

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 13, 2016

Ms. Shelly Weber
3848 Mound Avenue
Ventura, CA 93003

Mr. Wade Lewis
P. O. Box 1025
Santa Paula, CA 93061

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2012-0032, APPROVING WAIVER OF WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY FOR SITING, DESIGN, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE, 3848 MOUND AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA (FILE NO. 16-063, GLOBAL ID WDR100039447)

Dear Ms. Weber:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), is the public agency with primary responsibility for the protection of ground and surface water quality for all beneficial uses of water within major portions of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including facility mentioned above.

On June 19, 2012, State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted Resolution No. 2012-0032, "*Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS Policy)*." The OWTS Policy became effective on May 13, 2013 and subsequently was incorporated into the Regional Board Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for Los Angeles Region on May 8, 2014.

We have completed our review of your application of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for wastewater to be generated from the Shelly Weber (Discharger) single-family residence located at 3848 Mound Avenue, Ventura, California.

The single-family residence consists of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen, and a laundry room. The Discharger is proposing to replace the existing on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) because it no longer functions properly. The existing OWTS consists of a 1,500-gallon septic tank and one (1) 35 feet deep by 4 feet diameter seepage pit. The existing septic tank and seepage pit will be removed and will be replaced by a new a 1,500-gallon septic tank and one (1) 35 feet deep by 4 feet diameter seepage pit.

The new OWTS will consist of one (1) 1,500-gallon septic tank and one (1) 4-foot diameter by 35-foot deep seepage pits. The estimated maximum daily volume of wastewater being discharged into the OWTS is 450 gallons per day (gpd).

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Regional Board staff has reviewed the information provided and have determined that the subject facility meets the conditions specified in Tier 1 (sections 7.0 and 8.0) of the OWTS Policy and therefore, is eligible to be covered by the waiver included in the OWTS Policy.

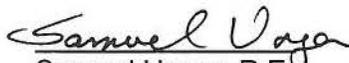
Enclosed are the requirements for Tier 1 and the *Policy Conditional Waiver of General Waste Discharge Requirements*. Should changes to the septic disposal system be needed, revised engineering drawings showing the change must be filed with the Regional Board a minimum of thirty days prior to the change. The discharger must receive approval of such change. The complete OWTS Policy is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/docs/owts_policy.pdf

Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Waiver and this letter authorizing applicability could result in enforcement actions, and the discharge maybe required to obtain waste discharge requirements (WDRs) issued by the Regional Board, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

If you have any questions, please contact the Project Manager, Ms. Mercedes Merino at (213) 620-6156 (Mercedes.Merino@waterboards.ca.gov), or the Chief of Groundwater Permitting Unit, Dr. Eric Wu at (213) 576-6683 (Eric.Wu@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,


Samuel Unger, P.E.
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements

cc (via email): Mr. Tim Dunn, Building and Safety Division, City of Ventura

Tier 1 – Low Risk New or Replacement OWTS

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New or replacement OWTS meet low risk siting and design requirements as specified in Tier 1, where there is not an approved Local Agency Management Program per Tier 2.

7.0 Minimum Site Evaluation and Siting Standards

- 7.1 A qualified professional shall perform all necessary soil and site evaluations for all new OWTS and for existing OWTS where the treatment or dispersal system will be replaced or expanded.
- 7.2 A site evaluation shall determine that adequate soil depth is present in the dispersal area. Soil depth is measured vertically to the point where bedrock, hardpan, impermeable soils, or saturated soils are encountered or an adequate depth has been determined. Soil depth shall be determined through the use of soil profile(s) in the dispersal area and the designated dispersal system replacement area, as viewed in excavations exposing the soil profiles in representative areas, unless the local agency has determined through historical or regional information that a specific site soil profile evaluation is unwarranted.
- 7.3 A site evaluation shall determine whether the anticipated highest level of groundwater within the dispersal field and its required minimum dispersal zone is not less than prescribed in Table 2 by estimation using one or a combination of the following methods:
 - 7.3.1 Direct observation of the highest extent of soil mottling observed in the examination of soil profiles, recognizing that soil mottling is not always an indicator of the uppermost extent of high groundwater; or
 - 7.3.2 Direct observation of groundwater levels during the anticipated period of high groundwater. Methods for groundwater monitoring and determinations shall be decided by the local agency; or
 - 7.3.3 Other methods, such as historical records, acceptable to the local agency.
 - 7.3.4 Where a conflict in the above methods of examination exists, the direct observation method indicating the highest level shall govern.
- 7.4 Percolation test results in the effluent disposal area shall not be faster than one minute per inch (1 MPI) or slower than one hundred twenty minutes per inch (120 MPI). All percolation test rates shall be performed by presoaking of percolation test holes and continuing the test until a stabilized rate is achieved.
- 7.5 Minimum horizontal setbacks from any OWTS treatment component and dispersal systems shall be as follows:
 - 7.5.1 5 feet from parcel property lines and structures;
 - 7.5.2 100 feet from water wells and monitoring wells, unless regulatory or legitimate data requirements necessitate that monitoring wells be located closer;

