



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

28 August 2026

Latitude 37 Partners LLC
Paul Franzia
20679 CA120
Escalon, CA 95320

CERTIFIED MAIL
7022 2410 0002 2881 5668

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
ORDER WQ 2021-0002-DWQ GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
WINERY PROCESS WATER; LATITUDE 37 PARTNERS, LLC, ZINC HOUSE FARM;
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

On 13 January 2025, Latitude 37 Partners, LLC submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) seeking coverage under Tier 1 of the of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Winery Process Water*, Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ (General Order) for Zinc House Farm (Winery). The Winery is owned and operated by the Discharger.

The Winery was previously regulated under the Central Valley Water Board's *Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Wineries, and Related Agricultural Processors within the Central Valley Region*, Order R5-2020-0002, which expired on 20 February 2025. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the Winery's waste discharge qualifies for coverage of the General Order. Therefore, this Notice of Applicability (NOA) enrolls the Winery under the General Order and assigns the Winery enrollee number **2021-0002-DWQ-R5S003**. Table 1 below provides information about the winery and enrollment.

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, 95670-6114 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

Table 1. Facility Information

NOA Enrollee Number	WQ 2021-0002-DWQ-R5S003
General Order Tier	1
Winery Address	20679 CA120, Escalon, CA 95320
Assessor's Parcel Number	205-08-004
Permitted Annual Process Water Volume	30,000 gallons per year
Discharge or Reuse Method(s)	Land application on 35 acres of orchards (solids and wastewater)
Process Water Ponds	0
CIWQS/ECM	CW-859757
GeoTracker	WDR100047988

ENROLLMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclosed with this NOA, which 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 attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (**MRP 2021-0002-DWQ-R5S003**). A copy of the General Order is enclosed and is also available at the [State Water Board's webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/docs/wqo2021-0002-dwq.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/docs/wqo2021-0002-dwq.pdf).

The General Order contains additional operational and reporting requirements that are not summarized in this NOA. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that are in the General Order and this NOA. Please review this NOA carefully to ensure it completely and accurately reflects the Facility name and location, and the details of the proposed discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements in this NOA, the General Order, all attachments, and the MRP could result in enforcement action pursuant to the Water Code, including but not limited to administrative civil liability (i.e., monetary penalties). If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, the Discharger must submit a new NOI describing the new operation.

The Discharger is responsible for maintaining compliance with the General Order and its attachments, the information provided in the Winery's NOI and this NOA. A copy of the General Order and its attachments, including the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), and this NOA shall be kept at the Winery for reference and key operating personnel shall be familiar with their contents.

FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Zinc House Farm is located at 20679 CA120, Escalon in San Joaquin County. The winery produces approximately 24,000 gallons of wine annually and operates year-round. Process wastewater generated from wine making activities, bottling, and facility cleaning is collected in a sump and then directed to three 2,800-gallon above ground storage tanks. A flow meter is located on the pipeline that connects the sump to the tanks. The wastewater from the tanks is then used to irrigate 35 acres of land application areas (LAAs) planted with almond trees. Wastewater is applied by blending with irrigation water in the pipeline that directs the combined flow to the sprinklers. No water drains off the orchard. The 2024 annual monitoring report shows a wastewater flow volume to the LAAs of 122,412 gallons, which is within the flow range of a Tier 2 winery. However, the Discharger has elected to enroll under Tier 1 of the General Order and will keep wastewater flow volumes discharged to the LAAs at or less than 30,000 gallons per year (gpy).

Approximately 14,000 pounds of solids are generated annually and collected in plastic bins prior to off-site disposal for use as cattle feed. Solids are not land applied on-site.

If winery waste is generated in excess of the maximum permitted flow, any excess waste shall be disposed of off-site at a permitted facility. If the Discharger anticipates wastewater flow in excess of the maximum permitted flow, it shall submit a revised NOI to the Central Valley Water Board for the appropriate tier at least **120 days** before the anticipated change. Any proposed increase in flow shall not be implemented until it has been authorized by the Central Valley Water Board through issuance of a new NOA. A change in tier classification may also necessitate an application fee and/or a change in the annual fee.

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

As part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative, 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 (Resolution R5-2018-0034). The Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020 and were revised by the Central Valley Water Board in 2020 with Resolution R5-2020-0057. More information on CV SALTS can be found at the [CV-SALTS Website](https://www.cvsalinity.org/) (<https://www.cvsalinity.org/>).

Pursuant to the Basin Plan amendments, the Discharger was sent a Notice to Comply (**CV-SALTS ID: 3034 for Zinc House Farm**) with instructions and obligations for participation in the Salt Control Program. The Discharger submitted an NOI for the Salt Control Program and is participating in the Prioritization and Optimization (P&O) Study under the Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach. In accordance with the General Order, the Discharger is exempt from compliance with Discharge Specifications C.1.a and C.1.c, Section D.1.b and D.1.d, and Groundwater Limitations F.1 and F.2, as they apply to water quality objectives for salinity, provided the Discharger is implementing the

Phase I requirements of the Salt Control Program Alternative Permitting approach (i.e., full participation in the P&O Study). (See General Order, Finding 83.)

