

**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. 22-004
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PROPOSED
 WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND
 NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT**

Discharger	Discharge Location	Receiving Water
Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District (Valencia Water Reclamation Plant) (CA0054216)	28185 The Old Road Santa Clarita, CA 91355	Santa Clara River (Reach 5)

The Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District (SCVSD or Discharger) is currently discharging tertiary treated effluent from its Valencia Water Reclamation Plant (Valencia WRP) to Reach 5 of the Santa Clara River, a water of the United States. The discharge is regulated under waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. R4-2015-0071, adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board), on April 9, 2015. Order Number R4-2015-0071 serves as a permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES Number. CA0054216). The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge (ROWD) and applied for reissuance of its Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and NPDES permit on November 1, 2019, to discharge tertiary-treated effluent. The application was deemed complete on April 20, 2020. The terms and conditions of the current NPDES order have been automatically continued and remain in effect until new WDRs and NPDES permit are adopted pursuant to this Order.

The Discharger owns and operates the Valencia WRP, a publicly owned treatment works, located at 28185 The Old Road, Santa Clarita, California, with a design capacity of 21.6 million gallons per day (mgd). The Facility treats wastewater consisting of domestic and industrial wastewater. The wastewater is generated at the City of Santa Clarita and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The Valencia WRP will temporarily treat the sewage generated by the first 6,000 dwelling units of Newhall Ranch, until the Newhall Ranch WRP is built. Treatment at the Facility consists of influent screening, primary sedimentation, primary effluent equalization, activated sludge biological treatment with nitrification and denitrification, secondary sedimentation, inert media filtration, disinfection (UV and/or chloramination), and dechlorination (as needed). Upon completion of the capital improvement project in December 2022, the Valencia WRP's treatment train will include reverse osmosis. Treated wastewater discharged to Santa Clara River is dechlorinated when chloramines are used as the disinfecting agent. Tertiary-treated effluent is discharged from the Valencia WRP to Reach 5 of the Santa Clara River at the

discharge point 001 (Latitude 34.430546°N, Longitude 118.592546°W) under normal operating conditions and at discharge point 002 (Latitude 34.430075°N, Longitude 118.592208°W) during high stream flow conditions.

Biosolids from the Valencia WRP are processed at the Valencia WRP and hauled offsite.

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

PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

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

Date: May 12, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Simi Valley Council Chambers, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, CA 93063

A virtual platform is also available for those who want to join online. Please follow the directions provided in the agenda to register or to view the Board meeting.

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Los Angeles Water Board will hear testimony, if any, that is pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and NPDES 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, other documents relied upon, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information on file 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:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

320 West 4th Street, Suite 200

Los Angeles, CA 90013

The tentative requirements are available on the Los Angeles Water Board website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/permits>. 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. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any 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 5 business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

NATURE OF HEARING

This will be a formal adjudicative hearing pursuant to section 648 et seq. of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) will not apply to this proceeding.

Ex Parte Communications Prohibited: As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Los Angeles Water Board must be directed to staff.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF BEFORE THE HEARING

The lead staff member responsible for this item is:

Veronica Cuevas
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Veronica.Cuevas@waterboards.ca.gov

PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District
- Valencia Water Reclamation Plant

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff no later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on, or object to, the tentative waste discharge requirements and NPDES permit, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to Veronica Cuevas at Veronica.Cuevas@waterboards.ca.gov. To be evaluated and responded to by Los Angeles 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 April 18, 2022**. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for the Los Angeles 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.

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 **April 28, 2022**, (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 **June 9, 2022**. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

Date: March 18, 2022