

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION

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RESOLUTION NO. 19-XXX

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT NEGATIVE DECLARATION GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

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

1. California Water Code (CWC) section 13260(a) requires that any person discharging waste or proposing to discharge waste, other than to a community sewer system, that could affect the waters of the state, shall file a report of waste discharge with the Regional Board. The Regional Board may prescribe waste discharge requirements as to the nature of any proposed discharge, existing discharge, or material change in an existing discharge.
2. CWC section 13263(i) provides that the Regional Board may prescribe general waste discharge requirements for discharges produced by similar operations, involving similar types of wastes, and requiring similar treatment standards.
3. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (Basin Plan) (i) designates beneficial uses for surface and groundwater, (ii) establishes narrative and numeric water quality objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect the designated beneficial uses, and (iii) sets forth implementation programs to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan incorporates applicable State and Regional Board plans and policies and other pertinent water quality policies and regulations. Pursuant to CWC section 13263(a), waste discharge requirements must implement the Basin Plan.
4. Regional Board staff has prepared for Regional Board consideration Order No. R4-2019-XXXX, General Waste Discharge Requirements For Advanced Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (Advanced OWTs) (General Order) for those Advanced OWTs with a flow rate of up to 100,000 gallons per day.
5. Shallow groundwater underlying the Advanced OWTs in areas of inland and coastal regions may be hydrologically connected to nearby surface waters. Wastewater discharged to land near a surface water body may impact surface water quality. Therefore, the General Order includes requirements to protect both surface water and groundwater quality. This General Order applies to discharges throughout the entire Los Angeles Region including inland and coastal regions of Los Angeles, Ventura, and small portion of Santa Barbara Counties.
6. This General Order includes considerations and requirements that address areas of shallow groundwater, discharge with insufficient setback to drinking water supply well and/or surface water, or treatment systems located within TMDL areas. Additional monitoring may be required by the Regional Board to determine if the discharge has degraded or impaired surface and/or ground water quality.

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7. This General Order regulates the use of treated wastewater as recycled water for non-human contact subsurface landscape irrigation, surface irrigation, and dust control.
8. The adoption of the General Order involves a discretionary action by the Regional Board; therefore, it is considered a project and is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Regional Board is the lead agency for purposes of CEQA.
9. The attached Initial Study evaluates the potential environmental impacts that can be reasonably anticipated from discharges authorized by this General Order.
10. The Regional Board considered the environmental impacts associated with the adoption of the General Order and prepared an Initial Study in accordance with title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15063. Analysis in the Initial Study did not identify any significant impacts on the environment. The potential significant environmental impacts from discharges of domestic wastewater can be mitigated to less than significant impacts by compliance with this General Order, the Notice of Applicability, and any mitigation measures. Therefore, a negative declaration was prepared.
11. The Regional Board distributed a draft Initial Study, Negative Declaration, and General Order to interested agencies and persons on December 7, 2018, for a 30-day public comment period. The comment period ended on January 7, 2019. These documents were published on the Regional Board's Internet webpage.
12. The Regional Board considered all written and oral comments and evidence at a public hearing held on February 14, 2019 in the City of Simi Valley, California to consider adoption of this Resolution to approve the Negative Declaration and the General Order.

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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Regional Board has determined that the proposed project will have a less-than-significant effect on the environment as described in the Initial Study and hereby approves the Negative Declaration.
2. The effluent discharged and recycled for subsurface landscape irrigation, surface irrigation and dust control from Advanced OWTs enrolled in the General Order shall conform with all the requirements, conditions, provisions and limitations set forth in the Order No. R4-2019-XXXX.

CERTIFICATION

I, Deborah J. Smith, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Resolution with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region on February 14, 2019.

Deborah J. Smith
Executive Officer