

**INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT
FOR
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

Newhall Ranch Sanitary District
(Newhall Ranch Water Reclamation Plant)
(NPDES Permit No. CA0064556)

One copy of a notice of your report of waste discharge and a statement of posting form are enclosed. By April 15, 2019, you are directed to comply with one of the following methods of informing the public of your waste discharge:

1. Publish the enclosed public notice in a daily newspaper or periodical which circulates in the general locality to be affected by the discharge, or
2. Post copies of the enclosed public notice in conspicuous places near the entrance of the premises and in the locality to be affected by the discharge.

Any expenses arising from the posting or publication of the enclosed public notice shall be borne by the discharger.

You must file with this office proof of such posting or publication. Proof of posting shall consist of a statement executed on the enclosed form; proof of publication shall consist of an affidavit of the publisher or foreman of the newspaper, with a copy of the notice as published, attached proof of posting or publication must be submitted to this Board by April 22, 2019.

Failure to post or publish the public notice by the specified date may require us to reschedule this item for a later hearing and will require the posting or publication of a second notice.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeong-Hee Lim', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeong-Hee Lim, Ph.D., P.E., Chief
Municipal Permitting Unit (NPDES)

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600

Public Notice No. 19-003
NPDES No. CA0064556

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**PROPOSED REISSUANCE
OF
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
(National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)**

DISCHARGER	DISCHARGE LOCATION	RECEIVING WATER
Newhall Ranch Sanitation District (SD) (Newhall Ranch Water Reclamation Plant)	Hwy 126 east of the Los Angeles/Ventura County Line Newhall, California	Santa Clara River (Reach 5)

Newhall Land and Farming Company initially submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) on April 23, 2004, and applied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge of up to 2.0 mgd of tertiary treated wastewater from a new publicly-owned treatment works (POTW) that would treat the sewage generated by the inhabitants of Newhall Ranch, a new housing development that would be constructed in phases. The initial phase would include Landmark Village and Mission Village.

On September 6, 2007, the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. R4-2007-0046, which served as the first NPDES and WDRs for the Newhall Ranch SD's Newhall Ranch Water Reclamation Plant (Newhall Ranch WRP or Facility). Due to a downturn in the housing market, neither the Landmark Village, the Mission Village, nor the Newhall Ranch WRP were built. In 2013, Newhall Ranch SD (Newhall Ranch SD or Permittee) submitted an ROWD for renewal of their NPDES Order. On December 5, 2013, the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. R4-2013-0180, which served to renew the Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES permit for the Newhall Ranch WRP.

According to the project timeline, home construction within the Newhall Ranch SD service area would precede completion and initial operation of the Newhall Ranch WRP. On January 9, 2002, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD) and Newhall Land and Farming Company entered into an *Interconnection Agreement*. With certain conditions, a term of this agreement allows for the sewage generated by the first 6,000 dwelling units of Newhall Ranch be temporarily treated at the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant, until such time as the Newhall Ranch WRP is constructed. The *Interconnection Agreement* specifies that Newhall Land and Farming will design, fund, and construct all sewers, pumping plants, or force mains required to convey any flow generated within Newhall Ranch to the Valencia WRP. This interim wastewater treatment scenario is described in further detail in a separate Regional Water Board Order No. R4-2012-0139, *Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Newhall Land and Farming Company* (File No. 11-168), adopted by the Regional Water Board on September 14, 2012. Order No. R4-2012-0139.

However, due to litigation issues the construction schedule was delayed and the Landmark Village, Mission Village, and the Newhall Ranch WRP were not built.

On December 12, 2017, Newhall Ranch SD entered into a Joint Sewer Services Agreement (JSSA) with Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District (SCVSD), formerly referred to as the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts Nos. 26 and 32 of Los Angeles County. According to Section 5.5 of the JSSA, Newhall Ranch SD will own, operate, and maintain the Newhall Ranch WRP after the Newhall Land and Farming Company designs, funds, constructs, and successfully starts operations of the Newhall Ranch WRP. The terms and conditions contained in the JSSA supersede many of the terms and conditions which had been contained in the *Interconnection Agreement* dated January 9, 2002. SCVSD replaced LADWP as staff to Newhall Ranch SD.

On June 29, 2018, Newhall Ranch SD submitted an ROWD and applied for renewal of its NPDES permit for the Newhall Ranch WRP. Newhall Ranch SD will own the POTW comprised of the Newhall Ranch Water Reclamation Plant and its associated wastewater collection system and outfall, but SCVSD will operate the POTW.

