

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2007-0051

AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. 5-00-264
FOR
MURPHYS SANITARY DISTRICT
MURPHYS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
CALAVERAS COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereafter Regional Water Board), finds:

1. On 8 December 2000, the Regional Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 5-00-264, prescribing requirements Murphys Sanitary District in Calaveras County. The Discharger owns and operates a domestic wastewater collection, treatment, and storage system that serves the wastewater needs of the community of Murphys.
2. WDRs Order No. 5-01-063, adopted by the Regional Water Board on 16 March 2001, prescribes requirements for the subsequent discharge of treated wastewater (recycled water) from Murphys Sanitary District to the Hay Station Ranch Recycled Water Reuse Areas, which is owned by John and Gail Kautz, and operated by John Kautz Farms.
3. On 10 April 2006, John Kautz Farms submitted a Report of Waste Discharge to have its WDRs revised to increase the amount of land in which reclaimed water can be applied to the Hay Station Ranch Recycled Water Reuse Areas. The proposed WDRs are to be considered for adoption at the 3/4 May 2007 meeting of the Regional Water Board.
4. This Resolution amends the Murphys Sanitary District WDRs to facilitate changes at the Hay Station Ranch Recycled Water Reuse Areas.
5. Discharge Prohibition A.10 of WDRs Order No. 5-00-264 prohibits discharge of reclaimed water to Hay Station Ranch between 30 November and 1 March of each year.
6. On 27 February and 5 March 2007, Murphys Sanitary District and John Kautz Farms, respectively, submitted comments on the tentative WDRs for Hay Station Ranch. In both sets of comments, each entity requested that the Murphys Sanitary District WDRs be amended to remove Prohibition A.10, and allow irrigation of reclaimed water to Hay Station Ranch throughout the year.

7. The RWD for John Kautz Farms indicates that Hay Station Ranch has implemented new operational controls and procedures for applying recycled water to the reuse areas. The controls and procedures include installing berms and grading recycled water reuse areas to prevent any potential tailwater runoff from entering surface drainage courses and surface waters, and conducting daily inspections of the recycled water reuse areas. The WDRs for John Kautz Farms require daily inspections of the recycled water reuse areas when recycled water is being applied.
8. Discharge Specification B.2 of WDRs Order No. 5-00-264 allows a monthly average dry weather discharge of 350,000 gallons per day (gpd) to Hay Station Ranch.
9. In the comments submitted by Murphys Sanitary District and John Kautz Farms, each entity requested that Discharge Specification B.2 of the Murphys Sanitary District WDRs be amended to allow for a monthly average discharge of 450,000 gpd. John Kautz Farms submitted a hydraulic loading balance, which indicates that the proposed 120 acres of land used for land application of recycled water can adequately accept all of the wastewater without causing runoff.
10. The action to amend WDRs Order No. 5-00-264 is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq.). The action to amend WDRs for this existing facility is exempt from CEQA because it involves negligible or no expansion beyond the previous WDRs (14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301) and it is an action taken by a regulatory agency to assure the protection of the environment, and the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment (14 CCR Section 15308).
11. The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to amend waste discharge requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
12. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard, and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 5-00-264 is amended solely to remove Discharge Prohibition A.10 and change Discharge Specification B.2. Pursuant to Sections 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, Murphys Sanitary District, its agents, successors and assigns, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted there under, shall comply with the amended Order No. 5-00-264 as follows:

1. Discharge Prohibition A.10 in WDRs Order No. 5-00-264 shall be removed.
2. Discharge Specification B.2 in WDRs Order No. 5-00-264 shall be amended as follows:

B. Discharge Specifications

2. The monthly average discharge to the Hay Station Ranch Recycled Water Reuse Areas shall not exceed 450,000 gpd.

This Order is effective as of the date of adoption.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 4 May 2007.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer