
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

12 November 2019

Amrik Bhandal, Owner
La Quinta Inn & Suites
1142 North Front Road
Earlimart, California 93219

CERTIFIED MAIL
7018 1830 0001 2775 2545

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA), STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; AMRIK BHANDAL; EARLIMART LA QUINTA INN & SUITES ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM; TULARE COUNTY

On 30 August 2019, Grace Hill, with Ace Design & Construction/Ace Building Company Inc., on behalf of Amrik Bhandal (Discharger), submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for the La Quinta Inn & Suites onsite waste treatment system (Facility). The Discharger is requesting coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ General Water Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (General Order). The Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) included a completed and signed Form 200 and a technical report prepared by Jaspal S. Sidhu, a California registered civil engineer (RCE 56924). A revised RWD was submitted on 25 October 2019.

Based on the information provided and a review of available information, the Facility treats and disposes of less than 100,000 gallons of domestic wastewater per data and is eligible for coverage under the General Order. This letter serves as formal notice that the General Order is applicable to your system and the wastewater discharger described. You are hereby assigned General Order **2014-0153-DWQ-R5327** for your system.

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclose with this letter, which is describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. **2014-0153-DWQ-R5327**. This MRP was developed after consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached memorandum.

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Amrik Bhandal will own and operate the La Quinta Inn & Suites Hotel and the associated wastewater treatment facility (Facility). The Hotel is not yet constructed. It will be located on the west side of Highway 99 about 0.8 miles north of Earlimart in Tulare County (Section 28, Township 23 South, Range 25 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian). The La Quinta Inn & Suites Hotel will discharge domestic wastewater generated from toilets, showers, and washing machines to the Facility for treatment and disposal. The onsite treatment facility shall be located on the southeast portion of the property and will consist of a double compartment 10,000-gallon septic tank and 20 interconnected seepage pits with an internal diameter of 5 feet and a depth of 15 feet.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The discharger shall maintain exclusive control over the discharge and shall comply with the terms and conditions of this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327.

In accordance with section B.1 of the General Order, **the monthly average daily discharge to the seepage pits shall not exceed 9,000 gallons per day (gpd)**. In accordance with the requirements of the General Order, this NOA does not specify a nitrogen effluent limitation since the Facility flow rate is less than 20,000 gpd.

The General Order states in Section B.1 that the Discharger shall comply with the setbacks as described in Table 3 of the General Order. This table summarizes the different set setback requirements for wastewater treatment system equipment, activities, land application areas and storage and/or treatment ponds from sensitive receptors and property lines where applicable. The Discharger shall comply with the applicable requirements, as summarized in the following table.

Table 1: Site Specific Applicable Setback Requirements

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line
Septic Tank, Treatment System, or Collection System	150 ft.	50 ft	50 ft.	5 ft
Seepage Pit	150 ft	150 ft.	50 ft	8 ft.

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections in the General Order, including:

1. Septic System requirements specified in Section B.2 of the General Order;

2. Subsurface Disposal System requirements specified in Section B.6 of the General Order; and
3. Sludge/Solids/Biosolids Disposal requirements specified in Section B.8 of the General Order.

Provision E.1 of the General Order requires dischargers enrolled under the General Order to prepare and implement the following reports within **90 days** of the issuance of the NOA (**10 February 2020**):

- Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (Provision E.1.a).
- Sampling and Analysis Plan (Provision E.1.b).

A copy of the Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan and the Sampling and Analysis Plan shall be maintained at the treatment facility and shall be presented to the Regional Water Board staff upon request.

As stated in Section E.2.w., in the event any change in control or ownership of the Facility or wastewater disposal areas, the Discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this General Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) Executive Officer.

Failure to comply with the requirements in this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327 could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, you must submit a new Report of Waste Discharge describing the new operation.

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. On 16 October 2019, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a resolution approving the Basin Plan amendments. These programs, once effective, could change how the Central Valley Water Board permits discharges of salt and nitrate.

