



## State Water Resources Control Board

February 21, 2025

*(Via email and Certified Mail)*

Ms. Carmen Moreno, Board President  
East Orosi CSD  
P.O. Box 213  
Orosi, CA 93647  
[jassocarmen75@gmail.com](mailto:jassocarmen75@gmail.com)

### **NOTICE – 1<sup>ST</sup> STEP OF SEWER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR PROCESS**

Dear Carmen Moreno,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is taking the first step to identify East Orosi Community Services District (East Orosi CSD) as a designated sewer system in need of a sewer system Administrator. This letter serves as a notice to East Orosi CSD and provides an opportunity to respond to the proposed designation and submit information to the State Water Board of steps East Orosi CSD has taken to address the list of failures and violations. Any response must be submitted to Stephanie Torres, at [Stephanie.Torres@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Torres@waterboards.ca.gov), by no later than **March 18, 2025**.

#### **Background**

A “designated sewer system” is “a sewer service provider that serves a disadvantaged community that is either an inadequate sewer service or a sewer system that has a demonstrated failure to maintain technical, managerial, or financial capacity to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse.” (Water Code, section 13288, subdivision (f).) A sewer system may be designated if there is evidence that it has a demonstrated history of failures to meet regulatory standards for proper wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal, and may exhibit deficiencies, such as infrastructure failure, insufficient capacity, or ineffective treatment of wastewater.” (Water Code, section 13288, subdivision (j).) The State Water Board has identified evidence supporting the proposed designation of East Orosi CSD, detailed in the Failures and Violations list below and the Attachments to this letter.

Water Code section 13289.5 provides the process for identifying East Orosi CSD as a designated sewer system and authorizes the State Water Board to require East Orosi CSD to accept administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services from an Administrator appointed by the Board. A state-appointed Administrator would be able to take on tasks that will be required to ensure the sewer system comes into compliance

with applicable sewer and wastewater regulations sustainably into the future. The sewer system designation proposed in this letter is the first step toward a State Water Board's appointment of a system Administrator.

### **East Orosi CSD Failures and Violations**

The State Water Board has identified the following factors that support the designation of the East Orosi CSD sewer system pursuant to Water Code section 13289.5:

- Failures to meet regulatory standards documented in reports and observed results of unauthorized discharges from sewer systems
- Failure to maintain technical, managerial, or financial capacity, including personnel availability for payment processing or consistent financial oversight
  - East Orosi CSD is \$68,552 in arrears to the Joint Powers Authority per May 2, 2024 memo regarding East Orosi CSD Sanitary Sewer Collection and Export System
- Infrastructure failures, as evidenced by unauthorized sewage discharges and backflows, causing issues of nuisance or contamination
- Failure to comply with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Central Valley Water Board) 23 February 2024 Water Code section 13260 directive to enroll under State Water Board Order [WQ 2022-0103-DWQ](#), the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order (SSS General Order); the State Water Board recognizes that East Orosi CSD has engaged with the Central Valley Water Board to seek compliance with the SSS General Order but does not have financial capacity to comply
- Failure to resolve findings from the East Orosi CSD Collection System Compliance Evaluation Inspection Report dated November 26, 2024 (see Attachment 2).

Water Code section 13289.5, subdivision (c), outlines the steps that the State Water Board must take before determining that a sewer service provider is a designated sewer system. This letter constitutes the first required step, providing East Orosi CSD with notice and an opportunity to show that it has taken steps to timely address its failures to be an adequate sewer system and maintain technical, managerial, and financial capacity, as outlined in this letter and its attachments. Next steps will include: a public meeting in or near the East Orosi community, an opportunity for public comment, including community members, and subsequent State Water Board findings to be approved by resolution through a compliance order to appoint a sewer system Administrator over a designated sewer system. After considering all comments and submissions from East Orosi CSD and the East Orosi community, the State Water Board will decide whether to designate the sewer system and appoint an Administrator.

For more information on the Administrator appointment process and criteria, please see the State Water Board Policy Handbook, as adopted January 22, 2025, pursuant to Water Code section 13289.5.

Attachments to this notice include the applicable regulatory sections, a summary of the State Water Board policy outlining the designation process and Administrator responsibilities, reports or memos associated with identified failures and violations, and a summary of proposed findings to be part of a draft compliance order for appointment of an Administrator.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Stephanie Torres at [stephanie.torres@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:stephanie.torres@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AG Kihara".