Treatment at the Newhall Ranch WRP, will consist of screening for removal of large solids, activated sludge biological treatment with membrane bioreactors, nitrification and denitrification, partial reverse osmosis (or equivalent demineralization), and ultraviolet (UV) light disinfection. Wastewater will be discharged intermittently from Discharge Point 001 to Reach 5 of the Santa Clara River, a water of the United States and of the State, when the demand for recycled water is low. Newhall Ranch SD indicated that the determination has yet to be made regarding the need for a diffuser and its configuration. Two options are depicted in the Process Flow Diagram for solids processing at the plant. Sewage solids separated from the wastewater will either be dewatered with a belt thickener and trucked to the Valencia WRP or pumped through a pipe to the Valencia WRP for processing, where treatment and disposal would occur, under Valencia WRP's NPDES permit. The brine from the RO process will be disposed of using one of two methods: trucking it to the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant for disposal to the ocean or injecting it through a deep well (authorized under Permit No. R9UIC-CA1-FY11-4, a separate permit from USEPA for Class I Non-hazardous waste injection wells, which expires November 13, 2023). Newhall Ranch SD plans on recycling the majority of its treated effluent from the Newhall Ranch WRP for irrigation purposes under separate water recycling requirements.

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, tentatively proposes to issue waste discharge requirements, including effluent limitations and special conditions.

PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

The Regional Water Board will hold a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: **June 13, 2019**
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: The Port of Long Beach Board Room
4801 Airport Plaza Drive
Long Beach, CA 90815

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will hear testimony, if any, pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and permit. Oral testimony will be heard; however, for accuracy of the record, important testimony should be in writing.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), the settlement agreement, other documents relied upon, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information are on file and are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by appointment at the following address:

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Regional Water Board at (213) 576-6600. Additionally, the agenda, the fact sheet, and the draft order will be available online at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> under the "Tentative Permits" heading.

The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are specifically referenced during the hearing or contained in the agenda packet. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. In addition to the materials generated for this proceeding, the file includes the administrative records for the applicable Basin Plan amendments. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any particular documents that are not included in the agenda packet, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business hours, not later than five business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on, or object to, the tentative waste discharge requirements, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to Veronica Cuevas at the above address, or send them electronically to veronica.cuevas@waterboards.ca.gov. To be evaluated and responded to by Regional Water Board staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Board, written comments or testimony regarding the tentative must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. on May 6, 2019**. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for the Regional Water Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence pursuant to section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

NATURE OF HEARING

This proceeding will be a formal adjudicatory proceeding. For such proceedings, the Regional Water Board follows procedures established by the State Water Resources Control Board. These procedures are set forth in regulations commencing with section 647 of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, in particular, Article 2, commencing with section 648.

PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

- Newhall Ranch Sanitation District/Permittee

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff not later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

HEARING PROCEDURE

The Board meeting, of which this hearing is a part, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. When the agenda item is called, staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to five minutes or less for each interested person, depending on the number of interested persons wishing to be heard.

Parties or interested persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak and are encouraged to coordinate their presentations with each other. Parties will be advised after the receipt of public comments, but prior to the date of the hearing, of the amount of time each is allocated for presentations. That decision will be based upon the complexity and number of issues under consideration, the extent to which the parties have coordinated, the number of parties and interested persons anticipated, and the time available for the hearing. The parties are invited to contact staff not later than **May 30, 2019** (two weeks prior to the hearing) to discuss how much time they believe is necessary for their presentations, and staff will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will deliberate in open or close session, and render a decision.

The Board does not generally require the prior identification of witnesses, the cross examination of witnesses, or other procedures not specified in this notice. Parties or persons with special procedural requests or requests for alternative hearing procedures should contact staff, who will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing no later than close of business 15 business days prior to the date of the hearing. (Any objections related to the amount of time allocated for parties' presentations must be submitted within two business days of notice thereof, if that date is less than 15 business days before the hearing.) Absent such objections, any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, all cases will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting on **July 11, 2019**. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any question regarding this proposed action, please contact Veronica Cuevas at (213) 576-6662 or via email at veronica.cuevas@waterboards.ca.gov or Jeong-Hee Lim, Ph.D., P.E., Chief of the Municipal Permitting (POTW) Unit at (213) 576-6616 or via email at jeong-hee.lim@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date: April 4, 2019

STATEMENT OF POSTING NOTICE
NPDES NO: CA0064556

REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE BY Newhall Ranch Sanitary District, Newhall Ranch Water Reclamation Plant

_____, says:
(NAME OF PERSON WHO POSTED COPIES OF NOTICE)

_____,
(INSERT "THAT HE IS THE DISCHARGER" OR "THAT ACTING
ON BEHALF OF THE DISCHARGER")

who filed the Report of Waste Discharge with the CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD, _____ Region,

_____ on the _____ day of _____, 2019,
("AND DID" OR "HE DID")

posted two copies of notice of said report identical to the attached copy.

That he posted one copy of said notice _____
(DESCRIBE HOW AND WHERE

(POSTED AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE)

_____ and the other copy of said notice _____
(DESCRIBE HOW AND WHERE

(POSTED AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE)

That each of said copies thus posted occupied a conspicuous place in the locality to be
affected by the proposed discharge.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2019, at _____, California.

(SIGNATURE OF PERSON WHO
POSTED COPIES OF NOTICE)

COMPANY: _____
TITLE: _____