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by the General Order ceases, so that we may terminate coverage and avoid unnecessary billing.

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF)

and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15,
Place ID: 861013,
Facility Name: Earlimart La Quinta Inn & Suites,
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327

In order to conserve paper and reduce mailing costs, a paper copy of the General Order has been sent only to the Discharger. Others are advised that the [General Order](#) is available on the State Water Board's website (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf).

All documents, including responses to inspections and written notifications, submitted to comply with this NOA shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the Compliance and Enforcement Unit, attention to Russell Walls. Mr. Walls can be reached at (559) 488-4392 or Russel.Walls@waterboards.ca.gov. Questions regarding the permitting aspects of the NOA, and notification for termination of coverage under the Small Domestic General Order, shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the WDR Permitting Unit, attention Alexander Mushegan. Mr. Mushegan can be reached at (559) 488-4397 or by email at Alexander.Mushegan@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. [Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions](#) may be found on the internet or will be provided upon request. (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality).

Original Signed by Clay Rodgers for:
Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

(see next page for enclosures and cc's)

Enclosures:

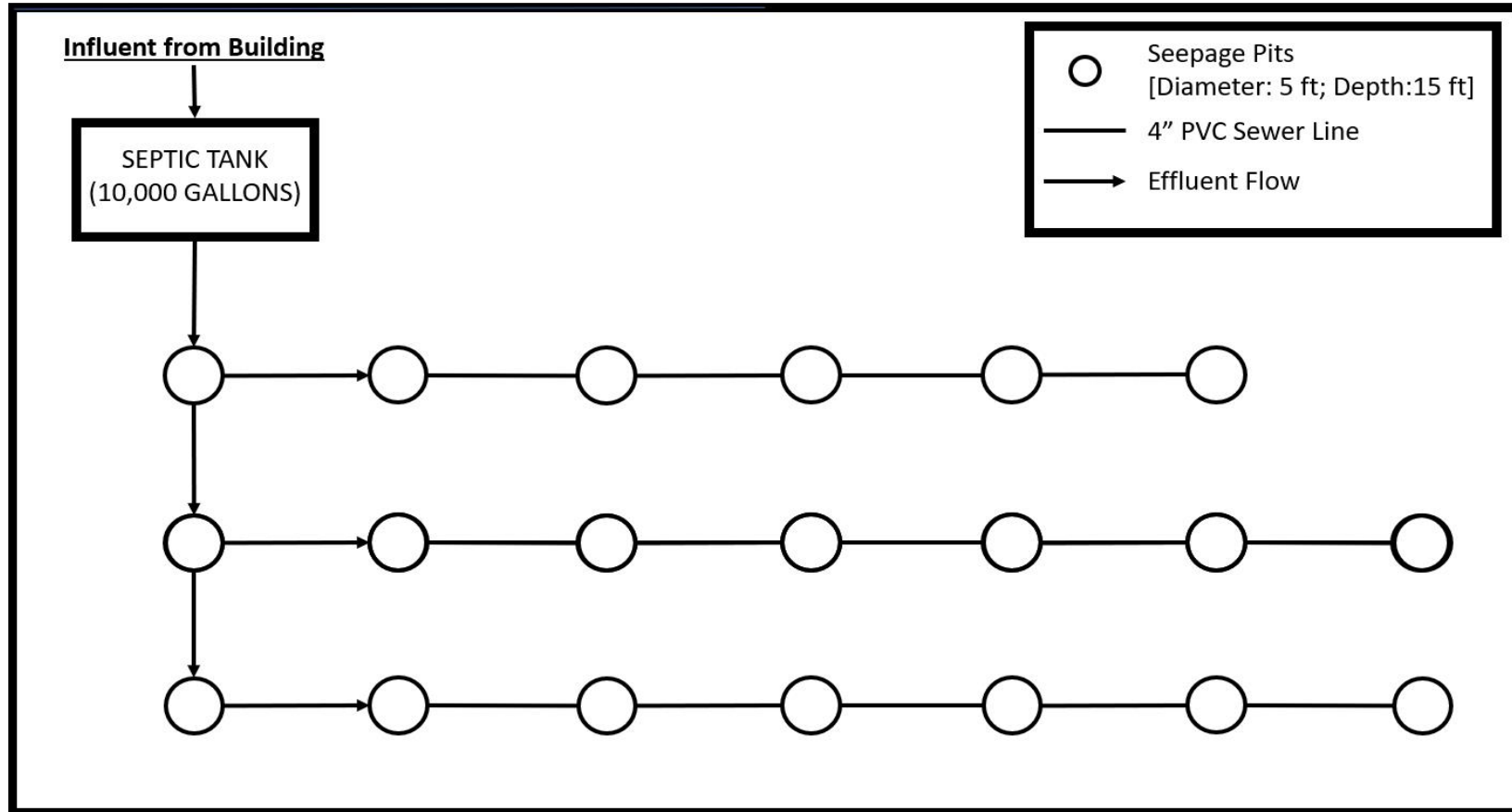
- Attachment A – Site Map
- Attachment B – Flow Schematic
- Monitoring and Reporting Program 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327
- Review Memorandum of Earlimart La Quinta Inn & Suites
- State Water Resources Control Board WQ 2014-0153-DWQ
(Discharger Only)

