

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 2004

Prepared on November 1, 2004

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: LOW THREAT CASES

DISCUSSION

Low Threat and General Discharge Cases

General Low Threat NPDES Permit:

Avila Valley Hot Springs, San Luis Obispo County [Matt Thompson 805/549-3159]

Staff enrolled Avila Valley Hot Springs, 250 Avila Beach Drive, San Luis Obispo County, under the General NPDES Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (Low Threat General Permit) on September 29, 2004. Hot mineral water from an onsite well is run through a small soaking pool, and used to heat a large freshwater swimming pool. Approximately 37,500 gallons per day of waste mineral water is aerated for 1 to 2 hours in a 3,000-gallon tank prior to discharge to an unnamed intermittent creek (from Gragg Canyon) tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek. Aeration is intended to cool the water and minimize formation of unionized ammonia in the discharge.

Enrollment under the Low Threat General Permit requires Sycamore Mineral Springs to comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-119 (MRP). The MRP been modified specifically for the discharge, and includes quarterly monitoring of effluent pH, temperature, total and unionized ammonia, sulfur, chlorine, salts, total and fecal coliform, zinc, and copper. We intend to monitor unionized ammonia concentrations closely. Should the concentration of unionized ammonia ever exceed 0.025 mg/L (as N), a limit specified in the Basin Plan, we will request that Avila Valley Hot Springs immediately take additional measures to reduce or eliminate ammonia from the discharge.

General Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 97-10-DWQ:

Ravine Water and Amusement Park, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Staff received a complete report of waste discharge for the proposed Ravine Water and Amusement Park, which indicated that it would serve up to 700 persons per day. A septic tank and leachfield system will process up to 4,900 gallons per day of sanitary wastewater from the restaurant, bar, and tasting room. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted Order No. 97-10-DWQ (General Order) to regulate discharges to land by small domestic wastewater treatment systems. Regulating small domestic wastewater treatment systems using the General Order simplifies and standardizes the regulatory process. The Ravine Water and Amusement Park meets the enrollment criteria for the General Order, and staff enrolled this discharger on November 1, 2004.

General Waste Discharge Requirements for Wineries:

Small Winery Waivers, [Matt Thompson, 805/549-3159]

On November 1, 2002, the Regional Board adopted *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste* (General Winery WDR). A component of the General Winery WDR authorizes the Executive Officer to grant waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements to small wineries that pose little or no threat to water quality. The General Winery WDR defines "small winery" as crushing less than or equal to 80 tons of grapes per year, or producing less than or equal to

5,000 cases or 13,000 gallons of wine per year. In general, small wineries generate 200 to 300 gallons-per-day (long-term average) of process wastewater, most of which originates from equipment (tanks, barrels, floors, etc.) cleaning. Waivers expire five years from the date granted or

whenever the winery no longer meets the definition of small, whichever is sooner.

The following table identifies wineries granted Small Winery Waivers between September 17, 2004, and November 1, 2004.

Facility Name	Facility Location	Facility Owner	Production and Discharge Description	Date Waiver Granted
Rideau Vineyard	1562 Alamo Pintado Road, Solvang, Santa Barbara County	Iris Rideau	Rideau Vineyard produces up to 5,000 cases of wine per year and generates up to 500 gallons per day of winery process wastewater. Process wastewater is screened by basket strainers, settled in a 1,500-gallon septic tank equipped with an effluent filter, and disposed to two 200-lineal foot leachfields. The disposal area is greater than 100 feet from any water supply wells or water bodies. Depth to groundwater beneath the disposal area is estimated to be greater than 100 feet.	September 20, 2004
Saucelito Canyon Vineyard	1600 Saucelito Creek Road, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County	William Greenough	Saucelito Canyon Vineyard produces up to 2,000 cases of wine per year and generates up to 200 gallons-per-day of process wastewater. Process wastewater is discharged to a 2,000-gallon percolation/evaporation pond. The disposal area located at least 100 feet from any water supply wells.	September 27, 2004
Keezer Winery	4855 Devonshire Lane Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County	Greg and Marina Keezer	Keezer Winery produces less than 5,000 cases of wine per year. Process wastewater will be processed using septic tank and leachfield system. The disposal area is greater than 100 feet from any water supply wells or water bodies.	September 28, 2004
Midnight Cellars	2867 Township Road Paso Robles	Midnight Cellars, Inc.	Midnight Cellars produces less than 6,000 cases of wine per year. Process wastewater will be processed using septic tank and leachfield system. The disposal area is greater than 100 feet from any water supply wells or water bodies.	October 1, 2004
Mesa del Sol Vineyard	45803 Arroyo Seco Road, West of Greenfield, Monterey County	Ann Hougham	Mesa del Sol Vineyard plans to process no more than 50 tons of grapes and produce less than 3000 cases of wine per year. Process wastewater treatment includes solids separation via floor drain screens (geotextile fabric), a 1500-gallon septic tank, and disposal to two subsurface leachfields. Depth to groundwater beneath the disposal area is estimated to be greater than 100 feet.	October 25, 2004

Tobin James Cellars, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Regional Board staff enrolled Tobin James Cellars under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste on November 3, 2004. The Regional Board did not previously regulate Tobin James Cellars. Tobin James Cellars is located at 8950 Union Road in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County. Wine production is currently 28,000 cases per year. Process wastewater is processed through a septic tank/leachfield system. Tobin James Cellars is subject to Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0084. Staff will begin periodic inspections of Tobin James Cellars to ensure continued compliance with the General WDRs.

Kendall-Jackson Winery, Monterey County [Martin Fletcher 805/549-3694]

Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates operates a small winery located at 37300 Doud Road, Soledad, Monterey County.

The winery crushes approximately 17,500 tons of grapes per year and receives juice from 4,500 tons of grapes crushed offsite. The winery produces approximately 1,577,000 cases of wine, only 2,500 cases are bottled at the site; the remainder of the wine is bottled elsewhere. The winery is expected to have an annual average flow of 44,000 gallons per day with an average crush flow of 96,100 gallons per day and a peak crush flow of 137,000 gallons per day.

Pretreatment solids separation from the winery wastewater consist of drain screens and a rotary screen. Treatment occurs in two facultative aeration ponds. Treated winery wastewater is recycled and used for vineyard irrigation of up to 75 acres. Screened solids are collected, composted and used over the 195-acre vineyard as soil amendment according to best management practices.

The winery is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 98-02, which lacked sludge handling requirements and specifications. With direction from Regional Board staff Kendall-Jackson Winery voluntarily complied with sludge handling specifications during pond liner repairs. Staff's judgment is that the

wastewater discharge from the Kendall-Jackson Winery would be more appropriately regulated by Order No. R3-2002-0084, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Winery Waste" (General Requirements) adopted by the Regional Board on November 1, 2002.

Recommended Case Closures:**UST: Former Arco Service Station No. 2132 Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County,[Tom Sayles 805-542-4640]**

Staff recommends closure of this underground storage tank case where recent (May 18, 2004) groundwater sample results indicate a maximum of 2.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L) total petroleum hydrocarbons reported as gasoline (TPH-G). No other petroleum hydrocarbon constituents (e.g., benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, and fuel oxygenates) were detected above the reporting limit in this, or the other two existing monitoring wells on-site. The property is an inactive service station.

Two 6,000-gallon gasoline and two 4,000-gallon gasoline underground storage tanks (UST) were removed in 1982. Two 10,000-gallon gasoline and one 5,000-gallon gasoline UST were removed in November 1984, and one 1,000-gallon gasoline UST was removed in September 1987. Soil samples collected during an August 7, 1987 investigation indicate a maximum concentration of 2,500 milligrams per kilograms (mg/kg) TPH-G and 7.7 mg/kg benzene in the shallow soils beneath the site. Based on the results, remedial excavation removed approximately 1,070 cubic yards of impacted soil. Approximately 332,000 gallons of hydrocarbon-impacted groundwater were removed and treated during dewatering activities required to construct a new hotel between December 1987 and March 1988. An additional 26,000 gallons of impacted groundwater were removed and treated during dewatering of an elevator shaft between December 1989 and December 1996.

Following the initial soil investigations, three groundwater monitoring wells were installed in March 1989 to evaluate the extent of the hydrocarbon impacts. The maximum detected concentrations were 50 mg/L TPH-G and 220 micrograms per liter (µg/L) benzene. Based on

these results, a groundwater monitoring program was implemented.

Based on the groundwater monitoring, it appears the remedial excavation and dewatering activities (along with natural attenuation) have been effective in reducing hydrocarbon concentrations. The second quarter 2004 groundwater monitoring results indicate all hydrocarbon constituents were below cleanup goals with the exception of the 2.0 mg/L TPH-G in MW-2.

The site lies within the Santa Cruz Hydrologic Unit (304.10), which the "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Region" (Basin Plan) designates groundwater as having beneficial uses for domestic and municipal supply, agricultural supply, and industrial supply. Therefore, cleanup goals for common hydrocarbon constituents are as follows: 1.0 mg/L – total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), 1 µg/L – benzene, 150 µg/L – toluene, 300 µg/L – ethylbenzene, 1,750 µg/L – xylenes, and 5 µg/L – methyl *tertiary*-butyl ether (MTBE). Cleanup goals for MTBE and TPH have been established based on taste and odor thresholds.

Groundwater occurs at approximately 6 to 12 feet below ground surface and flows to the northwest at 0.08 foot/foot. The extent of hydrocarbon impacts and subsurface conditions has been adequately characterized. Monitoring well MW-2 containing residual hydrocarbon contamination above cleanup goals is located near the source area and is limited in extent.

There are no drinking water supply wells within 1/2-mile of the site. Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services staff agrees that no further action is required with respect to this leaking underground storage tank case. The

current property owner, the responsible party, and responsible party's consultant have been notified of Regional Board staff's recommendation for case closure.

Regional Board staff recommends closure for this site based on the following: (1) the contaminant mass has been removed from the site to the extent practical, (2) the TPH-G plume is well defined, confined to onsite and is only slightly above the cleanup goal of 1 mg/L, and (4) based on historical monitoring data, the TPH-G concentration is expected to continue to decrease with time through natural attenuation.

Closure is consistent with Section III.G. State Board Resolution No. 92-49, allowing consideration of cost effective abatement measures for a site where attainment of reasonable objectives less stringent than background water quality does not unreasonably affect present or anticipated beneficial uses of groundwater, and will not result in water quality less than prescribed by the Basin Plan. If the Regional Board does not object to staff's recommendation for case closure, staff will direct the responsible party and responsible party's consultant to properly destroy the groundwater monitoring wells prior to issuing a formal case closure letter.

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