Annalisa Kihara, PE  
Assistant Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality

- Attachment 1. Summary of the Administrator Process based on the State Water Board's Administrator Policy Handbook
- Attachment 2: Summary of the East Oroshi Community Services District (CSD) Collection System Compliance Evaluation Inspection Report dated November 26, 2024
- Attachment 3: Memo to Self-Help Enterprises and Community Water Center regarding East Oroshi CSD Sanitary Sewer Collection and Export System
- Attachment 4: Notice of Violation dated May 28, 2024 – Violation of California Water Code Section 13260, East Oroshi Community Services District (CSD), Collection System
- Attachment 5: Summary of Facilities Inspection Report dated June 10, 2024
- Attachment 6: Authoritative Web Links - statutory authority and Administrator Policy Handbook
- Attachment 7: DRAFT Proposed Findings for Resolution Identifying East Oroshi CSD as a Designated Sewer System

cc (*via certified mail*):

Shawn Demmers  
Tulare District Engineer, Division of Drinking Water  
265 W. Bullard Avenue Suite 101  
Fresno, CA 93704

Eddie Valero, District 4  
Tulare County Board of Supervisors  
2800 W. Burrel Ave  
Visalia, Ca 93291

Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer  
Tulare LAFCO, c/o Tulare County Association of Governments  
210 N. Church Street, Suite B  
Visalia, CA 93291

Raul Mariscal  
Orosi PUD  
12488 Avenue 416  
Orosi, CA 93647

John Erikson, Technical Director  
Community Water Center  
222 N. Garden Street, Suite 300  
Visalia, CA 93291

Kayla Vander Schuur  
Self Help Enterprises  
8445 W. Elwin Court P.O. Box 6520  
Visalia, CA 93290

Vergie Nunez  
La Voz de Vecinos Unidos  
13956 Avenue 418  
East Orosi, CA 93647

cc (*via email only*):

Phillip Crader Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board  
[Phillip.Crader@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Phillip.Crader@waterboards.ca.gov)

Christina Shupe, Assistant Executive Officer, CVWB  
[Christina.Shupe@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Christina.Shupe@waterboards.ca.gov)

Alexander Mushegan, Supervising Water Resources Control Engineer, CVWB  
[Alexander.Mushegan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Alexander.Mushegan@waterboards.ca.gov)

**Attachment 1****Summary of the Administrator Process based on the State Water Board's Administrator Policy Handbook**

The Administrator Policy Handbook, updated and adopted by the State Water Board in January 2025, outlines the standards, terms, procedures, and criteria the State Water Board must make in order to determine that a sewer system and its sewer service provider are a "designated sewer system" and take other specific actions, before it can issue an order for the designated sewer system to accept a full-scope Administrator. California Water Code sections 13288 and 13289.5 authorize the State Water Board to designate a sewer system and appoint an Administrator to ensure a sewer service provider maintains continuous, safe, and affordable sewer service to a disadvantaged community. Website links of Water Code sections 13288 and 13289.5 and the updated Administrator Policy Handbook are provided in subsequent attachments.

The actions required of the State Water Board are summarized below.

1. The State Water Board must provide the sewer service provider with notice and an opportunity to show that the sewer service provider has taken steps to timely address its failure to be an adequate sewer system or has taken steps to timely address its failure to maintain technical, managerial, and financial capacity.
2. Conduct a public meeting in a location as close as feasible to the affected community.
  - a. Provide 30-day notice of the public meeting to affected ratepayers, renters, and property owners.
  - b. Provide an opportunity for representatives of the System, affected ratepayers, renters, property owners, and the public to present oral and written comments at the meeting.
  - c. Provide an opportunity to submit comments by mail or electronically during the 30-day notice period and for at least one week after the public meeting.
3. Make a reasonable effort to provide notice to all ratepayers, renters, and property owners who receive sewer service from the designated sewer system of the following:
  - a. The name and qualifications of the Administrator being considered by the State Water Board,
  - b. The scope of the appointment and the particular services to be provided by the Administrator being considered by the State Water Board, and
  - c. Any conflicts of interest.

4. Issue an order to the designated sewer system, requiring it to accept a full-scope Administrator to take complete management control of its sewer system.