cc:

- Ted Martin, REHS; Tulare County Environmental Health;
(via email)
- Grace Hill; Aces Design & Construction; (via email)
- Miley Dev; Ace Design LLC; (via email)
- Russel Walls, Senior Engineer, Compliance and Enforcement Unit,
Central Valley Water Board, Fresno (via email)



**ATTACHMENT A – SITE MAP
NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327
FOR
AMRIK BHANDAL
EARLMAR LA QUINTA INN & SUITES
ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM
TULARE COUNTY**



**ATTACHMENT B – FLOW SCHEMATIC
NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327
FOR
AMRIK BHANDAL
EARLIMART LA QUINTA INN & SUITES
ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM
TULARE COUNTY**

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327
FOR
AMRIK BHANDAL
EARLIMART LA QUINTA INN & SUITES
ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM
TULARE COUNTY**

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a wastewater treatment system. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267, Amrik Bhandal (Discharger) shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) or Executive Officer.

Section 13267 of the California Water Code states, in part:

“In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports.”

Section 13268 of the California Water Code states, in part:

“(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13399.2, or falsifying and information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.”

The Discharger will own and operate La Quinta Inn & Suites Hotel and the associated onsite wastewater treatment system (Facility) located in Earlimart that is subject to the Notice of Applicability (NOA) of Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327. The

reports are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order. Pursuant to Water Code section 13267, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to whom samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by a State Water Resources Control Board, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) certified laboratory, or:

1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
3. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.

If monitoring consistently shows no significant variation in magnitude of a constituent concentration or parameter after at least 12 months of monitoring, the Discharger may request this MRP be revised to reduce monitoring frequency. The proposal must include adequate technical justification for reduction in monitoring frequency.

SEPTIC TANK MONITORING

Effluent samples shall be taken from a location that represents the septic tank effluent quality distributed to the onsite seepage pit system. At a minimum, effluent monitoring shall include the following:

Table 1: Septic Tank Effluent Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow Rate	gpd	Metered	Continuous	Quarterly
EC	µmhos/cm	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
BOD ₅	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
TSS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen (as N)	mg/L	Grab	Semiannually	Quarterly

All septic tanks shall be inspected and/or pumped at least as frequently as described below in table 2. Inspections of sludge and scum depth are not required if the tanks are pumped at least annual.