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- 7.5.3 100 feet from any unstable land mass or any areas subject to earth slides identified by a registered engineer or registered geologist; other setback distance are allowed, if recommended by a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional.
 - 7.5.4 100 feet from springs and flowing surface water bodies where the edge of that water body is the natural or levied bank for creeks and rivers, or may be less where site conditions prevent migration of wastewater to the water body;
 - 7.5.5 200 feet from vernal pools, wetlands, lakes, ponds, or other surface water bodies where the edge of that water body is the high water mark for lakes and reservoirs, and the mean high tide line for tidally influenced water bodies;
 - 7.5.6 150 feet from a public water well where the depth of the effluent dispersal system does not exceed 10 feet;
 - 7.5.7 Where the effluent dispersal system is within 1,200 feet from a public water systems' surface water intake point, within the catchment of the drainage, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as upstream of the intake point for flowing water bodies, the dispersal system shall be no less than 400 feet from the high water mark of the reservoir, lake or flowing water body.
 - 7.5.8 Where the effluent dispersal system is located more than 1,200 feet but less than 2,500 feet from a public water systems' surface water intake point, within the catchment of the drainage, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as upstream of the intake point for flowing water bodies, the dispersal system shall be no less than 200 feet from the high water mark of the reservoir, lake or flowing water body.
- 7.6 Prior to issuing a permit to install an OWTS the permitting agency shall determine if the OWTS is within 1,200 feet of an intake point for a surface water treatment plant for drinking water, is in the drainage catchment in which the intake point is located, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as being upstream of the intake point for a flowing water body. If the OWTS is within 1,200 feet of an intake point for a surface water treatment plant for drinking water, is in the drainage catchment in which the intake point is located, and is located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point:
- 7.6.1 The permitting agency shall provide a copy of the permit application to the owner of the water system of their proposal to install an OWTS within 1,200 feet of an intake point for a surface water treatment. If the owner of the water system cannot be identified, then the permitting agency will notify California Department of Public Health Drinking Water Program.
 - 7.6.2 The permit application shall include a topographical plot plan for the parcel showing the OWTS components, the property boundaries, proposed structures, physical address, and name of property owner.

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- 7.6.3 The permit application shall provide the estimated wastewater flows, intended use of proposed structure generating the wastewater, soil data, and estimated depth to seasonally saturated soils.
- 7.6.4 The public water system owner shall have 15 days from receipt of the permit application to provide recommendations and comments to the permitting agency.
- 7.7 Natural ground slope in all areas used for effluent disposal shall not be greater than 25 percent.
- 7.8 The average density for any subdivision of property made by Tentative Approval pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act occurring after the effective date of this Policy and implemented under Tier 1 shall not exceed the allowable density values in Table 1 for a single-family dwelling unit, or its equivalent, for those units that rely on OWTS.

Average Annual Rainfall (in/yr)	Allowable Density (acres/single family dwelling unit)
0 - 15	2.5
>15 - 20	2
>20 - 25	1.5
>25 - 35	1
>35 - 40	0.75
>40	0.5

8.0 Minimum OWTS Design and Construction Standards

8.1 OWTS Design Requirements

- 8.1.1 A qualified professional shall design all new OWTS and modifications to existing OWTS where the treatment or dispersal system will be replaced or expanded. A qualified professional employed by a local agency, while acting in that capacity, may design, review, and approve a design for a proposed OWTS, if authorized by the local agency.
- 8.1.2 OWTS shall be located, designed, and constructed in a manner to ensure that effluent does not surface at any time, and that percolation of effluent will not adversely affect beneficial uses of waters of the State.
- 8.1.3 The design of new and replacement OWTS shall be based on the expected influent wastewater quality with a projected flow not to exceed 3,500 gallons per day, the peak wastewater flow rates for purposes of sizing hydraulic components, the projected average daily flow for purposes of sizing the dispersal system, the characteristics of the site, and the required level of treatment for protection of water quality and public health.

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- 8.1.4 All dispersal systems shall have at least twelve (12) inches of soil cover, except for pressure distribution systems, which must have at least six (6) inches of soil cover.
- 8.1.5 The minimum depth to the anticipated highest level of groundwater below the bottom of the leaching trench, and the native soil depth immediately below the leaching trench, shall not be less than prescribed in Table 2.

