

**Notice of Public Hearing  
of  
Order No. R1-2020-0004  
Rescission of Cease and Desist Order No. R1-2015-0008  
Order No. R1-2020-0002  
Waste Discharge Requirements  
and  
Time Schedule Order No. R1-2020-0003  
for the  
Loleta Community Services District  
Wastewater Treatment Facility  
NPDES No. CA0023671  
WDID NO. 1B80081OHUM  
Humboldt County**

On February 6 and 7, 2020, the California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) will consider adoption of Order No. R1-2020-0004 rescinding Cease and Desist Order R1-2015-0008 (CDO), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R1-2020-0002 (Proposed Permit) and Time Schedule Order No. R1-2020-0003 (TSO) for the Loleta Community Services District (Permittee) Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility).

The CDO required the Permittee to cease and desist discharging waste to the Eel River in violation of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (Basin Plan) summertime discharge prohibition (May 15 to September 30) and final effluent limitations for copper, dichlorobromomethane, chlorodibromomethane, carbon tetrachloride and nitrate in NPDES Order No. R1-2014-0013 (2014 Permit). The CDO established time schedules for the Permittee to implement a preferred alternative that would upgrade treatment processes at the Facility and allow the Permittee to comply with the Basin Plan discharge prohibitions and the NPDES final effluent limitations.

The Permittee submitted a letter on April 5, 2018, requesting an extension for completion of the final two tasks, Tasks “I” and “J” listed in the CDO. Task I required the submittal of the final plans and specification for the Preferred Alternative. Task J required the completion of construction of the Preferred Alternative. The letter stated that the Permittee experienced setbacks in securing a long-term lease for the summertime location for recycled water use. This caused a delay in completing design plans and specifications and completing construction of the Preferred Alternative.

To account for the delays, the Permittee requested an extension for submitting final

plans and specifications (Task I) for the Preferred Alternative from April 1, 2018 to January 1, 2020 and an extension for completing construction of the Preferred Alternative from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2021. Regional Water Board staff concurs with both extension requests.

The Regional Water Board will be considering adoption of the Proposed Permit and the TSO as companions to this Rescission Order. The Proposed Permit will continue to impose final effluent limitations for discharges of waste from the Facility. The TSO will effectively replace the CDO, carrying forward the requirements to complete Task I. and J. and granting extensions requested by the Permittee. The TSO also includes interim Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations for copper, carbon tetrachloride, dichlorobromomethane, chlorodibromomethane and nitrate as required by the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP).

These items will be open for public comment between **November 5, 2019 and December 5, 2019**.

### ***Public Hearing Procedures***

A public hearing to consider comments and objections to the proposed permit is scheduled for the Regional Water Board's **February 6 or 7, 2020**, Board Meeting, or as announced in the Regional Water Board's agenda. The meeting will be held at the 5550 Skylane Blvd., Ste. A, Santa Rosa, California.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. You can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations at our [website](#). At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed rescission and waste discharge requirements.

In order for the Regional Water Board to consider any evidentiary material concerning this hearing, any documents, including written technical reports and other evidentiary material, must be submitted by [email](#) and received by the Regional Water Board no later than 5:00 p.m., on **November 25, 2019**. All documents that are received timely will be distributed to the Regional Water Board members and interested persons. These records will also become a permanent part of the administrative record for this public hearing.

Except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair, written material received after the above date will not be accepted. If the Chair chooses to accept late written material, that material will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice the Permittee or any other designated party. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 648.1 and 648.4).

All those who plan to present evidence at this hearing must submit written statements to the Regional Water Board no later than **November 25, 2019**. The statements should

provide the name of the witness, his or her qualifications (if an expert), and the scope of his or her intended testimony. The time limit for oral testimony or comments will be set by the Regional Water Board Chair and are subject to change. These time limits normally allow no more than 10 minutes each for Regional Water Board staff and Permittees. All speakers are expected to honor these time limits. Other interested persons may also provide testimony at this public hearing. However, any testimony given by someone other than staff or the Permittee, may be limited to 3 minutes and may only be given under the limited scope of summarizing or explaining any timely-submitted or late-accepted written evidence. Unless an exception is granted by the Regional Water Board Chair, no new written evidence will be allowed to be presented at this public hearing. In an effort to be fair to all people who wish to testify at this public hearing, the Regional Water Board Chair may choose to use a timer to ensure that individuals stay within the time limits set by the Chair. The Chair also requests that in order to avoid unnecessary repetitive testimony, that one spokesperson be selected to speak on behalf of many individuals when those individuals share a common affiliation or interest.

### ***Document Review***

The Proposed Permit and related documents are available at the [Regional Water Board's website](#). Additionally, the Proposed Permit and file may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review and can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.

Matthias St. John  
Executive Officer  
November 5, 2019