## **Attachment 2**

### **Summary of the East Oroshi Community Services District (CSD) Collection System Compliance Evaluation Inspection Report dated November 26, 2024**

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) and State Water Board – Office of Enforcement representatives inspected the East Oroshi CSD collection system to evaluate assets and facilitate enrollment in the required Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order. Below is a summary of the November 26, 2024 inspection report findings. For an electronic or paper copy of the inspection report, please contact our office at [DWQ-PRALiasons@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DWQ-PRALiasons@waterboards.ca.gov).

#### Findings

The review of information on the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) as well as the inspection itself resulted in the following areas of concern:

- East Oroshi CSD is not enrolled in the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order (SSS General Order).
- East Oroshi CSD has minimal staff for the collection system.
- East Oroshi CSD does not have a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP), capital improvement plan (CIP), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), or other related documents for the collection system.
- East Oroshi CSD does not perform cleaning or inspections of the collection system.
- Despite the contractors' belief that the manholes had all been paved over, several manholes were inspected and found to be uncovered (unpaved) and accessible.
- The visible alarm at the lift station is non-functional.
- The electrical panel at the lift station is old and overheats in the summer according to the contractors.

Ms. Carmen Moreno

February 21, 2025

**Attachment 3**

**Memo to Self-Help Enterprises and Community Water Center regarding East Oroshi CSD Sanitary Sewer Collection and Export System**



**DENNIS R. KELLER**

**DENNIS R. KELLER**  
CONSULTING CIVIL ENGINEER, INC.

**CONSULTING CIVIL ENGINEER, INC.**

**JAMES H. WEGLEY, R.C.E.**

**JAMES A. BLAIR, R.C.E.**

**EDWARD D. GLASS, JR., R.C.E.**

**NICHOLAS I. KELLER, B.S.C.E.**

**209 SOUTH LOCUST STREET**

**P.O. BOX 911**

**VISALIA, CALIFORNIA 93278-0911**

**PHONE 559/732-7938**

**FAX 559/732-7937**


**KELWEG1@AOL.COM**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 2, 2024

**TO:** Kayla Vander Schuur  
Self-Help Enterprises

John Erickson  
Community Water Center

**FROM:** Dennis R. Keller   
Dennis R. Keller Consulting Civil Engineer, Inc.

**SUBJECT:** Sanitary Sewer Collection and Export System  
East Oroshi Community Services District

---

While waiting for a draft of the Extra Territorial Service Agreement related to the sanitary sewer system of the East Oroshi Community Services District (EOCSD), we have worked on funding priorities which need to be addressed as a part of the administration, operation, maintenance and repair efforts related to the sanitary sewer system of the EOCSD. These items have been prioritized based on their significance to each other. As this is an initial draft, it should be treated as same. The items are as follows:

1. Cleaning of each and every septic tank installed in the current collection system and proper transport and disposal of the septic tank contents;
2. A complete cleaning of the sanitary sewer collection system piping and export force main related to the EOCSD sewer system. This includes the portion from the junction of the connection with the Sultana Community Services District force main to the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facilities;
3. Demonstration of proper operational characteristics of the existing EOCSD lift station and the funding for purchase and delivery of an extra pump and proper impeller for said lift station;