Table 2 – Septic Tank Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Measurement Type	Inspection/Reporting Frequency
Sludge depth and scum thickness in each compartment of each tank	Feet	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Effluent filter condition (if equipped, clean as needed)	NA	NA	Annually

Septic tanks shall be pumped when any one of the following conditions exists:

1. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one third of the tank depth of this first compartment.
2. The scum layer is within 3 inches of the outlet device.
3. The sludge layer is within 8 inches

If a septic tank is pumped during the year, the pumping report shall be submitted with the annual report. All pumping reports shall be submitted with the next regularly scheduled monitoring report. At a minimum, the record shall include the date, nature of service, service company name, and service company license number.

SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL AREA

In general, monitoring shall be sufficient to determine if wastewater is evenly applied, the disposal area is not saturated, burrowing animals and/or deep-rooted plants are not present, and odors are not present. Inspection of dosing pump controllers, automatic distribution valves, etc. is required to maintain optimum treatment in the disposal area. Monitoring of the seepage pits shall, at a minimum, include the monitoring specific in Table 3.

Table 3: Subsurface Disposal Area Monitoring Requirements

Constituent	Inspection Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Pump Controllers, Automatic Valves, etc. (see 1. below)	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nuisance Odor Condition	Quarterly	Quarterly
Saturated Soil Conditions (see 2. below)	Quarterly	Quarterly
Plant Growth (see 3. below)	Quarterly	Quarterly
Vectors or Animals Burrowing (see 4. below)	Quarterly	Quarterly
Seepage Pit Condition (see 5. below)	Quarterly	Quarterly

1. All pump controllers and automatic distribution valves shall be inspected for proper operation as recommended by the manufacturer.
2. Inspect a disposal area for saturated conditions.
3. Shallow-rooted plants are generally desirable, deep-rooted plants such as trees shall be removed as necessary.
4. Evidence of animals burrowing shall be immediately investigated, and burrowing animal populations controlled as necessary.
5. Seepage pits shall be inspected to ensure they are allowing wastewater to infiltrate as designed. Visual inspection of the water level in the seepage pit is adequate.

SLUDGE/BIOSOLIDS MONITORING

The Discharger shall report the handling and disposal of all solids (e.g., screenings, grit, sludge, biosolids, etc.) generated at the wastewater system. Records shall include the name/contact information for the hauling company, the type and amount of waste transported, the date removed from the wastewater system, the disposal facility name and address, and copies of analytical data required by the entity accepting the waste. These records shall be submitted as part of the annual monitoring report.

REPORTING

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, solids, etc.), and reported analytical or visual inspection results are readily discernable. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate compliance with the General Order and NOA as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the MRP shall be reported in the next regularly scheduled monitoring report and shall be included in calculations as appropriate.

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the appropriate Regional Water Board office, in this case 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15,
Place ID: 861013,
Facility Name: Earlimart La Quinta Inn & Suites,
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5327

A. Quarterly Monitoring Reports

Quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board on the **first day of the second month after the quarter ends** (e.g. the January-March Quarterly Report is due by May 1st). The reports shall bear the certification and signature of the Discharger's authorized representative. At the minimum, the quarterly reports shall include:

1. Results of all required monitoring.
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the requirements (including the flow limitation), disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements. (Data shall be presented in tabular format).
3. Copies of laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).

B. Annual Report

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board **by March 1st following the monitoring year**. The Annual Report shall include the following:

1. Tabular and graphical summaries of all monitoring data collected during the year.
2. An evaluation of the performance of the wastewater treatment system, including discussion of the capacity issues nuisances' conditions, system problems and a forecast of the flows anticipated in the next year. A flow rate evaluation, as described in the General Order (Provision E.2.c), shall also be submitted.
3. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into compliance with the NOA and/or General Order.

4. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
5. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring.

A letter transmitting the monitoring reports shall accompany each report. The letter shall report violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned to correct the violations and prevent future violations. The transmittal letter shall contain the following penalty of perjury statement and shall be signed by the Discharger or the Discharger's authorized agent:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring program on **1 December 2019** of this MRP. Until the Hotel is constructed, the Discharger shall only need to provide quarterly updates on the status of the Hotel construction and the anticipated date of commencing discharge to the Facility.

