



Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 5, 2026

Brian McCarthy
General Manager/Superintendent
Goleta West Sanitary District
P.O. Box 4
Goleta, CA 93116-0004
Email: bmccarthy@goletawest.org

**Via Electronic Mail and Certified Mail
7019 1640 0000 7909 2810**

Dear Brian McCarthy:

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM: GOLETA WEST SANITARY DISTRICT SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY – EXECUTED ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY ORDER R3-2026-0023 TO RESOLVE ALLEGED VIOLATION FOR UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGE OF UNTREATED WASTEWATER TO SURFACE WATERS [WDID 3SSO11465]

Attached is *Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order R3-2026-0023* (Order) as adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) at its regularly scheduled public meeting on February 27, 2026. The Order resolves administrative civil liability penalties for the Goleta West Sanitary District's (District) violation of Clean Water Act section 301. The alleged violation occurred on February 16 and 17, 2024, and involved an unauthorized discharge of an estimated 1,071,696 gallons of untreated wastewater from a broken 24-inch sewer line near the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport in Goleta, California, to an un-named tributary to Tecolotito Creek, the creek itself, the Goleta Slough State Marine Conservation Area (Goleta Slough) and its estuary, and the Pacific Ocean. Central Coast Water Board staff publicly noticed the Order from October 16, 2025, to November 17, 2025, and received and responded to comments from four interested parties as shown in Attachment 2 to the Staff Report¹ for Item 12 of the Central Coast Water Board's February 26-27, 2026 meeting.

The Order imposes \$1,551,145 in administrative civil liability. The Order requires the District to direct the entire liability amount toward completing a supplemental environmental project known as the *Santa Barbara County Point of Entry (POE)/Point of Use (POU) Pilot Project* as described in Order Attachment B.

¹ Item 12 Staff Report, Attachment 2:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2026/feb/item12_att02.pdf

JANE GRAY, CHAIR | RYAN E. LODGE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

If you have any questions, please contact Tamara Anderson at tamara.anderson@waterboards.ca.gov or (805) 549-3334, or Kelsey DeLong at kelsey.delong@waterboards.ca.gov or (805) 594-6182.

Sincerely,

Ryan E. Lodge
Executive Officer

Attachment: Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order R3-2026-0023

cc via email:

Goleta West Sanitary District and Representatives:

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