Table 2: Tier 1 Minimum Depths to Groundwater and Minimum Soil Depth from the Bottom of the Dispersal System	
Percolation Rate	Minimum Depth
Percolation Rate \leq 1 MPI	Only as authorized in a Tier 2 Local Agency Management Program
1 MPI < Percolation Rate \leq 5 MPI	Twenty (20) feet
5 MPI < Percolation Rate \leq 30 MPI	Eight (8) feet
30 MPI < Percolation Rate \leq 120 MPI	Five (5) feet
Percolation Rate > 120 MPI	Only as authorized in a Tier 2 Local Agency Management Program
MPI = minutes per inch	

- 8.1.6 Dispersal systems shall be a leachfield, designed using not more than 4 square-feet of infiltrative area per linear foot of trench as the infiltrative surface, and with trench width no wider than 3 feet. Seepage pits and other dispersal systems may only be authorized for repairs where siting limitations require a variance. Maximum application rates shall be determined from stabilized percolation rate as provided in Table 3, or from soil texture and structure determination as provided in Table 4.
- 8.1.7 Dispersal systems shall not exceed a maximum depth of 10 feet as measured from the ground surface to the bottom of the trench.

Tier 1 – Low Risk New or Replacement OWTS

Table 3: Application Rates as Determined from Stabilized Percolation Rate							
Percolation Rate	Application Rate		Percolation Rate	Application Rate		Percolation Rate	Application Rate
(minutes per Inch)	(gallons per day per square foot)		(minutes per Inch)	(gallons per day per square foot)		(minutes per Inch)	(gallons per day per square foot)
<1	Requires Local Management Program		31	0.522		61	0.197
1	1.2		32	0.511		62	0.194
2	1.2		33	0.5		63	0.19
3	1.2		34	0.489		64	0.187
4	1.2		35	0.478		65	0.184
5	1.2		36	0.467		66	0.18
6	0.8		37	0.456		67	0.177
7	0.8		38	0.445		68	0.174
8	0.8		39	0.434		69	0.17
9	0.8		40	0.422		70	0.167
10	0.8		41	0.411		71	0.164
11	0.786		42	0.4		72	0.16
12	0.771		43	0.389		73	0.157
13	0.757		44	0.378		74	0.154
14	0.743		45	0.367		75	0.15
15	0.729		46	0.356		76	0.147
16	0.714		47	0.345		77	0.144
17	0.7		48	0.334		78	0.14
18	0.686		49	0.323		79	0.137
19	0.671		50	0.311		80	0.133
20	0.657		51	0.3		81	0.13
21	0.643		52	0.289		82	0.127
22	0.629		53	0.278		83	0.123
23	0.614		54	0.267		84	0.12
24	0.6		55	0.256		85	0.117
25	0.589		56	0.245		86	0.113
26	0.578		57	0.234		87	0.11
27	0.567		58	0.223		88	0.107
28	0.556		59	0.212		89	0.103
29	0.545		60	0.2		90	0.1
30	0.533					>90 - 120	0.1

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Table 4: Design Soil Application Rates			
(Source: USEPA Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Manual, February 2002)			
Soil Texture (per the USDA soil classification system)	Soil Structure Shape	Grade	Maximum Soil Application Rate(gallons per day per square foot)¹
Coarse Sand, Sand, Loamy Coarse Sand, Loamy Sand	Single grain	Structureless	0.8
Fine Sand, Very Fine Sand, Loamy Fine Sand, Loamy Very Fine Sand	Single grain	Structureless	0.4
Coarse Sandy Loam, Sandy Loam	Massive	Structureless	0.2
		Weak	0.2
	Platy	Moderate, Strong	Prohibited
		Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak
Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Moderate, Strong	0.6	
	Fine Sandy Loam, very fine Sandy Loam	Massive	Structureless
Weak, Moderate, Strong			Prohibited
Platy		Weak	0.2
		Moderate, Strong	0.4
Loam	Massive	Structureless	0.2
		Weak, Moderate, Strong	Prohibited
	Platy	Weak	0.4
		Moderate, Strong	0.6
Silt Loam	Massive	Structureless	Prohibited
		Weak, Moderate, Strong	Prohibited
	Platy	Weak	0.4
		Moderate, Strong	0.6
Sandy Clay Loam, Clay Loam, Silty Clay Loam	Massive	Structureless	Prohibited
		Weak, Moderate, Strong	Prohibited
	Platy	Weak	0.2
		Moderate, Strong	0.4
Sandy Clay, Clay, or Silty Clay	Massive	Structureless	Prohibited
		Weak, Moderate, Strong	Prohibited
	Platy	Weak	Prohibited
		Moderate, Strong	0.2

¹ Soils listed as prohibited may be allowed under the authority of the Regional Water Board, or as allowed under an approved Local Agency Management Program per Tier 2.