Ordered by:

Original Signed by Clay Rodgers for:
PATRICK PALUPA, Executive Officer

11/12/19

GLOSSARY

BOD ₅	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand
CaCO ₃	Calcium carbonate
DO	Dissolved oxygen
EC	Electrical conductivity at 25° C
FDS	Fixed dissolved solids
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen
TSS	Total suspended solids
Continuous	The specified parameter shall be measured by a meter continuously.
24-hr Composite eight aliquots	Samples shall be a flow-proportioned composite consisting of at least over a 24-hour period.
Daily	Every day except weekends or holidays.
Twice Weekly	Twice per week on non-consecutive days.
Weekly	Once per week.
Twice Monthly	Twice per month during non-consecutive weeks.
Monthly	Once per calendar month.
Quarterly	Once per calendar quarter.
Semiannually	Once every six calendar months (i.e., two times per year) during non-consecutive quarters.
Annually	Once per year.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
mg/kg	Milligrams per kilogram
mL/L	Milliliters [of solids] per liter
µg/L	Micrograms per liter
µmhos/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
gpd	Gallons per day
mgd	Million gallons per day
MPN/100 mL	Most probable number [of organisms] per 100 milliliters
NA	Denotes not applicable

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Scott J. Hatton
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer

FROM: Alexander S. Mushegan
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
RCE 84208

Ernesto P. Garcia
Scientific Aid

DATE: 12 November 2019

APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ-2014-0153-DWQ-R5327; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; AMRIK BHANDAL; EARLIMART LA QUINTA INN & SUITES ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY; TULARE COUNTY

On 30 August 2019, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) from Grace Hill with Ace Design & Construction/Ace Building Company Inc., on behalf of Amrik Bhandal (Discharger) for the La Quinta Inn & Suites onsite wastewater treatment system (facility) in Tulare County. The RWD requested coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board's Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order) for the Facility. The RWD includes a Form 200 and a technical report prepared by Jaspal S. Sidhu, a California registered civil engineer (RCE 56924). A revised RWD was submitted on 25 October 2019. The Discharger also submitted a Geotechnical Engineering Investigation Report dated 12 June 2017, signed and stamped by David Jarosz (RGE 2698/RCE 60185) as well as an addendum to the geotechnical report, dated 18 October 2017, also signed and stamped by Mr. Jarosz.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

La Quinta Inn and Suites Hotel (not yet constructed) will provide lodging for travelers and tourists within the Earlimart community. The Hotel will be located at 1142 North Front Street in Earlimart (35.894158°, -119.275803°) in Tulare County. The Facility will treat and dispose of domestic wastewater produced from a new La Quinta Inn & Suites

Hotel. The Facility is currently in the planning/construction phase. An existing hotel is at the location of the proposed La Quinta Inn and Suites Hotel. Once the existing hotel is demolished, the new La Quinta Inn and Suites Hotel will be constructed.

DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

The Facility will consist of a double compartment septic tank and a network of 20 seepage pits for disposal. The La Quinta Inn & Suites Hotel will receive its water supply from the Earlilmart Public Utility District, which sources its water supply from both ground and surface water resources. The Hotel will have 67 hotel rooms. The RWD estimates the Facility will treat daily flow of up to 8,844 gallons (assuming all 67 rooms are each occupied with two guests with each guest generating 60 gallons per day with a 10% multiplier used to accommodate sewage produced by hotel workers).

Wastewater from the La Quinta Inn & Suites Hotel will gravity flow to the septic tank and then gravity flow to the seepage pits. The 20 seepage pits will each have a width of 5 feet and depth of 15 feet. The proposed seepage pit area will cover an area of approximately 4,712 square feet. A 100% replacement area is provided adjacent to the initial seepage pit area. Due to the seepage pits serving more than 20 people, the disposal system was registered with USEPA as a Class V well.