For the Nitrate Control Program, the Winery and related disposal areas are within a Priority 2 basin. The Discharger has elected to enroll in Pathway B (Management Zone Permitting Approach) and has joined the Valley Water Collaborate Management Zone. More information on the Nitrate Control Program can be found at the [CV-SALTS Nitrate](https://www.cvsalinity.org/nitrate-program/) website (<https://www.cvsalinity.org/nitrate-program/>).

As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met. More information regarding this regulatory planning process can be found on the [Central Valley Water Board CV-SALTS website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity).

SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Dischargers authorized under the General Order are classified into regulatory tiers based on the permitted annual process water design flow. The Winery's total annual discharge flow (i.e., winery effluent flow) categorizes the Winery as Tier 1. The fees and monitoring requirements are connected to and commensurate with the complexity of the discharge regulated under each Tier.

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

A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

This section (A.1 through A.15) applies in its entirety.

B. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

This section does not apply to this winery.

C. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS (TIER 1)

Section C.1 applies in its entirety.

Section C.2 does not apply to this winery

Section C.3 applies in its entirety.

Section C.4 does not apply to this winery.

D. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS (TIERS, 2, 3, AND 4)

This section does not apply to this winery.

E. SOLIDS SPECIFICATIONS

The section applies in its entirety.

F. GROUNDWATER LIMITATIONS

This section (F.1 and F.2) applies in its entirety, except as otherwise noted in the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs section above (i.e., requirements related to water quality objectives for salinity and nitrate).

G. PROVISIONS

G.1.a. Within 90 days of NOA issuance, the Discharger shall complete all facility upgrades necessary to ensure the treatment system and related infrastructure can meet the sampling and monitoring requirements of the MRP. Monitoring as required in the MRP shall commence once upgrades are complete.

Sections G.2 through G.4 apply in their entirety.

ANNUAL FEE, OWNERSHIP CHANGES, ENROLLMENT TERMINATION

General Order section G.4 Standard Provisions includes specific requirements for fees and notice to the Central Valley Water Board. Key requirements are summarized below:

A. ANNUAL FEES

The Discharger shall pay an annual fee (waste discharge permit fee, per Water Code section 13260 et seq.) to maintain General Order coverage until coverage under the General Order is formally terminated. The fee amount due annually is provided via an invoice issued by the State Water Board fee program, covering the fiscal year of July 1 through June 30. A copy of the current fee schedule is available online at the [State Water Board Fee website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/) (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/>).

B. FACILITY AND OWNERSHIP CHANGES

The Discharger shall notify Central Valley Water Board staff prior to any significant changes in either the treatment or discharge methodologies, or the volume or character of the treated waste discharged from the facility. If the Discharger anticipates wastewater flow in excess of the maximum permitted flow, it shall submit a revised NOI and technical report to the Central Valley Water Board for the appropriate tier at least **120 days** before the anticipated change. Any proposed increase in flow shall not be implemented until it has been authorized by the Central Valley Water Board through issuance of a new or

revised NOA. A change in tier classification may also necessitate an application fee and/or a change in the annual fee.

In the event of any change in control or ownership of the winery or process water discharge areas, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this NOA and the General Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board. In addition, the succeeding owner shall submit an NOI request for General Order enrollment to the Central Valley Water Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to commencing operation of the Facility. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without Waste Discharge Requirements and a violation of the Water Code. The Central Valley Water Board will issue a new NOA when coverage of this General Order has been authorized for the new owner or operator.

C. GENERAL ORDER ENROLLMENT TERMINATION

To terminate coverage, the Discharger shall submit a Notice of Termination and a final Annual Report at least 120 days prior to termination of related onsite activities. The Notice of Termination form is provided in General Order Attachment D. The final Annual Report shall be submitted through GeoTracker.

The Central Valley Water Board reserves the right to inspect the Facility before approving a Notice of Termination. Filing a Notice of Termination of General Order coverage does not suspend or alter any requirement of the General Order. The Discharger remains responsible for payment of all applicable fees and submittal of self-monitoring reports required by the General Order until written approval of the Notice of Termination is issued by the Central Valley Water Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Any person aggrieved by this Central Valley Water Board action may petition the State Water Board for review in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 et seq. To be timely, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the 30th day after the date of this Order; if the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the next business day. The law and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available on the [State Water Board website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality). Copies will also be provided upon request.

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Johnnie Tucker is your point of contact for any questions about the General Order.

If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Howard Hold will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Howard at (916) 464-4679 or at howard.hold@Waterboards.ca.gov

for Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer

Enclosure: Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ
Monitoring and Reporting Program 2021-0002-DWQ-R5S003

cc: San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department, Stockton



1,000 feet

SITE LOCATION MAP

ZINC HOUSE FARM
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY