
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

24 April 2017

Francisco Guerrero
Supervising Engineer County of Los Angeles
P.O Box 4998
Whittier, CA 90607-4998

Certified Mail
7016 2710 0000 2623 7736

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER 2004-0012-DWQ, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISCHARGE OF BIOSOLIDS TO LAND FOR USE AS A SOIL AMENDMENT IN AGRICULTURAL, SILVICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND LAND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES, COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, TULARE LAKE COMPOST SITE NO. 7, KINGS COUNTY

On 14 February 2017, the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation District) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply approximately 11,500 tons of Class "A" Exceptional Quality (EQ) biosolids generated at the Sanitation District's Wastewater Treatment Facility, to Tulare Lake Compost Facility and to be applied to Sanitation District owned farmland located immediately adjacent to the compost facility, referred to as Tulare Lake Farms. A variety of crops will be planted including wheat, alfalfa, jojoba, pomegranate and more on farmland consisting of approximately 1,827 acres. Westlake Farms will be the site operator, responsible for applying biosolids to the biosolids application area.

Based on the information provided in the NOI, this project meets the conditions for approval under the enclosed Water Quality Order 2004-0012-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Biosolids to Land for Use as a Soil Amendment in Agricultural, Silvicultural, Horticultural, and Land Reclamation Activities* (General Order). All the requirements contained within the General Order described as applicable to "Sewage Sludge – Class A" apply to your application. The discharge is hereby covered under General Order 2004-0012-DWQ-0021. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

PROJECT LOCATION

Tulare Lake Compost Site No. 7 is located in the area of Kings County, nearest cross streets are Orange Avenue and 23rd Avenue, Township 22/23 South, Range 19 East, Sections 36/1, 11, 12 MDB&M, approximately 5 miles South East of Kettleman City, CA, see Figure 1 for further details. This portion of Kings County is within the Tulare Lake Basin.

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, Second Edition*, revised January 2015 (hereafter Basin Plan), designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin. The Central Valley Water Board recently adopted an order to de-designate beneficial uses from ground water from municipal and agricultural supply of much of the historic Tulare Lake bed, within which the farmland is located.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The County of Los Angeles has contracted with Westlake Farms, Inc. to spread approximately 11,500 tons of Class "A" Exceptional Quality (EQ) biosolids on approximately 1,827 acres of Sanitation District owned farmland. According to the NOI, the biosolids will be transported from the sludge drying beds at the Sanitation District's Wastewater Treatment Facility to Tulare Lake Compost, and then to the biosolids application area where it will be immediately spread on the fields. The biosolids will be applied to the fields as a soil amendment and the fields planted with a variety of different crops. Based on limiting concentrations, the biosolids will be applied to the agricultural fields at a volume of about 6.3 tons per acre.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS

1. Application of biosolids at a location or in a manner different from that described in the NOI is prohibited.
2. The application shall not cause or threaten to cause pollution, as defined in California Water Code section 13050.
3. There shall be no discharge of biosolids or runoff from storage and/or application areas to adjacent lands not regulated by this General Order, surface waters, or surface water drainage courses.
4. Biosolids with less than 75% moisture content shall not be applied during periods when surface wind speeds exceeds 25 miles per hour as determined by the nearest calibrated regional weather station (e.g., airport or CIMIS)
5. The application of biosolids to water-saturated or frozen ground or during periods of precipitation that induces runoff from the permitted site is prohibited.
6. All technical reports required herein that involve evaluation, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, section 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
7. The Discharger shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board) until this NOA is officially terminated.

8. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, and this letter authorizing applicability could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.


All monitoring and technical reports required by the Provisions of the General Order and the Monitoring and Reporting Program must be submitted by email to our Electronic Content Management (ECM) system. To use the ECM system, convert each letter, report, etc. to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) file and email it to:

centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15, WDID: 5C16NC00154, Facility Name: Tulare Lake Compost Site No. 7,
Order: 2004-0012-DWQ-0021

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, please contact Scott Hatton at (559) 444-2502 or by email at scott.hatton@waterboards.ca.gov.


Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Attachments: Figure 1 Tulare Lake Farms Applications Sites
Water Quality General Order 2004-0012-DWQ

cc (w/o attachment):

Ann Heil – LACSD
Melissa Fischer – LACSD
Kings County Environmental Health Services, Hanford
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Kettleman City Community Services District, Kettleman City
Kings County Community Development, Hanford
Department of Agriculture and Measurement Standards, Hanford
Ms. Laura Ayala
J.G Boswell Company
Dudley Ridge Oil Company LTD
Helmick Frederick E 1999 IRREV Trust
Howe Maude Trust
Newton, Danny & Darlene Living
Trust Patrick W Newton
Sandridge Partners LP
Westlake Farms Inc.
Winterburn, William M Trust