

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

**TENTATIVE ORDER AMENDING
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2020-0007
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
PERMIT CA0079138
FOR
CITY OF STOCKTON
REGIONAL WASTEWATER CONTROL FACILITY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

Discharger and Tentative Order Information

The City of Stockton (Discharger) is the owner of the Regional Wastewater Control Facility (Facility), located at 2500 Navy Drive, Stockton, CA 95206. The Discharger provides sewerage service for the City of Stockton, Port of Stockton, and surrounding unincorporated areas of San Joaquin County, and serves a population of approximately 350,000. Sources of wastewater in the service area are primarily domestic, but also include both commercial and industrial connections. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2020-0007 (NPDES Permit No. CA0079138) authorizes the discharge of up to 55 million gallons per day of tertiary treated effluent to the San Joaquin River, a water of the United States and within the legal boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The Facility is situated on both the eastern and western banks of the San Joaquin River and is connected via a bridge over the receiving water. The current Facility consists of primary treatment, secondary treatment, and sludge processing facilities east of the San Joaquin River. Wastewater is then routed to the west side of the San Joaquin River for further secondary treatment through facultative ponds and constructed wetlands, followed by tertiary treatment and disinfection facilities. The Facility discharges tertiary treated effluent to the San Joaquin River. The current Facility is under construction for major upgrades, expected to be substantially complete in late 2023. The upgraded Facility will include fine screening, grit removal, primary clarification, activated sludge with nutrient removal, secondary clarification, tertiary filtration with disk filters, and UV disinfection.

The Discharger is re-instating an old outfall on the east bank of the San Joaquin River (East Bank Outfall) which will replace the current outfall located on the west bank of the river (West Bank Outfall). The Discharger requested an amendment to Order R5-2020-0007 to reflect this change. Once the Discharger initiates discharge from the new East Bank outfall, discharges from the West Bank Outfall will cease, and various facilities on the west bank of the river will be decommissioned as part of the upgrade project.

Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2020-0007 (NPDES Permit), issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board on 20 February 2020. An Order is proposed to amend the NPDES permit to include the upgraded Facility's new East Bank Outfall.

Public Hearing Date and Location

A public hearing concerning the tentative Order will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 10/11 August 2023
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Physical Meeting Location w/ Remote Meeting Option

The [final meeting agenda](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) will be available at least **10 days** before the meeting. The agenda will provide the anticipated date the hearing will be held for this item and anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the tentative Order.

Nature and Purpose of Hearing

At the hearing, the Central Valley Water Board will hear testimony and oral comments regarding the tentative Order. This proceeding will be a formal adjudicatory proceeding. The [procedures governing Central Valley Water Board adjudicatory hearings](#) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found at California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648 et seq. and are available upon request.

Prehearing Submission of Written Comments and Evidence

The Discharger is a party to this proceeding. As a party, the Discharger must submit written evidence or comments, if any, for the Board to consider no later than 5:00 p.m. on **10 July 2023** to the Central Valley Water Board email at RB5S-NPDES-Comments@waterboards.ca.gov.

Interested persons include any non-party that is interested in the outcome of the hearing. Interested persons wishing to comment, in writing, on the tentative Order shall submit comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on **10 July 2023** to the Central Valley Water Board email at RB5S-NPDES-Comments@waterboards.ca.gov.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4, the Board Chair may

refuse to admit written evidence or comments that are not submitted in accordance with this Notice and shall refuse to do so when there is a showing of prejudice to the Discharger or the Board. Excluded material will not be considered by the Board.

Requesting Party Status

Persons who wish to participate in the hearing as a party must submit a request in writing no later than 5:00 p.m. on **10 July 2023** to the Central Valley Water Board email at RB5S-NPDES-Comments@waterboards.ca.gov. The request must include facts demonstrating how the person will be substantially affected by the proceeding.

The Board Chair will not designate a person as a party if the Board Chair determines the designation will impair the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding. The Board Chair, when granting a request for party status, may impose restrictions on the requestor's hearing participation, including limiting or excluding the use of cross-examination and other procedures to promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding.

Visual Presentations

Hearing participants may use PowerPoint or other visual presentations at the hearing, but the presentation content shall not exceed the scope of previously submitted written material. Presentations, if any, must be provided to the below Central Valley Water Board Contact by 12:00 p.m. on **19 June 2023**.

Hearing Procedure and Time Limits

The hearing on the tentative Order will be conducted in the general order listed under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.5, except that the Board Chair may modify the order for good cause.

The **Discharger** will be advised in advance of the hearing of the total amount of time allocated for its presentation and closing statement. The Discharger is invited to contact staff in advance of the hearing to discuss how much time it believes is necessary.

Interested persons may speak at the hearing and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals, if any. Each interested person will have 3 minutes to present oral comments. Additional time may be provided, upon request, at the discretion of the Board Chair.

Hearing Accommodations

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an e-mail to agenda5@waterboards.ca.gov or call 916-464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Availability of Documents

The tentative Order and related documents may be found on the Central Valley Water Board's [Tentative Orders Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). Copies of these documents may also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California, 95670-6114 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Scheduling an appointment to review the file by contacting the below Central Valley Water Board Contact in advance is not required but calling ahead will help ensure timely access to these documents.

Central Valley Water Board Contact

Anyone having questions regarding this hearing item should contact Saranya Elankovan at (916) 464-4742 or saranya.elankovan@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Adam Laputz, Assistant Executive Officer