

**REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT**

**FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

**ITEM NO. 4**

**SUBJECT**

Consideration of Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006, *An Order Rescinding Order No. 86-22, Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Gemstone Polishing Wastewater to Percolation Ponds by Craftstones, Ramona, San Diego County* (Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006). (Brandon Bushnell)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006.

**KEY ISSUES**

Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006 (**Supporting Document 1**), if adopted, rescinds Order No. 86-22, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Gemstone Polishing Wastewater to Percolation Ponds by Craftstones, Ramona, San Diego County* (Order No. 86-22). Craftstones USA, LLC (Discharger) terminated all waste discharges at the Craftstones facility.

**PRACTICAL VISION**

Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006 is consistent with the Strategize for Healthy Waters chapter of the *San Diego Water Board Practical Vision*.<sup>1</sup> The rescission of unneeded orders helps the San Diego Water Board focus staff resources on larger projects and facilities within the region that pose a greater threat to water quality.

**DISCUSSION**

The purpose of this item is to provide the Board with information to assist in its consideration of Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006. If adopted, Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006 will rescind Order No. 86-22. The Discharger owns the Craftstones facility and is responsible for complying with Order No. 86-22.

The Craftstones facility is located at 505 Elm Street, Ramona in the County of San Diego (**Supporting Document 2**). The Discharger notified the San Diego Water Board

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<sup>1</sup> Practical Vision:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/practical\\_vision/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/practical_vision/)

on March 17, 2023, that waste discharges at the Craftstones facility are terminated. Board staff inspected the Facility on May 16, 2023, and did not observe any violations of the requirements specified in Order No. 86-22 and confirmed the termination of all waste discharges at the Craftstones facility.

### **COMPLIANCE RECORD**

The Board issued, one notice of violation, and three staff enforcement letters to the Discharger for the following violations of Order No. 86-22:

- Failure to submit the Annual Monitoring Reports for 2003, 2009 and 2013.
- Failure to submit a complete Annual Monitoring Report in 2001.
- Failure to prohibit the unauthorized discharge of solid waste beyond the Facility boundary in 2014.

The Discharger has addressed these violations and has no outstanding violations of Order No. 86-22.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Board staff notified the Discharger and known interested parties of this action on November 28, 2023 (**Supporting Document 3 and 4**). Additionally, Board staff posted Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006 on its website on November 30, 2023. The Board did not receive any comments during the public comment period. These actions satisfy the 30-day public notification and comment period requirements of Water Code section 13167.5.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

1. Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006
2. Vicinity Map and Facility Map
3. Transmittal Letter
4. Notice of Public Hearing and Written Comment Period