4. The amount of the annual bond payment and any sources of revenue outside of customer payments which can be applied to satisfy the bond payment requirement, including the EOCSD portion of post-Proposition 13 property tax distribution, if any;
5. We understand that the monthly rate for single-family residential unit sanitary sewer service established by the EOCSD is \$39.85 per month. The current monthly obligation to the Cutler-Orosi Joint Powers Wastewater Authority (COJPWA) is \$2,013.59. This amount is valid through June 30, 2024, and is subject to change based on the operating budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 which is scheduled for adoption on May 16, 2024. Amounts have yet to be established for both the budget and the individual discharger contributions. At the current time, the differential between collected funds and the amount necessary to fund the EOCSD bond payment, less other income obligation and the payment to the COJPWA, would remain available for the administration, operation, maintenance and repair functions associated with the EOCSD system. Accounting within the EOCSD system has been requested numerous times, with no response. There are obviously expenses associated with running an entity, such as the EOCSD including insurance types coverage and state fees such as the SSMP fees which would need to be taken into consideration. Absent input from the EOCSD with respect to their obligations, it is currently unknown how any of their internal obligations would be funded if billing and collection was to be made under the ETSA umbrella by the Orosi Public Utility District (OPUD), therefore leaving a potential Proposition 218 issue for the EOCSD should they attempt to collect any amount above and beyond the amount to be collected under the ETSA agreements;
6. The efforts related to the securing of 100 percent ETSA consent from the 102 current customers of the EOCSD for the interim OPUD takeover of the sewer system is proposed to be undertaken by the Community Water Center (CWC). Discussion has occurred with CWC with respect to the funding of the efforts related to the agreement process which would likely include public meetings and long door-to-door efforts to secure the 100 percent consent. A funding source for the CWC, therefore, needs to be identified;
7. There is a potential to need to resolve the restriction which has yet to be identified as to type and location in the EOCSD force main. While the force main will work in an over-pressurized configuration utilizing both lift station pumps, this obviously consumes additional electrical power and the time to replacement may necessitate further work to determine where the restriction point(s) may be. This is a lower priority item for funding, in our opinion, as the system will work in an over-pressurized configuration as compared to other needs which will not work unless addressed;
8. Work must be undertaken to complete the Preliminary Engineering Report drafted by Provost & Pritchard in order to identify a complete Recommended Project to address the numerous deficiencies in the EOCSD collection and export system. In addition, a funding application must be put forth, completed and construction undertaken to replace the entire existing sewer system of the EOCSD; and

9. As of April 15, 2024, the EOCSD was delinquent in payments to the COJWPA in the amount of \$68,552.57. This remains an obligation of the EOCSD and cannot be resolved by the OPUD under projected operating and cost conditions. Obligation for this debt is not anticipated to be undertaken by the OPUD as a part of the ETSA proposal.

As noted above, this is an initial list of items of concern. Input is welcome as to items which may have been overlooked, understated or currently unknown.

With respect to items No. 1, 2 and 3, the potential funding source to accomplish each of these three (3) necessary steps are candidates to be funded under the SWRCB's Cleanup and Abatement Fund. We understand that interaction is occurring between both of your agencies and the SWRCB with respect to these issues.

**Attachment 4**

**Notice of Violation dated May 28, 2024 – Violation of California Water Code  
Section 13260, East Oroqui Community Services District (CSD), Collection System**

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

28 May 2024

Lucy Rodriguez, Utility Manager  
East Oroshi Community Services District  
P.O. Box 213  
Orosi, CA 93647  
[eastoroshicsd@gmail.com](mailto:eastoroshicsd@gmail.com)

**CERTIFIED MAIL:**  
**7020 2450 0000 6785 6747**

### **VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13260, EAST OROSI COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, COLLECTION SYSTEM, TULARE COUNTY**

Violation(s)	Description/Location	Law/Code/Order
1	Failure to submit a complete report of waste discharge (RWD) for enrollment under Order WQ 2022-0103-DWQ, Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements General Order For Sanitary Sewer Systems (SSS General Order).	California Water Code section 13260
<b>Required Response</b>	Submit a complete RWD for enrollment under the SSS General Order.	
<b>Due Date</b>	<b>14 June 2024</b>	

#### **I. Background**

On 23 February 2024, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff issued to East Oroshi Community Services District (East Oroshi CSD) a directive pursuant to California Water Code (CWC) section 13260. The directive required that within 45-days of the date of the directive (i.e. 8 April 2024), East Oroshi CSD submit a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for enrollment of its sewage collection system under *Order WQ 2022-0103-DWQ, Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements General Order For Sanitary Sewer Systems* (SSS General Order). A copy of the 23 February 2024 directive is enclosed.

On 7 May 2024, Central Valley Water Board staff received a RWD from East Oroshi CSD for enrollment under the SSS General Order, however it was deficient for the following reasons:

1. The Application for Enrollment form was missing information including the mailing address of the system owner/operator, the signature of the system owner/operator, and the date the certification statement on the form was signed.

MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2. The RWD did not include the required filing fee. See below for further instructions regarding the filing fee if East Oroshi CSD is unable to pay at this time.
3. The RWD was submitted late. It was due on 8 April 2024 and was received on 7 May 2024.

