

**27 FEBRUARY 2026 BOARD MEETING
CONTESTED AGENDA ITEM**

AGENDA ITEM: 9

SUBJECT:

CITY OF SACRAMENTO, COMBINED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM, SACRAMENTO COUNTY

BOARD ACTION:

Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal (NPDES Permit CA0079111)

BACKGROUND:

The City of Sacramento (Discharger) owns and operates a combined sewer system (CSS) that conveys domestic and commercial wastewater and storm water runoff from downtown Sacramento, East Sacramento, and Land Park areas. The Discharger also owns and operates a separate sanitary sewer system that conveys domestic and commercial wastewater. A portion of the separated sanitary sewer system surrounding the CSS contributes flows to the CSS.

Collection and transport of the combined sewage in the CSS is managed by four main facilities: Sumps 1/1A, Sumps 2/2A, the Pioneer Reservoir Treatment Plant, and the Combined Wastewater Treatment Plant (CWTP). The majority of flows from the CSS service area are routed to the Sacramento Area Sewer District's (SacSewer) EchoWater Resource Recovery (EchoWater Facility) for treatment prior to discharge to the Sacramento River, except during large storm events. When rainfall causes flows at Sump 2A to exceed 60 million gallons per day (MGD), the excess is diverted to the CWTP and Pioneer Reservoir Treatment Plant first for storage, and then when storage capacities are depleted, for primary treatment including disinfection and discharge to the Sacramento River. Several remote storage facilities within the CSS are also used to minimize the potential for localized flooding. The entire separated and combined sewer collection system serves approximately 276,000 people.

Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2020-0039, issued by the Central Valley Water Board on 14 August 2020. An Order is proposed to renew the NPDES permit. The proposed Waste Discharge Requirements (NPDES Permit) authorize combined sewer overflow (CSO) discharges to the Sacramento River in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's CSO Control Policy. The proposed NPDES Permit requires continued implementation of the CSO Control Policy's Nine Minimum Controls and the Discharger's Long-Term Control Plan.

ISSUES:

The tentative Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 15 December 2025 with comments due on 16 January 2026. Public comments were received from the Discharger and a concerned East Sacramento citizen. Central Valley Water Board staff have made minor modifications and edits to the proposed Order based on some of the comments received. A Response to Comments document is included in the agenda package that summarizes the written comments followed by responses by Central Valley Water Board staff.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the proposed NPDES permit renewal

REVIEWS:

Management Review:	AWL
Legal Review:	CM 1.28.2026

BOARD MEETING LOCATION:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

AND VIA VIDEO AND TELECONFERENCE