 26 million gallons and can utilize the ponds as emergency storage for a holding time of approximately 20 days.
  - B. The Camrosa WRF has not discharged any effluent to Calleguas Creek since February 2005.
  - C. The Camrosa WRF will discharge any tertiary-treated effluent not used for recycled water applications to the Pacific Ocean via the Calleguas Municipal Water District's

#### Salinity Management Pipeline.

- 6. CWD also manages stormwater onsite at the Camrosa WRF by either directing stormwater to two drains that convey the stormwater directly to the headworks by gravity, or by capturing the stormwater from the Camrosa WRF in a stormwater basin. Stormwater may also be conveyed from the stormwater basin to the headworks using a portable pump to prevent the stormwater basin from overflowing. Since CWD manages the stormwater on-site and does not discharge stormwater to surface waters, General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities (NPDES Permit No. CAS000001) is not applicable to the Camrosa WRF. However, since the Camrosa WRF conveys stormwater to a stormwater basin and manages stormwater onsite, stormwater requirements are included in NPDES Order No. R4-2020-0078 to protect any potential impacts the stormwater may have on the receiving water.
- 7. Upon termination of Order No. R4-2020-0078 authorizing the discharges of tertiary-treated effluent to Calleguas Creek, stormwater at the Camrosa WRF will primarily be regulated through the WDRs/WRRs Order No. R4-2019-0018 regulating CWD's recycled water program. As such, this termination Order is being adopted concurrently with an amendment to WDRs/WRRs Order No. R4-2019-0118 to incorporate stormwater requirements and other requirements to ensure the Camrosa WRF continues to be properly operated and maintained.
- 8. On February 20, 2025, Los Angeles Water Board staff conducted a termination inspection for Order No. R4-2020-0078. Order No. R4-2020-0078 authorized discharges to Calleguas Creek from a single discharge point, Discharge Point 001, which conveyed water from Pond No. 2 to Calleguas Creek. Los Angeles Water Board staff verified that Discharge Point 002 was capped to prevent discharge. No other discharge points were observed, consistent with the NPDES permit. Los Angeles Water Board staff also observed the recycled water storage ponds and the stormwater retention basin to ensure they were operated consistent with the descriptions in CWD's termination request.
- 9. Considering all the above, the Los Angeles Water Board finds that Order Number R4-2020-0078 authorizing discharges of tertiary-treated effluent including treated stormwater to Calleguas Creek is no longer necessary and may be terminated, except for purposes of enforcement.
- 10. Termination of the NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act in accordance with Water Code Section 13389 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061, subdivision (b)(3) because there is no possibility that termination of these waste discharge requirements may have a significant effect on the environment.
- 11. The Los Angeles Water Board has notified the Discharger, interested agencies, and interested persons of its intent to consider termination of the NPDES permit and has provided them with an opportunity to submit written comments.

Order No. R4-2025-0182
Terminating WDRs and NPDES Permit

12. The Los Angeles Water Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments and testimony pertinent to this matter.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the following NPDES permit be terminated, except for enforcement purposes:

### DISCHARGER NAME (NPDES PERMIT NO.)

Camrosa Water District -Camrosa WRF (CA0059501)

## ORDER NO. (ADOPTION DATE)

R4-2020-0078 (June 11, 2020)

#### REASON FOR TERMINATION

100% of the treated effluent from the Camrosa WRF is used for recycled water applications regulated by WDRs and WRRs Order No. R4-2019-0118, the discharger has ample storage capacity, and the Camrosa WRF is permitted to discharge up to 2.25 MGD (Camrosa WRF's design capacity) to the Pacific Ocean via the SMP when recycled water demand is low.

The Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board is authorized, and is hereby directed, to certify and submit copies of this Order to the Discharger, and to such individuals and governmental agencies that request it.

I, Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer, do certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on July 24, 2025.

Susana Digitally signed by Susana Arredondo Date: 2025.08.08 16:27:52 Portion of the Portion of

Susana Arredondo Executive Officer