## II. Legal Requirements

CWC section 13260 states the following, in part:

- (a) Each of the following persons shall file with the appropriate regional board a report of the discharge, containing the information that may be required by the regional board:

- (1) A person discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, within any region that could affect the quality of the waters of the state, other than into a community sewer system.

## III. Evidence/Violations

### Violation 1.

East Oroshi CSD has not submitted a complete RWD for enrollment under the SSS General Order as required by the 24 February 2024 directive and is in violation of CWC section 13260.

## IV. Corrective Action to Reestablish Compliance

By no later than **31 May 2024**, East Oroshi CSD must submit a revised and complete RWD for enrollment of its collection system under the SSS General Order. The RWD must include a completed SSS General Order, *Attachment B – Application for Enrollment* (copy enclosed for your convenience) and a filing fee of \$1,873 for a Threat to Water Quality and Complexity rating of 3C with a low flow discount of 50 percent.

The following is a link to the fee schedule:

<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/stakeholder/docs/2023/fy2324-wq-feeschedule.pdf>

During recent communications with Central Valley Water Board staff, you indicated that East Oroshi CSD is not currently able to pay the required filing fee. If this is still the case, submit the Application for Enrollment without the filing fee and the State Water Resources Control Board will consider enrolling the East Oroshi CSD collection system under the SSS General Order provisionally until the filing fee is paid.

This Notice of Violation neither extends nor excuses compliance with the deadline originally imposed in the 24 February 2024 directive. However, the Board's Prosecution Team may elect not to pursue additional enforcement of the violations described in this Notice if East Oroshi CSD submit a RWD in accordance with the Corrective Action to Reestablish Compliance due date above.

## **V. Potential Liability/Fines**

Pursuant to California Water Code section 13261, failure to submit a RWD when requested to do so by the Central Valley Water Board may result in the assessment of administrative civil liability of up to \$1,000 per day for every day the RWD is late or incomplete.

## **VI. Document Submittal/Contact Information**

Submit the completed *Attachment B -Application for Enrollment* and the filing fee to the State Water Resources Control Board at the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board, Accounting Office  
P. O. Box 1888  
Sacramento, CA 95812-1888  
Attention: Statewide Sanitary Sewer System Program

Submit copies of all submittals to the Central Valley Water Board by email at [centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov) and to [Omar.Mostafa@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Omar.Mostafa@waterboards.ca.gov).

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (559) 445-5197 or [Omar.Mostafa@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Omar.Mostafa@waterboards.ca.gov).



Omar Mostafa, P.E.  
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

Enclosures: 24 February 2024 Directive Pursuant to CWC 13260  
Attachment B – Application for Enrollment

cc: Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer, Central Valley Water Board,  
Rancho Cordova (email only)  
Christina Shupe, Assistant Executive Officer, Central Valley Water  
Board, Fresno (email only)  
Dale Harvey, Supervising Engineer, Central Valley Water Board, Fresno  
(email only)  
Yvonne West, Director, State Water Resources Control Board – Office of  
Enforcement, Sacramento (email only)

Jessica Jahr, Attorney IV, State Water Resources Control Board – Office  
of Chief Counsel, Sacramento (email only)  
Jarma Bennett, Supervising Engineer, State Water Resources Control  
Board – Division of Water Quality, Sacramento (email only)  
Bryan Elder, Supervising Engineer, State Water Resources Control  
Board – Office of Enforcement, Sacramento (email only)  
Carmen Moreno, Board President, East Oroshi Community Services  
District, Oroshi (email only)



**Attachment 5**  
**Summary of Facilities Inspection Report dated June 10, 2024**

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) conducted a facilities inspection for the East Oroshi Community Services District (CSD) on April 9, 2024. Below is a summary of findings transmitted in the Facilities Inspection Report dated June 10, 2024. For an electronic or paper copy of the inspection report, please contact our office at [DWQ-PRALiasons@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DWQ-PRALiasons@waterboards.ca.gov).

On April 9, 2024, Central Valley Water Board the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) and staff met with a representative of the Community Water Center to visit residents of East Oroshi and listen to issues the community has with its access to drinking water and the management of its sewage systems. Central Valley Water Board staff also observed evidence that sewage had backed up onto an East Oroshi resident's property.