The General Order states facilities discharging under 100,000 gpd are eligible for coverage. Furthermore, since the Facility will have flows below 20,000 gpd, no nitrogen evaluation is necessary per the General Order. According to the RWD, both the 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) and total suspended solids (TSS) untreated concentrations are expected to be around 200 to 290 mg/L. For total nitrogen, the RWD estimates untreated wastewater will range between 35 mg/L to 100 mg/L.

POTENTIAL THREAT TO WATER QUALITY

According to the RWD, groundwater was not encountered 30 feet below ground surface and the effective depth of the seepage pits is 15 feet. Based on the [California Department Groundwater Information Center Interactive Map Application](https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/gicima/) (<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/gicima/>) for fall 2018, groundwater depth in the area was around 130 to 140 feet deep. Groundwater gradient direction appears to change depending on the time of year. Based on available data, the closest domestic public well is approximately one mile south of the Facility.

Historical groundwater data from selected wells within a 5-mile radius of the Facility are shown in Table 1 below. Groundwater data was obtained from the [Water Quality Portal](https://www.waterqualitydata.us/portal/) (<https://www.waterqualitydata.us/portal/>) (Well 1: 024S025E03L001M, Well 2: 023S025E19G002M, Well 3: 023S025E33J002M, and Well 4: 024S025E03E002M).

Table 1: Groundwater Quality Data

Parameter	Units	Well 1	Well 2	Well 3	Well 4
Date Sampled	Year	1957	1958	2015	2015
Well Depth (feet)	Feet	602	250	800	300
Boron	µg/L	30	40	36	29
Total Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L	98	180	65	117
Calcium	mg/L	21	30	10	49
Chloride	mg/L	15	39	16	25
Electrical Conductivity	µmhos/cm	279	585	260	495
Total Hardness	mg/L	68	97	28	157
Magnesium (Dissolved)	mg/L	3.8	5.4	0.617	8.06
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	2.94	2.26	3.77	6.65
Potassium (Dissolved)	mg/L	1.8	0.4	0.8	2.2
Sodium (Dissolved)	mg/L	34	89	44	48
Sulfate (Dissolved)	mg/L	12	39	22	74
pH	pH Units	8	7.7	8.7	7.9
Total Dissolved Solids (dissolved)	mg/L	224	378	183	377

As the Facility is not yet built; therefore, effluent quality data is not yet available. The revised RWD predicts the anticipated effluent quality data. For BOD₅ the revised RWD predicts about a 40% reduction within the septic tank and about a 50% to 60% reduction in TSS. Based on these percent reductions, the treated effluent from the septic tank will have a BOD₅ around 150 mg/L and TSS around 125 mg/L.

As part of the geotechnical investigation for the Facility, seven borings were drilled to a depth of approximately 10 to 30 feet. The subsurface profile for the majority of the borings primarily consisted of silty sand, sand, and sandy silt. As previously mentioned, groundwater was not encountered in any of the borings. Four percolation tests were also performed at the site at depths of 5 to 15 feet. The percolation rate ranged from five to ten minutes per inch (mpi) using a 6-inch diameter hole with a 6-inch head of water. Furthermore, five permeability tests were performed on soils samples collected at depths of 5 to 15 feet using ASTM Test Method D2434. The permeability results ranged from 4.8×10^{-3} to 3.3×10^{-2} cm/sec.

Based on available information, including the depth to groundwater, underlying soil conditions, expected strength of the domestic wastewater, and proposed flowrate, the proposed Facility appears to meet the conditions of the General Order.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring requirements included in the following sections from Attachment C of the General Order are appropriate for this discharge:

- Septic Tank Monitoring
- Subsurface Disposal Monitoring
- Solids Disposal

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. On 16 October 2019, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a resolution approving the Basin Plan amendments. These programs, once effective, could change how the Central Valley permits discharges of salt and nitrate.