Findings

- Delays in septic tanks being pumped out, causing secondary and potentially significant public or environmental health impacts,
- Lack of managerial and financial capacity from payment restrictions for the utility service, e.g., payments only allowed in-person, limited to cash payment, limited windows of managerial availability to a specific day in the month,
- Sewage effluent and odor-caused nuisance due to lack of technical, managerial, or financial capacity for East Oroshi CSD to maintain systems.

## **Attachment 6**

### **Authoritative Web Links**

#### Statutory Authority

California Water Code Sections—:

- 13288: < <https://casetext.com/statute/california-codes/california-water-code/division-7-water-quality/chapter-43-sewer-service/section-13288-definitions>>
- 13289.5: < <https://casetext.com/statute/california-codes/california-water-code/division-7-water-quality/chapter-43-sewer-service/section-132895-effective-until-12312029-finding-of-designated-sewer-system-required-actions-of-board>>

#### Administrator Policy Handbook

< [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/agendas/2025/jan/012225\\_3\\_policy.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/agendas/2025/jan/012225_3_policy.pdf)>

A paper copy of the Administrator Policy Handbook is available upon request. Please contact our office at [DWQ-PRALiasons@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DWQ-PRALiasons@waterboards.ca.gov).

**Attachment 7****DRAFT Proposed Findings for Resolution Identifying East Orosi CSD as a Designated Sewer System**

Prior to appointing an Administrator over East Orosi Community Services District (CSD), the State Water Board must adopt a resolution with appropriate finding(s), as required by Water Code section 13289.5, subdivision (a), to identify East Orosi CSD as a “designated sewer system.” The process and criteria for identifying a sewer service provider or sewer system as a “designated sewer system” and scope of authorities for an Administrator, are also outlined in the State Water Board’s Administrator Policy Handbook revised and adopted on January 22, 2025.

Below is a summary of proposed findings to support a resolution that identifies East Orosi CSD as a designated sewer system. A final draft resolution taking into consideration any response from East Orosi CSD, input from the community or other members of the public, and any other relevant information, will be released for a 30-day public comment period.

**Statements of Fact**

- A. Sanitary sewer system characteristics:
  - a. The East Orosi CSD sewage collection system or sanitary sewer system serves approximately 1,000 people through approximately 100 connections to septic tanks as part of its current system design.
  - b. The sanitary sewer system does not have an established governance structure, representing the failure to maintain managerial capacity.
- B. The sanitary sewer system serves a disadvantaged community. East Orosi is considered both a disadvantaged and a severely disadvantaged community.
- C. East Orosi CSD has failed to provide a consistent, adequate sewer service.
  - a. East Orosi CSD has a recorded history since 2019 and residential complaints since 2017 of exposed sewage and effluent at residences from unauthorized discharges or backflows due to an underserved system, causing:
    - i. Secondary and potentially significant public or environmental health impacts
    - ii. Issues of nuisance or contamination
- D. Similar in effect, East Orosi CSD has been issued compliance order No. 24-E1-22R-001 by the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water, where Tulare County – Resource Management Agency was appointed as a full-scope Administrator to establish adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water for the disadvantaged community of East Orosi.

- E. East Oroshi CSD has submitted an application to the Central Valley Water Board to seek enrollment in the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order (SSS General Order) but does not have financial or managerial capacity to fully comply. The East Oroshi CSD board is also unable to meet due to lack of a quorum to submit the required filing fee for enrollment in the Sanitary Sewer Order (SSO)<sup>1</sup> General Order.

#### Proposed Findings

1. Based on the above Statements of Fact and pursuant to California Water Code sections 13288 and 13289.5 and consistent with the Administrator Policy Handbook the State Water Board hereby finds:
  - A. East Oroshi CSD sewer system serves a disadvantaged community;
  - B. East Oroshi CSD sewer system has a demonstrated history of failures to meet regulatory standards for wastewater collecting, treatment, and disposal,
  - C. East Oroshi CSD sewer system has exhibited deficiencies technical, managerial, and financial capacities of its system or its governing body that will likely result in additional violations or noncompliance with regulatory requirements.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Sanitary Sewer Order (SSO) and Sanitary Sewer Systems (SSS) General Order, are the same order. This to recognize R5 terminology (SSS General Order) referenced in evidence throughout this letter and how State Water Board references it as SSO.